

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Pixie Harrod called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 6:03 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were, Commissioners Robert Griner, Jimmy Parker, John Nugent and Ronnie Gaskins

Invocation: Commissioner Jimmy Parker

Pledge: Commissioner Robert Griner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to approve the February 5, 2019 Regular Session Minutes and the February 5, 2019 Executive Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: Chairman Pixie Harrod called to move into Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan Update. Loretta Hylton, Southern Georgia Regional Commission, addressed the Board. She stated that this kick-off meeting is Thursday, March 7th, 2019 at 10:00 at the Nashville Community Center. She explained the purpose of the Comprehensive Plan Update and the importance of it with grant funding. She also spoke about broadband in the county and the need to adopt an ordinance if the county chooses to move forward with it. There were no other comments and public hearing was closed and moved back into regular session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

I. **Umbrella Policy – Administration** - Administration received a quote for umbrella insurance as an additional coverage for our general liability insurance. Houston & Company provides this insurance for us and also provided a quote with three different limit amounts. Quotes were:

Houston & Company

\$20,927 for \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 limits

\$35,168 for \$3,000,000/\$3,000,000 limits

\$41,505 for \$5,000,000/\$5,000,000 limits

Hayden Hancock, Houston & Company, was present to answer any questions. Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins asked Hayden Hancock what are the chances of resubmitting the umbrella at budget time to see if the rates drop because we do not have it in the budget now. Hayden Hancock stated he can quote the renewal with an option of the umbrella. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Engineer Selection – Administration** – Administration advertised requesting qualifications for selection of an Engineering Firm to provide pre and post-award services for various community and economic development projects. We received five proposals and

Administration recommended Watkins & Associates. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve Watkins & Associates as our Engineering Firm to provide pre and post-award services for various community and economic development projects, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

B. **Vehicle Repair – East Berrien Fire Department** – Administration received a quote for repairing a gearbox in Engine 52 for East Berrien Fire Department. One quote was provided which was First in Services, LLC at \$4,713.16. Other bids sought were Ten 8 who never responded back and Fireline who would not place a bid without looking at the vehicle. First in Services, LLC stated that the quote provided would be a worst case scenario and it will most likely not cost that much. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve the repair using First In Services, LLC at \$4,713.16, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

C. **Vehicle Repairs – Fire Department** – Administration received quotes for repairs to the five trucks we received from Lancaster County, SC These trucks did not pass the pump test. Two quotes were provided; FireLine, Inc. \$24,181.25 and First in Services, LLC \$32,957.35. The Board had questions about the trucks not passing the pump test and why all five did not pass when the board was told they all passed when we purchased them. Fire Coordinator, Marc Mathis, will research and get back with the Board. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

D. **Joint Development Authority Appointment & Resolution** – Administration received a request to appoint a member to the Joint Development Authority replacing Crissy Staley. The Joint Development Authority is requesting we sign a Resolution to appoint Jason Shaw as the Member at Large for a term of four years. The other counties have already approved his appointment. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to appoint Lisa Smart to the Joint Development Authority, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the Resolution appointing Jason Shaw as the Member at Large on the Joint Development Authority, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

E. **Ratification Items** - Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

The Tire Store (Road)	\$1,021.10
The Tire Store (Road)	\$1,619.10
Advantage Commercial Tire (Road)	\$2,460.00
Mingeldorf (Library AC)	\$1,736.37
Air Depot (Extension AC)	\$2,831.50
Paris Heating & Air (Labor for Library & Extension)	\$1,000.00
Reames & Son (Road)	\$13,960.44
Reames Concrete Company (Road)	\$11,497.85
Dotmed (EMS) (50% grant)	\$7,995.00

Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to ratify the purchases as listed, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS: None

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS:

Jimmy Parker – asked the Board if they would like to contribute to the cow show. Each Commissioner agreed to donate \$50.00. This is a donation from them and nothing to do with county funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

- Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting is March 7th at 10:00 at the Community Center.
- Dog Ordinance – Jeff Futch contacted the Administration Office about adding language to our current ordinance to address Animal Control having to go to a scene and remove an animal and that the owner of the animal should be charged a fee to cover the charges.
- Bonnie Owens resigned from the South GA Community Service Board. Her term ends February 7, 2021 and we need to find someone that is willing to take this appointment.
- ACCG has partnered with a vendor who will take old computers and a few other types of equipment. We are currently working on a surplus list and hope we will have this ready next month.
- All South Door gave us a quote for the door to make the new conference room separated from the Drug Court Offices. The quote is \$1,126.25. The board feels that maintenance needs to put a house door there.
- Administration received a request late this afternoon asking to add drug court supplies to the agenda. There is one quote from Siemens in the amount of \$4,096.80. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carries unanimously.
- March 11th is the date set to ride through the county and rate the roads.
- Retreat is set for Tuesday, April 9th at the Lodge
- Security System in the Administration Building is down. Brad McCall said we can try to replace the hard drives with an estimated cost of \$400.00 to \$600.00 but there is no guarantee it will work. He recommends a new system. Sheriff Paulk offered to get new quotes for the Administration Building and the Jail.
- LMIG Application – We received a small amount of funding to stripe two roads that had safety concerns. The application is ready and if the board would like to move forward with striping Futch's Ferry and Pleasant Dr. we need a motion. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to submit the LMIG Application for striping, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to go into executive session for personnel at 6:28 p.m., seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to move out of executive session and into Regular session at 6:39 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to hire the firm Hall, Booth, Smith to represent as County Attorney, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. Commissioners Robert Griner, Jimmy Parker, Ronnie Gaskins and John Nugent voted in favor of hiring Hall, Booth, Smith and Chairman Pixie Harrod voted against. The vote was 4 in favor and one against.

ADJOURN

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. Meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Chairman, Pixie Harrod

Commissioner, John Nugent

Commissioner, Jimmy Parker

Commissioner, Robert Griner

Commissioner, Ronnie Gaskins

ATTEST _____
County Clerk