

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
 Tuesday, February 18, 2020
 Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, Thomson, McMichael, and Robinson present. Also present were Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Public Defender Claudia Meier, Mark Byrd, Dan Perdue, 21st Century Partnership Chief Operations Officer Dan Rhoades, 21st Century Partnership STEM Outreach and Workforce Coordinator Jamie Cook, Clarence Long and Walton and Becky Wood.

Chairman Stalnaker led the audience in the Invocation.

Lt. Col. Donnell Pittman, US Air Force led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on his military service. He introduced his wife of 26 years Shawna describing her as the rock of their family. He has been stationed in Georgia, Alaska, Japan, North Carolina, Alaska for a second time, South Carolina, Delaware, Germany, Michigan, and then back to Georgia is where his military career has taken him. He enlisted in March of 1992 and then applied for his commission sometime after the events of 9-11. He is a Logistics Officer by trade. He and his family came to Robins AFB in the Summer of 2019 and he currently serves as the Commander of the 410th Supply Chain Management Squadron.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 4, 2020.

Mr. Walker presented a request to fill the vacant Assistant Public Defender position.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve hiring Mr. Duncan Munn for the vacant Assistant Public Defender position in the Public Defender Department at a Grade 27-F effective February 19, 2020, and to review the current hiring policy in the next 30 days to see if it needs any revision before going forward on any future new hires.

Mr. Walker presented a request to hire poll workers for the March 24th Presidential Preference Primary.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the hiring of poll workers for the upcoming March 24, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary Election.

	<u>Each</u>	<u>Total</u>
16 Managers (Precinct)	\$150.00	\$ 2,400.00
32 Assistant Managers (Precinct)	\$100.00	\$ 3,200.00
132 Clerks	\$ 90.00	\$ 11,880.00
180 Training (2X\$25)	\$ 50.00	\$ 9,000.00
7 Janitors	\$ 15.50	\$ 108.50
3 Janitors	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00
313 BMD (Ballot Marking Device)	\$ 2.00	\$ 626.00
3 Election Supply Load Out Helpers	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00

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4 Election Night Equipment Return Helpers	\$ 50.00	\$ 200.00
3 Election Night Check-In Clerks	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00
16 Supply Pick Up/Return Supplies	\$ 10.00	\$ 160.00
16 Cell Phones	\$ 10.00	\$ 160.00
7 Optical Scan Clerks	\$100.00	<u>\$ 700.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$28,809.50

Mr. McMichael inquired as to why so many clerks were required for this election.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that there was some uncertainty due to the new voting equipment and that there would be a review after this first election to see if the number of clerks could be reduced for future elections.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the appointment of Mr. Sherman Falana to the Board of Elections filling the unexpired term of Ms. Phyllis Taylor whose term shall expire December 31, 2022.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that he and Mr. Thomson had interviewed Mr. Falana last week and that he would bring a wealth of experiences and knowledge to the Board of Elections.

Mr. Thomson presented a request from Public Works to enter into a service agreement.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the proposal from Edifice Consulting, Inc. of Byron for the roof repair project at the Houston County Detention Facility. The contract will pay Edifice six percent (6%) of the contract total for production of the project documents and four percent (4%) of the contract total for project administration. The budget estimate for the actual roof repair project is not expected to exceed \$120,000. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids within 60 days.

Mr. McMichael presented a request to enter into a contract for actuarial services associated with our OPEB valuation.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize the engagement of Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC of Kennesaw to perform the County's 2019 OPEB valuation. Cavanaugh Macdonald will be paid based on the schedule pricing negotiated with the ACCG as outlined in the Memorandum of Participation:

Base Fee (Group B) = \$8,000
Plus \$2.50 Per Participant Fee (on 619 active and 41 retired) x 660 = \$1,650
Total Fee of \$9,650

Mr. McMichael presented a request to cancel the order of two new Chevy Tahoes approved at the August 16, 2019 meeting and to approve the order of the same two new Chevy Tahoe vehicles from a different vendor due to delivery problems.

