

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2020
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in special called session at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 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, and Director of Administration Barry Holland.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the regular portion of the meeting and asked for a motion to enter into an Executive Session.

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

Upon re-entering the regular meeting Chairman Stalnaker reiterated that there would be no action taken as a result of 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 Mach 17, 2020.
2. During such meeting, the Board voted to go into executive session.
3. The executive session was called to order at 3:03 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);

 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.

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_____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 March, 2020.

Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman
Houston County Board of Commissioners

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this _____ day of
March, 2020.

Notary Public
My commission expires:

Houston County Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2020
Warner Robins, Georgia

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 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, Fire/HEMA Chief Chris Stoner, and Mark Byrd.

Chairman Stalnaker led the audience in the Invocation.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Walker presented a request for acceptance of the 2019 Stop Violence Against Women Act grant.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing and accepting the 2019 Stop Violence Against Women Act Grant (W19-8-034) in the amount of \$50,000.

Mr. Walker presented a request for approval of a bid on the 2020 Joint LMIG projects.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve a bid award for the Joint 2020 LMIG road resurfacing and repair projects to C.W. Matthews Contracting Company, Inc. of Marietta, GA in the total amount of \$4,826,768.27 of which Houston County's portion is \$1,117,692.26. The cities of Warner Robins, Centerville, Perry, Byron, Hawkinsville and Pulaski County and Dooly County will be responsible for the balance of \$3,709,076.01.

Chairman Stalnaker presented a resolution concerning the sale of the Houston County Government Building (former courthouse) to the City of Perry. He explained that the Board of Commissioners and the City of Perry have been in discussions concerning the City of Perry buying the building from the County. The City would take over the building by December of 2021 and the County would construct a new building for the existing tenants on Kings Chapel Road over the next twenty months. He thanked Mayor Walker, the Council members, the Board of Commissioners and County staff who have all worked hard toward this point.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing a resolution reflecting the County's intent to sell the Houston County Government Building (former courthouse) to the City of Perry and reflecting the City of Perry's intent to purchase the building and to bind both parties to this intent.

Mr. Thomson presented a request from the Engineering Department for approval to enter into a services agreement.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize the Engineering Department to enter into professional services agreements with Enviro Trenchless, LLC of Warner Robins for centrifugally cast concrete pipe rehabilitation repair services at 122 Falcon Crest in Statham's Landing for \$32,650 and at 105 Hickory Bend Drive in Woodfield Subdivision for \$66,010.

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Mr. Thomson presented a request from the Engineering Department for approval to enter into a services agreement.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize the Engineering Department to enter into a professional services agreement with LaKay Enterprises, Inc. of Fort Valley for an emergency storm pipe repair at 114 Preakness Place in Country Club Downs Subdivision in the amount of \$12,000.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid for the purchase of a used 2019 Chevy Tahoe for use in the Patrol Division.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the purchase of one used 2019 Chevrolet Tahoe pursuit vehicle from Brannen Ford of Perry for use in the Patrol Division of the Sheriffs Department at an amount of \$32,610. SPLOST 2018 will fund this purchase.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid on a camera system at the E911 facility.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the new camera system at the Houston County E911 facility to Total Computer Solutions of Warner Robins in the amount of \$10,005 to come from the 2018 SPLOST.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid for generators at four E911 radio tower sites.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of four new generators for the E911 800 MHz towers at the Flint Tower Site in Warner Robins, the Oaky Woods Tower Site in Kathleen, the Perry Water Treatment Site in Perry, and the Georgia Forestry Site in Perry to Anderson Power Services of Fort Valley at a unit cost of \$26,268.43 or a total amount of \$105,073.72. SPLOST 2018 will fund the purchase of this equipment.

Ms. Robinson presented a request from the Public Works staff for the extension of three bonds.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the extension of the cul-de-sac bond (SunMark Bank Letter of Credit #210230-6 expiring April 2, 2020) at Kyler Lane of McCarley Downs Subdivision, Section 1, Phase 2a for one year; the extension of the maintenance bond (SunTrust Letter of Credit #70003936, expiring April 10, 2020) for Forestbrooke and Stratford Hills Subdivision, Phase 2b for one year; and the extension of the cul-de-sac bond (SunTrust Letter of Credit #70003935, expiring April 10, 2020) at Oakley Court of Forestbrooke and Stratford Hills Subdivision, Phase 2b for one year. If the bond extensions are not received by their respective expiration dates, the County will draw the bond(s) and contract the work.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$815,391.68.

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Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened Public Comments.

Lee Boyd, 131 Ballyhara, Warner Robins lodged a complaint concerning the loud music coming from a concert event that was held at Rigby's Entertainment Complex this past Saturday night. He stated that he had called Rigby's to register a complaint but was simply told the concert ended at 11:00 pm. He then called 911 who sent a deputy out to check. Mr. Boyd asked that the County address the issue through an ordinance or some similar fashion. He said that he and other residents are not against future events at Rigby's but that the noise level should be addressed.

Chairman Stalnaker indicated that he would reach out to Mr. Rigby and speak to him about the issue.

Glenn Sparks, 206 Willowgate Drive, Bonaire stated that he runs a business, Noah's Bark Pet Resort on Giles Road and has been trying to get Animal Control to pick-up six puppies that someone had abandoned at his property this past Friday. He contacted both the City of Centerville and the County and was told that the County had jurisdiction. He was told that the puppies would be picked-up, but they have not been, and he has been unable to reach the Animal Control Officers.

Chairman Stalnaker asked Mr. Sparks to leave his contact number with Mr. Holland and the problem would be resolved as soon as possible.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting and opened Commissioners Comments.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that in an effort to curtail the spread of the COVID-19 virus the County is actively trying to limit the number of people that come together in meetings. We're asking citizens use mail, telephone, and email as means to conduct County business with the understanding that not everything can be done that way. The County buildings are, however, open for business for normal working hours with certain restrictions in different departments. The safety of our employees and citizens are the most important concern. He asked that everyone call County offices ahead of time if possible, to see if business can be conducted over phone or email. If you are sick, employee or citizen, please stay home. Be cautious, be calm, and attend to your personal hygiene as far as washing hands, not shaking hands, and practicing social distancing. The public COVID-19 Virus Hotline is 1-844-442-2681 for information concerning the virus. He urged everyone to continue to listen to the experts at the CDC and Georgia Department of Public Health during this crisis.

Ms. Robinson echoed Chairman Stalnaker's comments about the virus and practicing good personal hygiene. She also asked everyone to spay and neuter their cats and dogs to help control the animal population.

Mr. Thomson thanked everyone for coming and then asked Chief Stoner if the Health Department would have some testing capabilities for the virus.

Chief Stoner replied that they would but only if the testing was doctor ordered.

Mr. Walker remarked that in the face of this unprecedented crisis we are a resilient nation and during this time we all need to work together.

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Mr. McMichael thanked everyone for coming and reminded everyone to stay calm and that we have not experienced any confirmed cases in the Middle Georgia area.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that small business is the backbone of America and they are all struggling through this crisis. He asked that we all keep in mind the various people that are being affected in the workforce. He commented that two documents will be posted on the County's website for general information; an update on the virus and the County's protocol and another informational document that Chief Stoner has put out with points of contact for various types of information.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all, meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner