



Talbot County Board of Commissioners
35 West Madison Street, P.O. Box 155
Talbotton, Georgia 31827

May 6, 2024

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at the Talbot County Commission Office, located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827. Chairman Larry Sparks, Vice Chairman, Ken Chapman, and Commissioners Franklin Holmes, Anthony Couch, and Walter Wilson, Jr. were present. Also in attendance were County Manager, Carol Ison, Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, and County Clerk, Jona Gibson. County Attorney, Edward Davis, was not present due to illness.

Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order and led everyone in a moment of silence and the recitation of the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

Vice Chair Chapman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chair Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2024, Regular Meeting. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Dan Coffee, Chairman of the Talbot County Tax Assessors Board, appeared before the Commissioners with an update on countywide reevaluation of real property. Mr. Coffee stated that there would be an overall increase of 15% and Assessment Notices will be mailed out this week. He advised the Board that property owners could also go online to view their assessments at qpublic.net/ga/talbot/. The deadline for appeals is June 20, 2024.

Cloe Landreth, representing New Horizons Community Health Board, was unable to attend the meeting. Representatives from New Horizons appeared for Ms. Landreth to share findings and data regarding Talbot County from a 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment and to inform Commissioners on services available at the facility.

Ifunanya Onyaka, Health Educator representing the Talbot County Health Department, was unable to attend.

Arlena Williams, Director of Community Services, representing the Enrichment Services Program, updated the Commissioners on services available and presented a Community Action

60th Anniversary and Community Action Month Proclamation designating May 2024 as Community Action Month in recognition of the hard work and dedication of Enrichment Services Program, Inc., a community action agency. Commissioner Holmes made a motion to approve the proclamation. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Several roads were presented to the Commissioners to select a project for the Local Road Assistance (LRA) funds. Vice Chair Chapman made a motion to select North Poplar Trace Road. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

The FY2024 LMIG Supplemental Funding for Buckner Road was tabled.

Watkins & Associates, LLC, engineering consultants handling the bid process for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Improvements, suggested that all bids be rejected and readvertised due to discrepancies in bids received. After discussion, Chair Chapman made a motion to reject all bids and readvertise. Commissioner Couch seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Sealed bids for the Community Center Building were opened by Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks. A total of six bids were received. They were as follows:

1. Headly Construction-Newnan, GA-\$4,180,000.00
2. McWright Construction-Warner Robins, GA-\$3,898,106.00
3. Renfroe Construction-Macon, GA-\$4,102,000.00
4. Pro Construction-Macon, GA-\$3,630,056.00
5. Sunbelt Construction-Covington, GA-\$4,194,000.00
6. Burns Construction LLC-Woodbury, GA-\$3,500,000.00.

After discussion, it was decided that all bid packets would be reviewed, and a bid would be awarded, or all bids would be declined within 60 days.

Robinson Paving Company's Lease Agreement with Talbot County will expire on May 31, 2024. Darrell Robinson was in attendance to request a new lease agreement with the county for the same term of 15 years. After discussion, Commissioner Holmes made a motion to renew the lease agreement. Commissioner Couch seconded. The vote passed 4-0-1 with Commissioner Wilson abstaining from the vote.

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the GEFA Drinking Water Revolving Fund Loan Modification Agreement. Vice Chair Chapman seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Holmes made a motion to approve payment to Houston Asphalt for paving the parking lot at the Transit/Water Department in the amount of \$42,000.00 from TIA funds. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Leigh Ann Erenheim, EMA Director, appeared before the Board to inform them that Talbot County had received a Siren Grant that would allow for ten (10) sirens to be installed in the county. The cost of the sirens would be approximately \$311,000.00 with a cost to the county of \$18,000.00 to be paid with EMA grant funds. EMA Director Erenheim also reminded the Commissioners to register for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) training to be held on 5/8/24 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Talbot County Chamber of Commerce.

Peter Nolan, Road Superintendent, informed Commissioners of several roads that required patchwork and had obtained an estimate for each road. The Commissioners requested Superintendent Nolan obtain additional estimates and present them at the next meeting.

Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, informed Commissioners regarding several projects: 1) The Tax Commissioner has reopened in the newly remodeled building located at 38 South Jefferson Street. Positive comments have been received about the renovation. 2) The Transit Bus Shed has been completed. This project was funded with Transit Grant monies. 3) The jail laundry set-up has been upgraded to include commercial equipment. A grant received from the Department of Public Health will totally reimburse the county for the upgrade cost. 4) A new handicap ramp will be constructed at the Elections Office. 5) Walk-up windows will be installed at the courthouse offices and a wall added to improve security.

Edward Davis, County Attorney, was not present due to illness.

Carol Ison, County Manager, informed the Commissioners that a work session was needed to discuss the City of Geneva's outstanding water bill and the Recreation facility rental fee. A date of May 20, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. was proposed. All Commissioners agreed upon the date. County Manager Ison also requested Commissioners approve a request for proposals for Auditing Services.

Commissioner Wilson stated that a resident on Bunkley Road had contacted him regarding an issue with the road when it rained. Road Superintendent Nolan was aware of the concern and will work on the road as soon as he can move the required equipment to the location.

Commissioner Wilson had concerns about a meeting with Oglethorpe Power where the power company did not fully explain the intent of the meeting.

Commissioner Holmes asked that everyone remember the family of District Attorney, Stacey Jackson, who passed recently. Commissioner Holmes also wanted to share an update that construction was in progress on the new Dollar General Store located in the Flint Hill area.

No Executive Session was needed.

There being no further business, Commissioner Holmes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

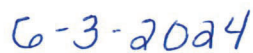
The meeting adjourned.



Larry Sparks, Chairman



Carol Ison, County Manager



Date