Mr. McMichael made a motion with Mr. Thomson seconding. Before the vote, discussion ensued concerning the cancellation of the initial vehicle order. The consensus was to not cancel the order but rather keep it and order the two new replacements with the initial vehicles coming off of next fiscal year's vehicle requests instead.

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Mr. McMichael amended his motion to remove the cancellation of the Hardy Chevrolet order and to place the new order with Freedom Chevrolet for replacements. Mr. Thomson seconded the amended motion and it was carried unanimously by all to award the two new 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe pursuit vehicles for use in the Sheriff's Department Patrol Division from Freedom Chevrolet of Texas at a unit cost of \$33,762 or a total amount of \$67,524. SPLOST 2018 will fund the purchase of these vehicles.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for an abandonment of easement.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the Resolution Abandoning Houston County Drainage Easement approving William R. Taylor and June M. Taylor's application for abandonment of a Houston County drainage easement. Further, upon the recording of the plat of survey submitted with the request form and prepared by Theodore W. Waddle, Jr., authorizing Chairman Stalnaker to sign the quit-claim deed conveying the drainage easement rights to the Taylors.

Ms. Robinson presented a proposal for lighting at the new Lake Joy Fire Station #5 / Emergency Management Agency Headquarters.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve entering into an agreement with Flint Energies for the outdoor lighting package at the new Lake Joy Fire Station #5 / Emergency Management Agency Headquarters with a one-time cost of \$11,227 for installation and the monthly maintenance and consumption costs set at \$13.30 per fixture multiplied by seven fixtures which equals \$93.10 per month.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$2,171,093.52.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Public Comments.

Dan Rhoades, 21st Century Partnership Chief Operations Officer, gave the Board an update on the President's budget which was released on Monday including funding for the Air Force. The services are left with fairly flat budgets being neutral on the operations side but very good on the research and development side. There is \$153.6 billion with a growth in overall positions of 1,360 for the Reserves and active duty combined. The budget includes a 3% military pay raise for the troops and a raise in housing allowances as well. On the research and development side the Advanced Battle Management program was funded last year for \$35 million and this year's budget is for \$3.2 billion. J-STARS is fully funded now through 2025.

Jamie Cook, 21st Century Partnership STEM Outreach and Workforce Coordinator, remarked that they are ending the season for middle school robotics with several new teams this year across the region. High School robotics is just starting for this season. On Saturday morning May 7th at the Museum of Aviation there will be an event called STEM-polouza that will bring together STEM professionals, educators and high school students to explore the different jobs available in the field.

As there were no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Commissioners Comments.

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Chairman Stalnaker recognized former County employee Mr. Clarence Long who was in attendance.

Mr. McMichael recognized Mr. Byrd and Mr. Perdue and wished them well in their campaigns.

Mr. Thomson recognized Mr. Byrd, Mr. Perdue, Mr. Long and thanked the Sheriff's deputy for providing security for the meeting.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming and participating in the meeting.

Mr. Walker likewise thanked everyone for coming and recognized Mr. Byrd, Mr. Perdue and Mr. Long.

Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone that it was Houston County's turn to host this Thursday's Robins Regional Chamber Eggs & Issues program beginning at 7:45 a.m. at the Cary Martin Conference Center and there is expected to be a large crowd of 200 plus in attendance. The program will be much more personal than normal and will center around Mr. McMichael's and Mr. Thomson's service on the Commission. He asked that we all keep NASCAR driver Ryan Newman and his family in our prayers after his terrible wreck in Monday's Daytona 500 race.

Mr. McMichael remarked that he was sad to hear that authorities had today found the body of the young Fort Valley State University student that had been missing since Valentine's Day.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that Mr. McMichael's sister was not doing well and wished best thoughts and prayers to her and the family.

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