

Monroe County Board of Commissioners

Minutes of the February 20, 2024

Regular Commissioners Meeting

9:00 A.M.

Present:

Greg Tapley, Chairman

Eddie Rowland, Vice-Chairman

Lamarcus Davis, District 1

John Ambrose, District 3

George Emami, District 4

Staff:

Ben Vaughn, County Attorney

Jim Hedges, County Manager

Janet Abbott, County Clerk

Richard Dumas, Public Information Officer

Kelsey Fortner, Community Development Manager

Welcome

Chairman Tapley welcomed everyone in attendance.

Prayer

Commissioner Lamarcus Davis gave the invocation.

Pledge

Chairman Tapley led the Pledge.

Roll Call

County Clerk Janet Abbott called roll.

Call to Order

Chairman Tapley called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Commissioner Davis read a proclamation commemorating February 20, 2024, as Martin Luther King Jr. Day Committee Celebration Day.

Commissioner Davis presented the proclamation to committee members.

New Business

Approve Agenda

Chairman Tapley presented the agenda for approval.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Approve Minutes-BOC Meeting-February 06, 2024, Workshop and Regular Meeting

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve the minutes of the February 06, 2024, regular meeting with the normal 30 days for changes.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Lead & Copper Line Inventory Contract Award

Monroe County was awarded a \$90,000 Georgia Environmental Financing Authority Grant for developing an inventory of Lead Service Lines throughout the county. We advertised for engineering services and received two bids, that were basically incomplete. We rebid for these services requesting a lump-sum bid, and the results are as follows:

Company		Bid Amount
ESG Engineering		\$81,250
McKim & Kreed		\$202,573
Paragon		\$400,000
120 Water		\$470,327
Performance Contracting		\$904,332
Reconn Utility Services		\$3,096,655

ESG Engineering, led by Trey Gavin, originally brought this mandated requirement and Grant to our attention during the fall of 2023. County Manager Jim Hedges stated while I cannot explain the bids from the other companies, the bid by ESG Engineering is in line with the funding from GEFA, and it is recommended this contract be awarded to ESG Engineering.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve to award the grant to ESG Engineering.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Private Road Request-Off Maynard's Mill Road

Community Development Manager Kelsey Fortner presented a request for a private road off Maynard's Mill Road. Mrs. Fortner stated the road is 60' wide and will not be maintained by the county now or in the future and this will be noted on the plat.

The map and parcel for the request is 071 005 and the total acreage is 5.296. The property owners are JHR Properties, LLC and Kristie Harvey.

The property owner is requesting to subdivide the lot for family member Kristie Harvey to build a house. The private road will provide access to the new lot, as well as continued access to the remaining property.

Commissioner Emami motioned to approve the request.

Commissioner Ambrose seconded the motion, and the motion was carried 5-0.

English Road R-O-W Dispute

Community Development Manager Kelsey Fortner stated, currently Monroe County has two rights of way for English Road, this was discovered recently when property owners were interested in developing the property. The property owners have requested Monroe County to abandon the right of way running through the property. Mrs. Fortner stated County Attorney Ben Vaughn is recommending the abandonment of the right of way.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to table and turn over to the county attorney.

Attorney Nathalie Sundeen stated the county will need to start the process of notifying the public of the intentions to abandon prior to the board agreeing to abandon the right-of-way.

Commissioner Ambrose withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to start the process to abandon the old right of way for English Road.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Rowland stated he understands the Board has reviewed the information beforehand, but he thinks the presentation needs to be heard by the public. Community Development Manager Kelsey Fortner gave the presentation.

Commissioner Rowland stated this is not property the county owns; this is just an easement on someone else's property.

Mrs. Fortner stated the only portion being abandoned is just the specific section that does not overlap and is not being used.

The motion to proceed with the abandonment process was carried 5-0.

EPD Compliance

A recent EPD inspection of the landfill resulted in a finding requiring action by Monroe County. Specifically, the finding requires the county to sod three acres, add straw matting from a berm at the top of a slope to the edge of the roadway, and to add straw wattle ditch checks. Dan Wallace, the principal engineer for Triple Point, recommends engaging Johathan Banks Erosion Control, who has performed extensive work at the Monroe landfill, to perform the work required by the EPD. The cost estimate from Jonathan Banks is \$23,696, and Mr. Wallace recommends adding a 10% contingency bringing the total for this work to \$26,000. Funds are available in the Landfill 2024 budget.

