

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023 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
Jamie Handley	Commissioner
Clay Reid	Commissioner
Alfonzo Hall	Commissioner
Michael Pomirko	County Manager/Clerk
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Charles Futch	EMS/EMA Director
Richard Rhodes	Cedar Creek Fire Chief/Fire Consulate
Janice Brown	Coroner
Larry Brown	Abbeville Fire Chief
Robert Rodgers	Sheriff
Adam Dowdy	Road Superintendent

Chairman Mel Powell called the meeting to order 6:30p.m.

Vice Chairman Jowan Johnson gave the invocation.

All gave the Pledge.

Commissioner Clay Reid motioned to approval minutes of the prior month. Commissioner Jamie Handley seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

**Guest with Public Comments**

Mr. Issac McKinney proposed to the Board of Commissioners the closure of a road (Pintail Lane) which run across his land and how it has caused many different issues such as stealing on his property along with other problems having a road so close to his house. Mr. McKinney explained he had fenced in the property hoping this would slow down the problems but if the road is not close I have nothing else to offer and it is not worth me living there. Commissioner Jamie Handley talked about the importance of EMS using the road as a cut though so it would reduce time in an ambulance trip to Hawkinsville Hospital. Commissioner Handley also expressed the concern of how this road is a access point for individuals in the area to get from HWY 129 to Cannonville Road faster which is well used by others in the area. County Attorney Toni Sawyer expressed if a road is closed in the county that there is a process the board will need to go through before anything happens. Road Superintendent Adam Dowdy express how the land was purchased from his father with a road coming down between the properties they own. This is nothing new or something that has happen within the last 5 to 10 years which would make for more of an argument. Pintail Lane has been this way since the early sixties if not even sooner. County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the board about Pintail Lane being voted on to close in the June 13, 2017 meeting that the Board of Commissioners keep the road open. County Manager Michael Pomirko also informed the chairman the five minute deadline had past. The Board of Commissioners made no action with this being a item that was voted on in 2017 and that the road will continue to stay open.

Mr. Prince Lopez presented to the Board of Commissioners a registration form for an upcoming Heritage Juneteenth Parade if the board had time. It will take place in Rochelle at the old school. Mr. Lopez informed the board if they are interested to please fill out the form and get it back to use.

## New Business

County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the Board of Commissioners over the quotes for the mound system at the new Will Duncan EMS Facility. We received two quotes, one from Cottongim Services out of Tifton (\$71,162.00), and one from Ocmulgee Septic & Sewer LLC (\$25,000.00). County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the board how hard it was to find quotes over this system because only so many do this work. The reason for the gap in price difference comes from hauling sand to the site which can be very expensive if you are coming from Tifton. County Manager Michael Pomirko asked the board to accept Ocmulgee Septic & Sewer LLC with Road Superintendent hauling all the sand at a total price of \$5,000.00. The sand was found within the county on Sandy Road that passed the engineer test for suitable sand on the project. All together the (\$30,000.00) budgeted for this project would fall right in line with the projections we set when building the Will Duncan EMS Facility. After little discussion Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to accept Ocmulgee Septic & Sewer LLC quote with the acceptance that the road department would haul all sand to the site for a total of \$30,000.00. The motion was second by Commissioner Alfonzo Hall with a unanimous consist on the motion.

EMS Paramedic Richard Warren informed the Board of Commissioners over the final quote for all furniture and other items needed in the Will Duncan EMS Facility once everything is done. He presented a list of from several vendors who furnish these items and what was cheapest to the highest. He made a recommendation over the following vendors and items for each category.

• R & W Furnishings	Mattresses	(4)	\$1,196.00
• Farmer's Furniture	Nightstands	(4)	\$316.00
• Badcock	Kitchen Chairs	(6)	\$450.00
• Walmart	Microwave	(1)	\$149.00
• Lowe's	Refrigerator	(1)	\$649.00
• Farmer's Furniture	Stove w/Air fryer	(1)	\$799.00
• Lowe's	Washer/Dryer	(1)	\$996.00
• Walmart	TV 55"	(1)	\$248.00
• Walmart	TV 32"	(5)	\$490.00
• R & W Furnishings	Recliners	(5)	\$3,645.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$8,938.00</b>

A motion was made by Clay Reid to purchase all items on the list with the expectation of purchasing the Recliners from R & W Furnishings at a higher price because of quality that will last at a price of \$8,938.00. The motion was second by Commissioner Jamie Handley with a unanimous consist on all the items presented by Mr. Richard Warren.

## SPLOST County Project Description Temporary Approval

County Manager Michael Pomirko informed The Board of Commissioners on the 2024 SPLOST and the areas that deal with the county. He continues to talk about having to set a meeting to finalize everything for IGA's and resolutions to be signed. It would be a tentative approval based upon conversations with the cities; if the approval comes with it then another meeting would need to be scheduled. The deadline would be for September.

## EMS Ambulance Quote M-3

Charles Futch, The EMS/EMA Director starts with explaining the three quotes he has on a new ambulance. The vendor quote First Class of (\$191,759.00) was said to be cheaper but the warranty was not as good and did not follow the bid as much as wanted according to EMS/EMA Director Charles Futch. The second vendor quote Ten 8 (\$206,478.00) was present by Mr. Futch which he detailed that Tifton use these boxes but has seen problems with ac and electrical problems, is a basic truck and does not include any of the safety features wanted. By 2023 all trucks they used will be Triple K compliant. ETR quote of (\$237,478.00) has mostly everything he was looking for and is like the truck he has now and the truck he ordered has all of the safety features required. According to Futch, First class is located in North Carolina and ETR in Florida. Ten 8 is in Georgia. First class won't remount and the others will. All are on f-350 chassis and 2 wheel drive. There were concerns stated for the delivery time for these trucks. M1 has 135,000 miles. M2 has 171,000 and M4 has 200,000. Annually a truck puts 20,000-25,000 miles each year on each of the four. EMS Director Charles Futch preference to the Board of Commissioners was the ETR at the price of \$237,500.00. They are planning on getting the new truck

February 2026. Commissioner Johnson made a motion purchase the ambulance quoted from ETR for \$237,500.00 with ETR following all specks on the bidding process. The motion was second by Commissioner Jamie Handley with a unanimous consent.

#### Old Business

Purchasing Policy; if adopted according to County Manager Michael Pomirko would go into effect October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 new budget year or FY24. Commissioner Jamie Handley motioned to adopt the purchasing policy for Wilcox County. Commissioner Jowan Johnson seconded the motion with a unanimous consent from the board over the purchase policy.

#### Department Head Report

Cedar Creek Fire Chief Richard Rhodes starts with explaining the report that will be coming out that will be sent to ISO. He talks about information on the fire station and where the stations should go. Three stations are needed, which will cover the biggest percentage of the county. He talks about the GSI map which shows where the fire stations will be. Station 1 will be down 215 out of Rochelle and cover the largest land area. Station 3 is around the Bowens Mill area. Roughly the station that is needed is a 40x40 and around \$50,000 to \$60,000. We will need at least an engine which is around \$84,000. We could also optionally purchase a used fire engine around \$40,000 and \$50,000. Eventually a tanker would be needed which is around 3,000 gallons. There is a possibility of AGF grants. Roughly, for each station the equipment cost would be around \$30,000 to \$50,000. Richard Rhodes explains ways to gain volunteers. Paid pension fund which costs \$300 a year per person, quality gear and equipment, offering training and hands on things, and providing meals are all ways he stated that would help recruit/gain volunteers. He went to share his key points which included that each station that was only equipped with one engine would lower ISO from 10 to a 9 which would lead to insurance premiums to drop 30-40% in the 5 mile area and would lower more with an engine/tanker combo. With the pond sites, it is possible to lower the rating in the 5-7 mile radius. Each station has to have 4 firefighters to operate. There is already more than enough people to operate 4 fire stations since Cedar Creek has 20 members. He finished off on that statement.

#### County Manager Report

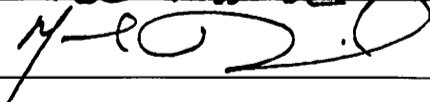
Janice Brown, the Coroner, reported on her van including the issues it has, getting it fixed, and is now up and running. Richard Rhodes adds that the state prison added a fire chief and more firefighters. County Manager Michael Pomirko reported the new Election office is up and running with everything in place. Cedar Creek Fire Chief Richard Rhodes will be moving into one of the offices at the Wiregrass Building that are open. County Manager Michael Pomirko states that he is working on signage at the Will Duncan EMS station as well as for the wiregrass building; the goal is to make a signage that has the county logo at every one of the county owned facilities.

#### Commissioners Comments

No comment

A motion was made by Clay to adjourn and Jamie Handley Seconded it at 7:27 pm.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Pomirko, County Manager/Clerk