

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON DECEMBER 6TH, 2022 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM IN THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Mel Powell	Chairman
Jowan Johnson	Vice Chairman
Clay Reid	Commissioner
Lanier Keene	Commissioner
Alfonza Hall	Commissioner
Michael Pomirko	County Manager
Larry Brown	EMA/Fire Coordinator
Janice Brown	Coroner & Abbeville Fire Chief
Richard Rhodes	Cedar Creek Fire Chief

Chairman Mel Powell called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Lanier Keene gave the invocation.

All gave the pledge.

After review by the Board, Commissioner Reid made a motion to approve the prior month's minutes. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Department Head Reports:

EMA Director Brown reported that the county had received some complaints on radios. He stated that these are just growing pains, and the issues would be resolved. He had nothing further to report.

Coroner Brown stated that she would not be receiving a new coroner van due to lack of availability. She stated that County Manager Pomirko is attempting to switch the grant to a power stretcher. The power stretcher would last roughly five years. Coroner Brown also stated she was pricing coolers for a potential morgue for the county.

New Business:

The first item of new business was the appointment to the Board of Elections. County Manager Pomirko stated that if there were no decision made at this meeting, he would table the matter and discuss at the January Regular Monthly meeting. Commissioner Reid stated that he was waiting to hear back from a potential candidate. Commissioner Keene stated that his neighbor would be willing to serve if no one else was available. Commissioner Keene stated that the appointment could be decided at a Special Call meeting at the end of the month or at the regular monthly meeting in January.

The next item of business was the discussion of HVAC quotes for the Will Duncan EMS Station. County Manager Pomirko presented the Board with three quotes from Hoke's Heating & Air out of Hawkinsville, Pruitt Heating & Air out of Eastman, and Christmas Heating and Air Conditioning out of Cordele. Hoke's Heating & Air quoted low with a total of \$24,703.00. Pruitt Heating & Air quoted \$24,998.00, and Christmas Heating and Air Conditioning quoted high at \$28,875.79. After further discussion, Commissioner Keene made a motion to accept the lowest price from Hoke's Heating & Air at \$24,703.00. Commissioner Reid seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The last item of business was the presentation of AFG Grant bids. Cedar Creek Fire Chief Richard Rhodes presented bids related to a previously won grant. The bid is for a 3,000 Gallon Tanker truck, and Fire Chief Rhodes stated that a bid from Deep South Fire Trucks out of Mississippi had the best and lowest quote of \$362,615.00. Chief Rhodes stated that company provided the best truck with equipment for the lowest price. With the grant providing \$285,000 and a \$14,000 match, the cost to Wilcox County for the tanker would be approximately \$77,615.00. County Manager Pomirko pointed out that there was \$100,000 set aside in SPLOST and this bid would be under budget. County Manager Pomirko reminded the Board that it takes years to get these trucks. Chief Rhodes informed the Board that it would take 18-24 months after purchase to receive the truck in hand. However, he also informed the Board that there

is no payment until after the truck is complete, so there would be no \$300,000 out of pocket cost for the County. Chief Rhodes informed the Board that a vote was needed to allow County Manager Pomirko to sign the contract and continue with the purchase process. Commissioner Reid made a motion to approve and accept the Deep South Fire Truck bid for the 3,000 Gallon Tanker. Commissioner Keene seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

#### Old Business:

County Manager Pomirko presented the Board with the GEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Bid tabulations. He informed the Board that we received two bids for the Lightning and Severe Weather Detection System RFP. However, the bid from Perry Weather was disqualified due to a misunderstanding in the bid process. The remaining bid was from Thor Guard for \$38,100.00. The school would receive two of the devices, and the Recreation Center would receive one. County Manager Pomirko stated he needed approval to present the bid to GEMA. Commissioner Keene made a motion to approve the Thor Guard bid for \$38,100.00. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

County Manager Pomirko gave the Board an update on the Radio Tower. He has been in contact with the County Manager from Dodge County. County Manager Pomirko stated that there have been some growing pains and bumps in the road, but he is confident that they will see better outcomes in the future as the old technology is updated. As of now, the Chief Deputy of Dodge County Sheriff's Department has taken lead point on the project, and County Manager Pomirko has a good feeling about the future.

County Manager Pomirko updated the Board on the elevator planning process. He informed the Board that the Bid Date is Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he would present drawings by the architect, and he informed the Board that the elevator opening would be on the south end of the building bordering Hwy 280.

County Manager Pomirko gave an update on LMIG projects. He spoke with Lance and Ronnie of Ocmulgee Consulting Engineers to ask if they had taken the latest 2022 inflation prices into account for the LMIG proposal and pricing. He stated that there was an amendment to the last proposal due to the significant price increase of materials and supplies. The new proposal noted that the price to resurface Addison Road increased from \$378,592.77 to \$572,587.01. With the price increase, it would leave just enough funds to stripe American Legion. County Manager Pomirko stated that he needed approval to accept new proposal with new prices. Commissioner Reid made a motion to approve and accept the new proposal and prices for LMIG project. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

#### County Manager Report:

County Manager Pomirko updated the Board on the Boat Ramp Lease for Statham Shoals. He informed the Board that the lease was ready to go, and the County has fulfilled all requirements on its end. The DNR was informed, and it is in their hands now.

County Manager Pomirko informed the Board that 2023 will be a busy year for the county. Due to regulations set in place by the Department of Community Affairs, the Board will need to meet on the Comprehensive Plan that is required every 5 years and the Solid Waste plan that is required every 10 years.

County Manager Pomirko also updated the Board on the two open positions in the County. He informed the board that he has closed out on applications for both the Accounts Payable/Accounting Clerk as well as the Recreation Director position. He will be starting the interviewing process soon.

#### Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Reid stated that he appreciated everything that Commissioner Keene has done for the County during his time as a commissioner. He stated that Commissioner Keene had been a great mentor to him, and that even though they have had their ups and downs, they have always remained friends at the end of the day.

Commissioner Hall expressed his thanks to Commissioner Keene for his great service and friendship during his time as a commissioner. He stated that he wishes Commissioner Keene well in his retirement.

Commissioner Johnson stated that over the past 12 years he has witnessed all the good that Commissioner Keene has done for the County. He stated that he hates to see Commissioner Keene leave, and Commissioner Keene will be missed. He also informed Commissioner Keene that he was going to continue to do as Commissioner Keene has done to make the county better.

Commissioner Keene stated that he appreciated that we opened every meeting in prayer. He stated that the Lord has blessed him and his family, and he has come a long way in his time serving as a commissioner. He said that he would love to see the County move forward with the process of building a new jail and would love to see the County save money by using past plans. Commissioner Keene stated that he would be happy to help in any way he could, and he was only a phone call away. He stated that he has enjoyed most of his time as a Commissioner and that it always works out in the end.

Chairman Powell presented Commissioner Keene with a plaque for his service in the county for the past 12 years. He stated that he was proud of Commissioner Keene, and he is grateful for his friendship over the past years. The plaque read, "Wilcox County Georgia Presented to Marvin Keene for his professionalism, dedication, and devotion to ensuring the highest standards for the citizens of Wilcox County, Georgia & For his distinguished leadership, commitment and service of twelve years as a Wilcox County Commissioner with eight of those years as the Chairman of the Board that represented great morals and ethics." County Manager Pomirko stated that he was thankful for Commissioner Keene for all he has done in his time on the Board.

Executive Session:

Commissioner Reid made a motion to enter in executive session.

Commissioner Keene seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Reid made a motion to exit executive session.

Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

No decision was made in executive session.

With no further business, Commissioner Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Reid seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman, Mel Powell

  
\_\_\_\_\_ County Manager, Pomirko