Mr. Banks quote is as follows:

- Seed with 30 lbs. of un-hulled Bermuda, 50 lbs. bahia, 50 lbs. rye gras, 500 lbs. 19-19-1- fertilizer per acre
1400.00 per acre at approx. 3 acres \$4200.00
 - Install double sided straw matting from berm at top of slope to edge of roadway.
Approx 13700 square yard at \$1.35 per square yard \$18,495.00
 - Install 10' x 9" straw wattle ditch checks 20 @ \$50.00 each \$1000.00
- *Area calculations will slightly change with additional planned grading of slope.
- Total Proposal \$23,695.00
 - 10% Contingency \$26,000.00

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve the recommendation by Dan Wallace to engage Johnathan Banks Erosion Control to perform the required work by the EPD.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion.

Commissioner Davis asked if this project was bid out because this seems expensive for grass, he stated he would like for it to be bid and see what's available.

Commissioner Rowland stated if it were rebid, any bids from here forward would be able to compare to the bid presented. Commissioner Rowland stated his recommendation is to move forward and bid out any future projects.

Commissioner Emami stated these prices are relatively equal to prices he recently obtained for a project.

The motion to approve was carried 5-0.

Landfill Compactor Purchase

Included in the 2024 Budget is the purchase of a new Landfill Compactor. If my memory is correct, this will be the single largest asset purchase to be presented to the Board of Commissioners. Three quotes have been received and the lowest, and readily available, is the Aljon Series 500 with a price tag of \$895,729, delivered. As information, the existing compactor is a Caterpillar 826H, year is unknow, with 19,535 hours.

Prices for similar Compactors are as follows:

- Caterpillar 826 11A Yancy \$981,374
- TANA H380 Mosely Tractor \$924,239

General Specs:

- 86,718 lbs. – 95,450 lbs.
- 503 HP
- Up to 950 tons per day

- 100% American Made
- Size
 - Length-29'
 - Width-15'
 - Height-14'

Budget

- Compactor Budget \$800,000
- Deferred
 - Tractor and Rotary Mower \$55,000
 - Recycling F-150 \$42,000
- Total \$897,000
- Aljon Series 500 \$895,729

Price Includes

- Freight to our site.
- Assembly, set-up and training at our site.
- 1-year/2000-hour full machine warranty.
- 5-year/10,000-hour engine warranty.
- 10,000-hour cleat wear warranty.
- 5-year/10,000-hour wire wrap warranty.

Availability is the end of March and funds will come from the 2024 Capital Budget.

Commissioner Emami motioned to approve the purchase of the Aljon Series 500 with a price tag of \$895,729.

Commissioner Ambrose seconded the motion, and the motion was carried 5-0.

Commissioner Rowland stated this sounds like a big expense, but it's not when you compare it to the cost of a cell.

Sheriff Summer Camp Support

Lt. Ken Blandenburg, also our E-911 Director, heads up the annual Sheriff's Summer Camp. This year will be the 8th annual camp and it is being expanded for an additional week. The camp is for 3rd to 6th grade students and is funded entirely from donations and application fees. It is amazing what all these kids get to participate in thanks to Lt. Blandenburg and his team. A request for financial assistance is attached for your consideration, and funds are available in everyone's discretionary funds.

Sheriff's Summer Camp:

- 8th Annual Summer Camp
- 3rd-6th Graders
- \$40 Application Fee
- 90 participants annually, and over 600 participants to-date.
- Camp is Monday thru Friday
- Schedule
 - June 3-7
 - June 10-14
 - June 17-21
 - June 24-28
 - July 8-12

Activities

- Fishing
- Swimming
- Field Trips
- Movies
- Hiking
- Games

Funding & Expenditures

- Funding for this program is from donations, and application fees.
- Expenditures are for the following:
 - Lunch on Monday & Friday
 - The Varsity Chick-fil-A
 - Stevie B's Snacks
 - Fees & Parking
 - High Falls Water Slide World of Coke
 - Atlanta Aquarium Regal Cinemas
 - Atlanta Zoo Go Fish Georgia
 - Atlanta Speedway CNN Studios

Commissioner Ambrose asked how much is needed.

