

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
March 19, 2019
Warner Robins, Georgia
County Annex**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at the Houston County Courthouse in Warner Robins, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Thomson, Walker, Robinson and McMichael present. Also present were Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Community Planner Jake Cox, Houston County Extension Office Coordinator Brandi McGonagill, Ag Agent Charlotte Meeks, Family & Consumer Science Agent La Keshia Levi, 4-H Agent Samantha Price, Program Assistant Leon Porter, United Way of Central Georgia Resource Development Director Clero Wright, United Way VP of Resource Development & Marketing Lisa Berrian, Walton and Becky Wood, Ansel Peck, Jim Taylor.

Commissioner Thomson led the audience in the Invocation.

Lt. Col. Dara Hobbs, US Air Force led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on her 18 years of military service. After her parents, who both served, retired here in 1989 she grew up in Houston County and then went to the University of Georgia where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree (English) and was commissioned through the AFROTC program. She then spent 15 years away on assignments at Malmstrom AFB, MT; Eglin AFB, FL; Peterson AFB, CO; Fort Belvoir, VA; Wright-Patterson AFB, OH; and then back home when she was stationed at Robins AFB in June of 2017 as Commander of the 410th Supply Chain Management Squadron. Over the years she has been deployed overseas as well with her first deployment in 2008 to Baghdad, Iraq for seven months. Her husband serves as a missile officer and is currently stationed in North Dakota. Lt. Col. Dobbs, along with her children, will rejoin her husband when she leaves in three months for her next assignment in Washington D.C.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized United Way of Central Georgia Resource Development Director Clero Wright and VP of Resource Development & Marketing Lisa Berrian who presented a ceremonial check representing the Houston County employee's contribution to United Way for the year of \$26,304. Ms. Wright stated that the County's participation rate was 84% and the amount collected reflected a six-year high. Both Ms. Wright and Chairman Stalnaker thanked Community Planner Jake Cox for his many years serving as the County's United Way representative and thanked Tim Andrews for his years of participation on the United Way Board in various capacities.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 5, 2019.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker to sign all documents necessary for the 21st Century Partnership to apply for a Defense Community Economic Development Fund grant through the Technical College System of Georgia's Office of Workforce Development of \$60,000 with a required 50% match coming from the 21st Century Partnership.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1615

Chairman Stalnaker clarified that these were state funds and not federal funds.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing a two-year Mutual Aid Agreement for fire, law enforcement and emergency management support between Houston County and the City of Perry. Effective dates are April 22, 2019 through April 21, 2021.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that Sheriff Talton had been added as a signatory to the agreement and that he had already executed it on behalf of the Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the proposed list targeting safety/operational improvements through the 2019 Supplemental LMIG funding to be submitted to Georgia DOT. The estimated grant funding would total \$50,000 with the mandatory match (minimum of 30%) from the County of \$23,185.17 for a total project cost of \$73,185.17. Since the actual total amount of available GDOT grant funds is unknown at this time, the stated figures represent a "not to exceed" amount.

Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar stated that the County has had good success in securing these funds in the past and felt that there was a very good chance we could be approved for the full \$50,000.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve a bid award for the joint 2019 LMIG road resurfacing and repair projects to Reeves Construction Co. of Macon in the total amount of \$3,858,378.05 of which Houston County's portion is \$1,127,640.50. The cities of Warner Robins, Centerville, Perry, Byron, Hawkinsville and Pulaski County and Dooly County will be responsible for the balance of \$2,730,737.55.

Chairman Stalnaker clarified that the County will administer its own projects but that the other entities involved will administer their own. Each entity utilizes the same low bid contractor but is responsible for paying for their projects directly to the contractor. He commended the Public Works staff for doing a good job coordinating the joint projects over the years.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker to sign the Addendum to the Solid Waste Collection Service Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. And to approve the delay of the solid waste fee increase for customers to start with the billing cycle after May 1, 2019.

Chairman Stalnaker pointed out that although the delay is in part due to Advance Disposal Services not having the new trucks available in time that the County is somewhat responsible also because we delayed the award of the contract to such a late date.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2019 Ford Expedition for use in the Commissioner's Department to Wade Ford of Smyrna, GA in the amount of \$36,619. HOST Fees will fund this vehicle purchase.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1616

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2019 Chevrolet Tahoe for use in the Sheriff's Department to Hardy Chevrolet of Dallas, GA in the amount of \$37,594 (Statewide contract pricing). SPLOST 2018 will fund this vehicle purchase.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one used 2004 E-One Freightliner commercial pumper truck for use in the Fire Department to Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus, LLC in Union Grove, AL for \$110,000. Fire Department reserve funds will fund the purchase of this vehicle.

Although neither were in attendance at the meeting due to personal medical reasons, Chairman Stalnaker commended both Director of Purchasing Mark Baker and Assistant Fire Chief Chris Stoner for working hard and finding the right vehicle.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills with the addition of \$12,241.91 to the General Fund bill list for payment on four County credit cards bringing the total bill pay to \$925,440.56.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Public Comments.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Houston County Extension Office Coordinator Brandi McGonagill, Ag Agent Charlotte Meeks, Family & Consumer Science Agent La Keshia Levi, 4-H Agent Samantha Price, and Program Assistant Leon Porter. Each briefed the Board on their respective programs and shared some statistics and events that the Extension Office brings to the community.

Jim Taylor, 117 Echo Lane, Warner Robins commended the Board for their complete support and commitment to Robins AFB referencing the State of the Base Luncheon that was held earlier in the day. He remarked that the Board has a reputation for supporting all important community events.

Chairman Stalnaker said that each local government was well-represented at the event and he was impressed by the support shown by private local businesses as well.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for Commissioners Comments.

Commissioner Walker remarked that the State of the Base Luncheon was very well-attended and informative and thanked the County Extension Office personnel for briefing the Board on their programs and efforts in the community.

Commissioner Robinson remarked that the State of the Base was an exciting program and thanked everyone for coming especially the County Extension Office personnel for the services that they provide to our citizens.

Commissioner Thomson was glad to be back after having missed the last Board meeting due to illness and likewise thanked the Extension Office personnel.

Commissioner Walker thanked everyone for coming to the meeting especially Lt. Col. Hobbs.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1617

Chairman Stalnaker also thanked Lt. Col. Hobbs for coming and speaking to the Board about her military service. He then reminded everyone that there would be a public hearing held on April 2, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Commissioners Boardroom in the courthouse to discuss the possible abandonment or partial closing of Henderson Springs Road. He explained that this was a hearing for discussion only and that no action would be taken on that day. He asked County Attorney Hall to send out additional notices to the property owners along Henderson Spring Road.

Mr. Hall commented that notices had been sent to each property owner and the appropriate advertising will be published in the newspaper announcing the public hearing. He will send out a second notice to all property owners as well.

Chairman Stalnaker also thanked the Sheriff's deputy who provided security for the meeting as well as all law enforcement officers as they strive to keep our community safe.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all. Meeting adjourned.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner