

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

4/6/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Jesse Crews, Chairman, along with Commissioners Alphya Benefield, James Everett, Drew Jones, and Luke Gowen; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; County Clerk Jenifer Nobles; HR Clerk Becky Harden; County Attorney John Adams; and visitors as recorded hereafter.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Crews led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Benefield made motion to adopt the April 6, 2023 Agenda. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Everett made motion to adopt the March 16, 2023 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. HEAR 4 H PRESENTATIONS

Rena Potter, 4 H provided overview of activities for the year and introduced Kat Paulk and Grace Jones who then presented 4H District Project Achievement (DPA) presentations to the Board. Kat Paulk presented on horseback riding "Barreling Through History" and Grace Jones on the importance of the timber industry, "I'm Yelling Timber". Kat Paulk and Grace Jones were asked to take picture with the Board of Commissioners while congratulating them on their accomplishments.

6. HEAR KIM BEDNAREK AND MICHAEL LUSK, WORLD HERITAGE APPLICATION

Kim Bednarek, executive director of the Okefenokee Swamp Park and Michael Lusk, Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Manager, appeared before the Board to provide the Board with more information concerning the swamp's United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site bid. Mr. Lusk and Ms. Bednarek were present and provided information on the role the designation could bring, by creating more international and national visibility, stating also that there would be no added protections or interference from UNESCO.

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION OF CHARLTON COUNTY, GEORGIA ELECTING NOT TO REQUIRE MOBILE HOME DECALS

Commissioner Benefield made motion to approve Resolution of Charlton County, Georgia, Electing Not to Require Mobile Home Decals. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Everett, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Resolution becomes integral part of Minutes.

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EXHIBIT A TO THE CLIENT SERVICES AGREEMENT

Commissioner Everett made motion to approve Exhibit A to the Client Services Agreement, service term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Agreement becomes integral part of Minutes. Aetna will be providing blood screening this year. We would also like to add Outbound Advice with Pharmacist for 10 participants and Diabetes Self-Directed Program for 2 participants, and will increase the coaching sessions for the moderate and high-risk categories by one each. With these changes the contract amount would be \$100 less than the previous year.

9. CONSIDER LOANING COURTHOUSE BELL AND JOHN HARRIS PLAQUE TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Commissioner Jones made motion to loan courthouse bell and John Harris Plaque to Historical Society for housing until the time that we are ready to use them. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

10. DISCUSS GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER PENSION PLAN

Mr. Raulerson provided excel spreadsheet on the cost of the Georgia Firefighter Pension plan for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Benefield made motion to table consideration of the Georgia Firefighter Pension Plan. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

11. CONSIDER ROAD DEPARTMENT BIDS - LMIG & TSPLOST FUNDS

Dixie Lake Storm Drainage Cleaning -
A. Gulf Coast Underground - \$146,378.00
B. Ranger Environmental - \$88,071.90
C. Southeast Pipe Survey - \$47,107.50

Commissioner Gowen made motion to award bid to Southeast Pipe Survey for \$47,107.50 for Dixie Lake Storm Drainage Cleaning. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Street Improvements -
A. East Coast Asphalt - \$756,915.64

Commissioner Benefield made motion to award bid to East Coast Asphalt for \$756,915.64 for 2023 LMIG Street Improvements. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ROAD DEPARTMENT BIDS

Commissioner Jones made motion to approve Kenworth bid for 2 dump trucks for \$202,473.00 each. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made motion to award bid to Kingline for boom mower and tractors for \$334,847.14, after trade in. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

Gary Tippins asked for copy of Pension Plan information.

Sheriff Robert Phillips was present and reported that equipment is in, training has begun, trunk lines should be installed in the next couple of weeks, and invited the Board for practice run on new equipment. Sheriff

Phillips has talked to trucking companies concerning trash on highway 121, has began writing tickets on 4 wheelers on the north and south of the county, and working on a special events ordinance to recommend for the Board's consideration.

14. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Gowen asked status of Homeland Park Building.

Commissioner Everett asked about litter and tires around the county. Tire Amnesty Program was discussed.

Commissioner Benefield reported that all services are up and running at the Health Department since COVID.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

None.

16. NEXT BOC MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023, BOC CONFERENCE ROOM 6:00 P.M.

17. ADJOURN

Commissioner Gowen made motion that meeting be adjourned at 7:18 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Everett, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Jesse A. Crews, Chairman

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk