



The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Commission Meeting
Wednesday Morning, June 7, 2023, 10:00 am
Government Center Meeting Room

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charles G. Newton, Chairman
Sammie Wilson, Vice Chairman
Gloria Thompson, Commissioner
Frederick Favors, Commissioner
Bill Jopling, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:

David Crawley, County Manager
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Nikki Milburn, County Clerk
Jason Smith, Community Development
Stacey Thomas, Tax Commissioner
Ruthie Thomas, HR Director
Robert Spurlin, IT Director
Logan Marshall, Sheriff

MEDIA: McDuffie Progress

Others: 4

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, acknowledged a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Favors offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVALS

Agenda (Current)

Chairman Newton asked if there were any corrections to the current agenda or minutes.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to approve the current agenda as written and was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

Minutes

Regular Meeting- *May 16, 2023*

Executive Session- *May 16, 2023*

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes with a grammatical correction. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **BRAG on Thomson: Free Concert, June 9th, 5:30pm-8pm at The Depot**
2. **Freedom Blast: July 1st, 7pm at Government Complex**

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

1. **Consideration to Appoint Members to the Library Board.**

Chairman Newton advised that as discussed at the previous work session, the Library Board made 2 recommendations for new members; Nicole Beggs and Vanessa Etheridge. Vice Chairman Wilson

also made recommendation to reappoint Susan Milton. Chairman Newton advised that he contacted Kit Doupe to make sure that Mrs. Milton was eligible for another term, she confirmed that she is.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to reappoint Susan Milton to the Library Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Favors. Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to appoint Vanessa Etheridge to Library Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and all passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

*Commissioner Jopling entered the meeting at 10:07am.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration to Approve Health Insurance Renewal.

David advised that as presented at the previous work session, Capstone gave the board several options to look over regarding insurance plans that were similar in what they offered for coverage and different savings options. After discussion, the board agreed that Option 1, the insurance plan with Benacon would be the best course for the county at this time.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to approve option 1 (Benacon). The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passed unanimously.

2. Consideration to Approve Liability Insurance Renewal.

David advised that he had not received the additional information regarding the liability insurance deductibles as of this morning.

Commissioner Jopling made the motion to continue this until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

3. Consideration to Approve FY24 Drug Court Grant.

David advised that this is the annual agreement for the drug court program. This grant total is \$165,402 with \$19,848 in matching funds and \$145,554 in federal funding.

Commissioner Favors made the motion to approve FY24 Drug Court grant. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passed unanimously.

4. Consideration to Approve Mutual Aid Agreement with Columbia County.

David advised that as discussed at the previous work session, this is an agreement with Columbia County for fire assistance. The agreement outlines the boundaries and duties of each department.

Commissioner Jopling made the motion to approve the agreement with Columbia County. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson and passed unanimously.

5. Consideration to Approve Terms and Conditions for Park Grant.

David advised that as discussed at the previous work session, the terms and conditions for the downtown park grant is set by the state department.

Commissioner Jopling made the motion to approve the terms and conditions for the park grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

6. Consideration to Approve Lowest Responsive and Most Responsible Bidder for Waste Cell No. 2 Project.

David advised that as discussed at the previous work session, the lowest bidder was Beam Site Prep at \$496,695. This project will be funded from SPLOST.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to approve Beam Site Prep. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Favors and passed unanimously.

7. Consideration to Approve Judicial Council ARPA Grant.

David advised that as discussed at the previous work session, the judicial council has awarded the courts another round of funding from ARPA. This amount of this grant is \$929,457 for help with the backlog of cases due to the pandemic.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to accept the grant funds from the Judicial Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

8. Consideration to Approve MOU with Roger's Veterinary Services.

David advised that as discussed at the previous work session, this MOU with Roger's Veterinary Services and the McDuffie County Board of Health. The county will be responsible for the specimen preparation cost for all domestic animals to Roger's Veterinary Service while the McDuffie County Board of Health will be fiscally responsible for the specimen preparation cost for all wild animals.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to approve MOU with Roger's Veterinary Services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jopling and passed unanimously.

9. Consideration to Approve ACO Report for April and May 2023.

Stacey presented the ACO report for April 2023. There was a decrease in the property tax digest of \$4,342.13 from settled appeals. And there was a decrease of \$759.05 in the mobile home digest from granted exemptions. She then presented the ACO report for May 2023, there was a decrease of \$253.36 to the property tax digest from settled appeals. There was also a decrease in the mobile home digest of \$382.03 from granted exemptions.

Vice Chairman Wilson made the motion to approve April and May 2023 ACO reports. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Favors and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Wilson to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:15 am, seconded by Commissioner Thompson and passed unanimously.

MCDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles G. Newton, IV, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Nikki Milburn, County Clerk