

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
February 20, 2018
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 20, 2018 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, Robinson, Thomson, and McMichael present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Community Planner Jake Cox, Fire/HEMA Chief Jimmy Williams, Walton & Becky Wood and Ansel Peck.

Commissioner McMichael gave the invocation.

TSgt. Chuck Lewis, Georgia Air National Guard led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on his past military service. He joined the Guard while still in high school and served with the 224th Combat Communications Squadron out of Brunswick. The unit was responsible for deploying, operating and maintaining communications in environments that did not have reliable communication networks to establish command and control between units or coalition forces. During his service he spent time in Columbia, South America with drug interdiction teams and in the Middle East as well. For the past three and a half years he has served as the pastor at Westside Baptist Church in Warner Robins. He introduced his wife, son and three daughters who attended the meeting with him.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 6, 2018.

Chairman Stalnaker asked for a motion to add an Executive Session to the agenda.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously to add an Executive Session for Attorney-Client matters to the agenda as Item #7.

Mr. Walker presented a request from the Engineering Department to release the cul-de-sac bond for McCarley Downs Subdivision, Section 2, Phase 2 since the road has been extended as a part of the construction of McCarley Downs Section 2 Phase 3.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the release of the cul-de-sac bond for McCarley Downs Subdivision, Section 2 Phase 2, SunMark Community Bank Letter of Credit #210230-3.

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Mr. Walker presented a request from the Engineering Department to extend the maintenance bond for one year on Amelia Place Subdivision, Phase 5 to give the developer an opportunity to perform the required work in accordance with the Comprehensive Land Development Regulations.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the extension of the maintenance bond (State Bank & Trust Company #28413239717, expiring March 8, 2018) for Amelia Place Subdivision, Phase 5. If the bond is not extended by March 8, 2018, the County will draw the bond and contract the work.

Mr. Thomson presented a change order in the amount of \$5,682.82 for the Firetower Road project increasing the contract quantities for mulch and grass so that erodible areas not addressed by the original plans could be stabilized.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing Change Order #1 on the Firetower Road grade and drain project with Peed Bros., Inc. The original contract price of \$186,661.56 will increase by \$5,682.82 to a new contract total of \$192,344.38 with no increase in the contract time.

Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar commented that bid documents were currently being prepared for the paving of Firetower Road and that the project should be awarded this summer.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that the paving of Firetower Road will be a great addition to the County's road system tying together Highway 41 and Elko Road.

Mr. Walker inquired as to the length of the road.

Mr. Dunbar stated approximately three miles.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid from Purchasing for four new 1/2 -ton extended cab pick-ups for use in the Water Department with nine dealers responding. Staff recommends award to low bidder Landers McLarty Dodge for four 2018 RAM 1500 trucks.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of four (4) new 2018 RAM 1500 4x2 extended cab pick-up trucks for use in the Water Department to Landers McLarty Dodge of Huntsville, AL at a unit cost of \$21,737. Total cost of \$86,948 will be funded by Water Capital Funds.

Director of Purchasing Mark Baker confirmed that the second low bid was not within the three percent local vendor preference.

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Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on a tandem dump truck to replace the 2014 Freightliner 114SD M #326 that was destroyed in the Middle Georgia Freightliner repair shop fire in Macon. Staff recommends purchase of a new model truck in stock at Middle Georgia Freightliner as it is the lowest bid.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson. Upon discussion Chairman Stalnaker asked Mr. McMichael to consider amending his motion concerning the funding of this truck since there may be another source other than the SPLOST. Chairman Stalnaker indicated that another possible source of funding could come from the insurance fund.

Amended motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2018 Freightliner Model 114SD tandem dump truck for use in the Roads Department from Middle Georgia Freightliner of Macon at a unit cost of \$117,525. A pending insurance settlement will eventually offset some of the cost.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$957,264.01.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Public Comments.

Purchasing Director Mark Baker gave the Board an update on the Sheriff's Firing Range project. The earthwork has been completed and bids for the construction of the classroom building, the targeting system, the canopies and the storage building are being reviewed and should come to the Board with a recommendation for approval at the March 6th meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker commented on the contributions to the project from Mr. Dunbar and the Public Works staff and thought that the million-dollar project could be completed sometime in late Fall.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Commissioners Comments.

Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone of the upcoming February 28th 10:00 am ribbon cutting ceremony for the Sheriff's Department Storage Building located behind the Juvenile Court facility.

Ms. Robinson thanked Pastor Lewis for sharing his inspirational story and his family for their service to the community.

Mr. Thomson thanked Sgt. Fussell for providing security for the meeting.

Mr. Walker thanked the Lewis family for coming to the meeting.

Mr. McMichael also thanked the Lewis family and reminded everyone to keep Sheriff Talton's wife Peggy in their thoughts and prayers.

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Chairman Stalnaker likewise thanked Pastor Lewis for sharing the story of his military service. He also encouraged everyone to pay attention to the various bills currently before the legislature. He encouraged the Board, staff and citizens to review each piece of legislation that may have an effect on local government.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to enter into Executive Session for Attorney-Client matters per O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1).

The regular Board meeting was reconvened with no action resulting from the Executive Session.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all. Meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

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EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HOUSTON

AFFIDAVIT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman of the Houston County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief:

1.
The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on February 20, 2018.
2.
During such meeting, the Board voted to go into executive session.
3.
The executive session was called to order at 6:55 p.m.
4.
The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meeting law:

X Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officers or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);

Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A.

§ 50-14-2(2) and (insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential) _____;

Discussion or voting on:

Authorizing a settlement as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(A);

Authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as

provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(B);

Authorizing an appraisal as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(C);

Entering a contract for the purchase, disposal of, or lease of property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(D);

Entering into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as

provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(E);

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Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
Interviewing candidates for executive positions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
Other (describe the exemption to the open meetings law):
as provided in (insert the citation to the legal authority exempting the topic)

5.

During the course of the closed session devoted to exempt topics, an incidental remark regarding a non-exempt topic or an attempt to discuss a non-exempt topic was made.

The attempt was immediately ruled out of order and attempts to discuss same ceased immediately.

The attempt was immediately ruled out of order. However, the comments did not cease, so the closed/executive session was immediately adjourned without discussion or action being taken regarding any non-exempt topic.

6.

Minutes were taken of this meeting and will be filed and held for in camera inspection only.

This _____ day of February, 2018.

Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman
Houston County Board of Commissioners

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this _____ day of
February, 2018.

Notary Public

My commission expires:
