

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON APRIL 18th , 2023 AT 5:30 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 Commissioner
Jamie Handley	Commissioner
Clay Reid	Commissioner
Alfonzo Hall	Commissioner
Michael Pomirko	County Manager/Clerk
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney

Chairman Mel Powell called the meeting to order 5:32p.m.

Chairman Powell gave the invocation.

All gave the Pledge.

First item of business included the Windstream phone/internet system with all county buildings and how we currently stand. County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the board about the three to four month long of breaking down the bill so we could understand it from a department standpoint rather than one huge bill. In the process we found about seven to eight lines we no longer use which was remove to save money. Also, a new number was installed on the record for when the elevator comes in the courthouse; we will have the proper phone system for it. County Manager Michael Pomirko also informed the board that he received an email from Janice Brown Coroner that her internet was cut off in the process. After discussion with Janice, she claimed her office was inside of the Abbeville Fire Department. County Manager Michael Pomirko suggested to the board that we have two vacant offices which is 130 square foot each. It would be best for the future if the Coroner's Officer and the Fire Consultant had an office for document keeping or other matters they may need. Adding internet into a city owned building is something we should stay away from. The new offices would be located inside the Wiregrass Building and each party would receive an office with a secure lock they can only access. Motion was made by Commissioner Handley to move the Coroner's Office into the wiregrass building where she or the future coroner would have internet access along with a place for documents. The motion was second by Commissioner Johnson with an unanimous vote for moving the Coroner's Office and the Fire Consultant to the Wiregrass Building.

Second item of business included the 2024 SPLOST layout from County Manager Michael Pomirko. The report shows us what we have done in the 2018 SPLOST and how we can prepare for the upcoming SPLOST that is right around the corner. Basically we would keep the same format on behalf of the county but adjust numbers that would help us achieve the goals we would like to see in the 2024 SPLOST. No action was taken from the discussion but a future workshop was recommended so we could tie up all ends before speaking with the cities.

The third item of business was to speak on the American Rescue Plan and making minor adjustments to reflect a recent quote on clean up number three. County Manager Michael Pomirko stated that we need to add \$35,385.82 to the \$127,350.00 so we can finish the work on part three of the landfill. The goal is for County Manager Michael Pomirko and Adam Dowdy Road Superintendent to find ways we can hit that number or even save money under that amount of \$162,735.53. We started the project this past week and are making adjustments so we can not only fix the problem but look at ways of mitigating it from ever happening again. The report to the U.S. Department of Treasury is due on April 30, 2023 which gives time to work out the solution. Motion was made by Commissioner Reid to add the \$35,385.82 to give a total of \$162,735.53 for the third part of mitigating issues with the landfill. The motion was second by Commissioner Johnson with a unanimous decision.

The forth item of business was to speak on the future of USDA Equipment Grants and how department should present their grant to the board before proceeding forward. County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the board going this route which should be done on all grants gives the Board of Commissioners the opportunity to proceed forward or wait due to situations along with how it will paid by the county. The value of the grant will be important as well because of the commitment the county would be responsible for. According to Pomirko this will open the communication between departments and the board and have everyone on the same page. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to have all grants along with USDA grants be presented to the Board of Commissioners prior to any grants going forward. The board will give the okay on proceeding forward or make recommendations on why the grant should not go forward. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall with a unanimous decision.

The fifth item of business was to speak on the Regional Commission recent virtual meeting with installing EV Charging Stations in each city or county under the commission. County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the board this grant would all take place with the Regional Commission leading the way. You have two different charging stations in the grant area. One is called a level two which can charge a car in six to seven hours which runs on a single phase power and you have a level three that can charge a car in one to two hours but it runs on three phase power. Overall the county would need an ATM system set up to work with this system along with cameras in the area for security reason. The Regional Commission is trying to make in kind work part of the grant match but it could be tricky. Also, the Region Commission said they would like to know an answer form each city or county if there is enough interest before they apply which is due on April 26, 2023. County Manager Michael Pomirko informed the board that there are a lot of unknown. Many are not aware of this equipment so it could be great in some sense but on the other hand it could be something we regret. A motion was made not to pursue the grant with the Regional Commission by Commissioner Jamie Handley with a second by Commissioner Johnson. There was a unanimous decision on not proceeding forward with the grant.

Commissioners voted to go into executive session for consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or claims, administrative proceedings. The motion was made by Commissioner Clay Reid to head into executive session over consult and meets with legal counsel pertaining to pending or claims, an administrative proceeding which was second by Commissioner Jamie Handley. The board voted unanimously for executive session which began at 6:20p.m.

The Board of Commissioners came out of executive session at 7:07p.m. and return the meeting back in open session. The motion was made by Commissioner Jowan Johnson and second by Commissioner Alfonzo Hall with a unanimous consent from the board.

Commissioner Handley made a motion to proceed forward with liquidated damages from the 2021 LMIG that was contracted out by East Coast Asphalt and the projects for the 2021 year. East Coast Asphalt was past due by five hundred and fifty seven day with a \$200.00 penalty per day. The motion was second by Commissioner Reid with a unanimous decision from the board.

Commissioner Handley made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by a second from Commissioner Reid. The board voted unanimously and the meeting concluded at 7:12p.m.



Mel Powell, Chairman



Michael Pomirko, County Manager/Clerk