

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
WORK SESSION  
Monday, March 21, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman Bill Slaughter  
Vice Chairman Joyce Evans  
Commissioner Scott Orenstein  
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker  
Commissioner Clay Griner

Commissioner Demarcus Marshall was not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of March 7, 2022 and the regular session of March 8, 2022. No changes to the minutes were requested.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Addition to Basic Decorative Street Lighting District - Knights Landing SD, Phase 3**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the request stating a petition was received and verified to add 137 lots of the Knights Landing Subdivision into the County's basic decorative street lighting district. Mr. Dillard stated the current charge for the basic decorative street lighting is \$61.50, per lot, per year.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Coleman Road NW Local Delivery Agreement**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has approved the Transportation Investment Act Local Government Application for the Lowndes County Coleman Road NW paving and drainage project. Mr. McLeod further stated approval will allow the project to move forward.

**Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Kinderlou Clyattville Road Local Delivery Agreement**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has approved the Transportation Investment Act Local Government Application for the Lowndes County Kinderlou Clyattville Road paving and drainage project. Mr. McLeod further stated approval will allow the project to move forward. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked how long is Kinderlou Clayttville Road, Mr. McLeod responded he was unsure, but would verify that information.

**FY2022 Delinquency Prevention Grant**, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the grant. Mr. Tye stated the County applied for this grant last year and did not receive it. Mr. Tye stated this grant provides funding for the implementation of evidence-based programs and prevention for youth who are first-time offenders, diverted from the juvenile justice system, or charged with a status offense and identified as at risk. Commissioner Orenstein asked if the County would receive \$50,000.00 for years two through five and Mr. Tye responded, there's no guarantee, but it's structured if awarded this year, as long as funding remains available, those six counties chosen for this grant will continue to receive the money. Vice Chairman Evans asked if this grant would support Judge Tunison's program and Mr. Tye responded yes. Additionally, Vice Chairman Evans asked if this grant had been previously discussed years ago, Mr. Tye responded yes.

**Advanced Disposal Services Residential Solid Waste Franchise Renewal**, Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals, presented the item. Mr. Beals stated the franchise is set to expire March 31, 2022, adding Advanced Disposal Services, a division of Waste Management, has applied to renew their existing franchise agreement. Mr. Beals stated Advanced Disposal Services has 9,500 customers and has asked regarding the maximum amount to be charged, which is currently \$20.00 and they are asking for that amount to be increased to \$23.00. County Manager, Paige Dukes, asked if the increase is related to fuel costs and Mr. Beals responded yes. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the \$23.00 would be per quarter, Mr. Beals answered per month. County Attorney, Walter Elliott, stated if the amount is going to be increased the Board would need to amend the ordinance and revise the franchise agreement.

**Deep South Sanitation, LLC, Residential Solid Waste Franchise Renewal**, Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals, presented the item. Mr. Beals stated the franchise is set to expire March 31, 2022, adding Deep South Sanitation has applied to renew their existing franchise agreement. Mr. Beals stated Deep South Sanitation has 6,200 customers and has asked regarding the maximum amount to be charged, with no specific amount submitted. Chairman Slaughter asked if they were charging at the maximum amount, Mr. Beals stated he believed they were charging at the maximum amount.

**Little Viking Road Drainage Easement and Quit Claim Deed**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated map 0144, parcel 205, which is 4115 Little Viking Road, is owned by Rubber Tire, LLC and was originally designed for the entire lot to be one of the detention areas for Roswell Place Subdivision and has been the detention area since the subdivision was built. Mr. McLeod stated Rubber Tire, LLC had the detention area redesigned, approved and constructed so the lot could become a buildable lot. Additionally, Mr. McLeod stated during this process it was found that Lowndes County would need to Quit Claim the detention area back to Rubber Tire, LLC and accept a drainage easement for the new detention area from Rubber Tire, LLC.

## **BID**

**ENG 2021-02: Repairing 3 Box Culverts**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented a bid to repair three (3) box culverts. The culverts are located at Bemiss Knights Academy Road over Cherry Creek, Spring Creek Boulevard and Bemiss Knights Academy Road and West Lake Drive over Red Oak Branch. Mr. McLeod stated Griffin Grading & Concrete, LLC submitted the low bid, in the amount of \$296,726.73. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked the location of Griffin Grading and

Concrete, LLC, Mr. McLeod responded Cordele, Georgia; with the company currently doing work here locally at Martin's Pastry and the amphitheater being built for the City of Valdosta.

**Exit 22 Water Main Extension**, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated this water main extension will provide much needed redundancy to the area. Additionally, Mr. Stalvey stated two bids were received with RPI, Inc. being the low bidder, in the amount of \$448,621.14.

**REPORTS - County Manager**

No additional information was reported.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Slaughter recognized the presence of a Leadership Lowndes Class Member before adjourning. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting at 8:43 a.m.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
Tuesday, March 22, 2022

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Bill Slaughter  
Vice Chairman Joyce Evans  
Commissioner Scott Orenstein  
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker  
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall  
Commissioner Clay Griner

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and recognized the presence of Leadership Lowndes Class Members and thanked them for their interest in our community.