County Manager Jim Hedges suggested \$750 to \$1000 from each commissioner's discretionary funds.

Commissioner Davis motioned to allow each commissioner to donate \$1000 from their discretionary funds.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ambrose wanted to stipulate this is only for Monroe County children.

Commissioner Emami stated this is a great thing since there is so much negative press towards law enforcement.

The motion was carried 5-0.

Surplus Vehicles & Equipment

Monroe County has a number of vehicles, trucks, and heavy equipment that needs to be declared as surplus, and to then engage the services of auctioneers, Hudson & Marshall. The surplus items include vehicles, trucks, a roll-off truck, two excavators, and the compactor at the landfill.

Items to for surplus:

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN#	MILEAGE	CONDITION	FROM
2019	DODGE	CHARGER	6855	141,336	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2019	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	2885	119,291	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2020	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	6113	115,441	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2020	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	5659	86,272	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2012	DODGE	CHARGER	2597	190,106	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2019	DODGE	CHARGER	8647	151,956	RUNS/NEEDS TRANS/LIGHT	SHERIFF
2017	DODGE	CHARGER	9859	135,752	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2017	FORD	EXPLORER	5442	173,146	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2011	CHEVROLET	CAPRICE	9166	144,785	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	SHERIFF
2009	CHEVROLET	1500 SILVERADO	5033	307,278	RUNS/NEEDS FRONTEND	ROAD
2001	FORD	E-350	4741	210,875	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	ANIMAL
2012	MACK	ROLL OFF	5079	696,969	NEEDS MOTOR AND TRANS	RECYCLE
UNK	FUREHAUF	TANKER TR.	06	N/A	LEAKS NEEDS LOTS OF REP	ROAD
1999	JOHN DEERE	BACKHOE	O83	4642	RUNS/NEEDS ALL HYD CYL	ROAD
2018	WOODS	BATWING		N/A	BOTH WINGS NEED WELD	ROAD
1999	FORD	F-150 4X4	20008	160,628	TANSMISSION/NO AC	LANDFILL
2006	FORD	GRAND MARQUIS	3909	72584	TRANSMISSION SLIPPING	COMM
1998	FORD	F-150	3601	229,427	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	BLDG MAIN.
1985	CAT 621B	EXCAVATOR PAN	B00520	N/A	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	LANDFILL

1985	CAT621B	EXCAVATOR PAN	B00704	N/A	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	ROAD DEPT
2012	CAT826H	COMPACTOR	F00231	19,535 HRS	RUNS/LIGHT MECHANICAL	LANDFILL

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve the surplus list of vehicles by auction.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Lamarcus Davis

Commissioner Davis thanked everyone for a smooth meeting. Commissioner Davis stated this past Saturday he and Councilman Wilder started the public forums and had about 10 people in attendance. He encouraged everyone to attend future forums.

Commissioner Eddie Rowland

Commissioner Rowland stated he would like to remind everyone of early voting and that the TSPLOST is on the ballot. He stated Kay, April and the Election Board members do a great job.

Commissioner John Ambrose

Commissioner Ambrose stated he wanted to remind everyone the TSPLOST that is on the ballot is not a new tax, it is a continuation of the current TSPLOST.

Commissioner George Emami

Commissioner Emami stated he would like to thank the staff for the work that goes into running the county. He stated he has never felt like the county has had a better team than now.

Chairman Greg Tapley

Chairman Tapley stated EMS Chief Matt Jackson does a great job and had a massive heart attack on Saturday morning but has since been discharged from the hospital. Chairman Tapley stated on the way to the hospital Chief Jackson was texting his Chain of Command. He stated he appreciates the Chief and wishes him the best and asked everyone to pray for him to continue to heal.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Action from Executive Session.

There was no executive session, therefore no action.

Adjourn

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to adjourn at 9:38 a.m.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0.

Respectively Submitted by:

Janet Abbott, County Clerk