

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING HELD ON APRIL 21ST, 2022 AT 6 P.M.
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE OF THE WILCOX COUNTY
COURTHOUSE.

Mel Powell	Chairman
Alfonza Hall	Commissioner
Jowan Johnson	Vice Chairman
Lanier Keene	Commissioner
Clay Reid	Commissioner
Michael Pomirko	County Manager
Indya Tisdol	County Clerk

Chairman Mel Powell called the meeting to order.

Chairman Mel Powell gave the invocation.

All gave the pledge.

Representative Ron Rowe was present from ACCG to discuss the old pension plan and current plans. Older employees are on the defined benefit 457b pension plan; while newer incoming employees are on the 401a and 457b plan. Both plans can provide the same benefit, stated Ron Rowe. After three years, employees are eligible to participate in the retirement plan. Two percent is automatically contributed toward the plan for employees who have been here three years or more for plan 401a. The county matches up to four percent of what the employee contributes for plan 457b. The employees can receive up to four percent match totaling eight percent with the employee's contribution.

Ron Rowe stated to the commissioners that the payroll system we currently use is outdated, and we are using the dollar amount instead of percentage. Our system will not automatically do the percentage amount which is which option he prefers. He suggested that the county uses percentages so Ms. Cindy, human resources/payroll administrator, doesn't have to input the dollar amount going forward every pay period for each individual employee. The dollar amount option also could possibly affect some employees negatively because it is a closed amount, and isn't based on the employee's pay like the percentage option if they are receiving overtime.

Ron Rowe mentioned that he wasn't a sales rep; he is not trying to encourage the commissioners to update the new system on his account. However, Ron Rowe feels the percentage option is what he finds works best. Also, it leaves room for little to no error unlike keying in the amounts and percentages by hand and having to make sure the numbers match accurately each pay period for every individual employee.

County Manager, Michael Pomirko, informed the commissioners that Middle Georgia EMC initially said they did not need the funds that were recently asked for to assist with the broadband project; and now they are saying that they do need funds. Michael told the commissioners we cannot give the amount they are asking for. Since then, the commissioners had voted to purchase an Ambulance for EMS. If we give Middle Georgia EMC \$250,000 or even \$500,000, we wouldn't be able to receive it back because of where the funds are coming from. Only \$750,000 can be spent without having another audit done within the same fiscal year for ARP money.

The Landfill cleanup costs are almost at \$500,000, and it is still being monitored. A lot of cleanup has been done, but there may be more to go mentioned Michael.

Chairman Jowan Johnson motioned to table the Middle GA EMC request. Commissioner Lanier Keene seconded that motion that carried unanimously.

The county received a letter from Greg Stephens who is overseeing the Landfill, and the letter basically reported what Environmental Protection Division (EPD) wants done: to remove the wells and a report on what has been completed so far. New wells would have to be installed at a different location not too far from the Landfill.

Michael informed the commissioners that he asked Charles Futch, EMS director, to gather quotes for the wells that need to be dug and he received two quotes. One was for South Pines Well Drilling, LLC for \$35,232.00 and the other was Lamb Well Drilling & Pump Repair, LLC for \$36,150. The wells would be utilized between the new EMS building, the Road Department, and the Landfill.

Commissioner Clay Reid motioned to use Lamb Well Drilling & Pump Repair, LLC. Vice Chairman Jowan Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The Statham Shoals contract was mailed to East Coast Asphalt, stated County Manager Michael Pomirko. They had five days to return the contract signed, and they failed to do so. They did reach out and came to sit down and talk in person about seeing if they could get everything figured out. Michael offered for them to sign the amendment to protect the county and residents. East Coast Asphalt did not sign the contract, but they want to make right they mentioned. He referenced using rocks in his response which isn't what was initially agreed upon. There were too many discrepancies with the company. East Coast Asphalt also asked the county to consider dropping the \$24,000 in liquidated damages after failing to do the job by the completion date.

Department of Transportation is aware of inflation and will work with us on cost increases. Michael suggested that the project is bid back out, and to put the invitation in the newspaper, if East Coast Asphalt fails to honor the contract. East Coast Asphalt said that getting a rock truck is nearly impossible. So, county manager suggested that we advertise the bid for 30 days, open the bid on June 2nd, and vote June 7th if we didn't hear anything back from East Coast Asphalt moving forward.

Commissioner Clay Reid motioned to bid the project back out if East Coast doesn't respond to completing the project. Commissioner Lanier Keene seconded that motion that carried unanimously.

County Manager, Michael Pomirko, suggested to the commissioners that we move Elections in the front of the Wiregrass building and put the Commissioner's office in the back.

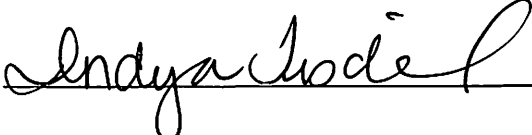
Commissioner Lanier Keene doesn't agree with moving the Commissioner's office to Rochelle. He stated that he would not vote to move the office because this location is the county seat.

Vice Chairman Jowan Johnson motioned to move elections to the Wiregrass building. Commissioner Clay Reid seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Clay Reid motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lanier Keene seconded the motion.



Chairman, Mel Powell



County Clerk, Indya Tisdol