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Griner

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Griner

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of March 7, 2022 and the regular session of March 8, 2022. Vice Chairman Evans made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Addition to Basic Decorative Street Lighting District - Knights Landing SD, Phase 3**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the request stating a petition was received and verified to add 137 lots of the Knights Landing Subdivision into the County's basic decorative street lighting district. Mr. Dillard stated the current charge for the basic decorative street lighting is \$61.50, per lot, per year. No one spoke for or against the request. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Coleman Road NW Local Delivery Agreement**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has approved the Transportation Investment Act Local Government Application for the Lowndes County Coleman Road NW paving and drainage project. Mr. McLeod stated this is the Local Delivery Agreement which is required to be executed prior to beginning work. Further, Mr. McLeod stated the project will begin at the city limits of Hahira and go to Val Del Road

which is 2.01 miles. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Vice Chairman Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Kinderlou Clyattville Road Local Delivery Agreement**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has approved the Transportation Investment Act Local Government Application for the Lowndes County Kinderlou Clyattville Road paving and drainage project. Mr. McLeod stated this is the Local Delivery Agreement which is required to be executed prior to beginning work. Further, Mr. McLeod stated the project will begin at Old Clyattville Road and will go to the paved section of Seckinger Road which is 2.84 miles. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**FY2022 Delinquency Prevention Grant**, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the item. Mr. Tye stated this is a funding opportunity through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to submit a request for funding this year which would allow Lowndes County to serve at risk youth who are at lower risk and unable to be served by the Functional Family Therapy (FFT) grant program, currently in place. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the grant as presented, Vice Chairman Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Advanced Disposal Services Residential Solid Waste Franchise Renewal**, Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals, presented the item. Mr. Beals stated Advanced Disposal, a division of Waste Management, has applied to renew their existing franchise agreement. Mr. Beals further stated all required information has been submitted. Mr. Beals stated Advanced Disposal services 9,500 households and charges \$18.50 per month. Chairman Slaughter asked regarding their request to increase the maximum amount, Mr. Beals responded the vote tonight is for the solid waste franchise renewal and discussions may arise in the near future regarding the ordinance being updated. Commissioner Orenstein asked if the agreements would need to be revised, Chairman Slaughter answered no. Commissioner Marshall asked if there was a specific time frame to meet with the vendors, Mr. Beals answered no. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the renewal agreement as presented, Vice Chairman Evans and Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Deep South Sanitation, LLC, Residential Solid Waste Franchise Renewal**, Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals, presented the item. Mr. Beals stated the franchise is set to expire March 31, 2022, adding Deep South Sanitation has applied to renew their existing franchise agreement. Mr. Beals stated Deep South Sanitation has 6,200 households and charges \$20.00 per month. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Little Viking Road Drainage Easement and Quit Claim Deed**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated map 0144, parcel 205, which is 4115 Little Viking Road, is owned by Rubber Tire, LLC and was originally designed for the entire lot to be one of the detention areas for Roswell Place Subdivision and has been the detention area since the subdivision was built. Mr. McLeod stated Rubber Tire, LLC had the detention area redesigned, approved and constructed so the lot could become a buildable lot. Additionally, Mr. McLeod stated during this process it was found that Lowndes County would need to Quit Claim the detention area back to Rubber Tire, LLC and accept a drainage easement for the new detention area from Rubber

Tire, LLC. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **BID**

**ENG 2021-02: Repairing 3 Box Culverts**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented a bid to repair three (3) box culverts. The culverts are located at Bemiss Knights Academy Road over Cherry Creek, Spring Creek Boulevard and Bemiss Knights Academy Road and West Lake Drive over Red Oak Branch (in Lake Alapaha Subdivision). Mr. McLeod stated Griffin Grading & Concrete, LLC submitted the low bid, in the amount of \$296,726.73. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked since the amounts were so close, if the local vendor preference could be used to keep the business here locally, Mrs. Dukes responded this was researched and the local vendor preference allowance does not apply to Public Works and Road projects. Commissioner Marshall asked to verify if the local vendor preference did not apply to the Public Works Department, Mrs. Dukes responded yes, that is correct. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes stated this is a state statute that can be discussed with the local delegation in the near future. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve Griffin Grading and Concrete, LLC in the amount of \$296,726.73, Commissioner Orenstein second. Vice Chairman Evans, Commissioners Orenstein and Griner voted in favor of the request, Commissioners Wisenbaker and Marshall opposed. Motion carried.

**Exit 22 Water Main Extension**, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated this water main extension will provide much needed redundancy for the area. Additionally, Mr. Stalvey stated two bids were received with RPI, Inc. being the low bidder. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request with RPI, Inc. in the amount of \$448,621.14, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, introduced Mrs. Rachel Thrasher, Lowndes County's Community Development Director. Chairman Slaughter and the Commission welcomed Mrs. Thrasher. Mrs. Dukes mentioned several meetings and reminded the Commission of the Ag Awareness Week breakfast on Friday, March 25th at 8:30 a.m. being held at the Urban Honeybee. Mrs. Dukes mentioned the ribbon cutting for the drafting pit being held on April 8th at Lowndes County Fire Rescue Station 10. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes asked Emergency Management Director, Ashley Tye, to update the Commission on the possible severe weather moving in our area.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD** - Catherine Smith, P.O. Box 7076, Thomasville, introduced herself to the Commission as one of the three candidates running for Superior Court Judge for the Southern Judicial Circuit.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 5:56 p.m.