



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Commission Chamber

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

1:05 PM

FINANCE

1. **Mr. Moses Todd**, I Love Augusta presentation of a letter of support for retention pay for public safety, Sheriff's department, fire department Y24 budget; Revenue Bond for Expansion of the jail.
2. Motion to approve the Contribution Agreement between the Ga Association of Conservation Districts and Augusta-Richmond County Board of Commissioners.
3. Motion to **approve** funding to replace irrigation system for the entire length of Henry Street. **(Requested by Commissioner Catherine McKnight) (Referred from the August 29, 2023 Finance Committee)**
4. Motion to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee held on August 29, 2023.



Finance

September 12, 2023

Mr. Moses Todd

| | |
|---|---|
| Department: | N/A |
| Presenter: | N/A |
| Caption: | Mr. Moses Todd , I Love Augusta presentation of a letter of support for retention pay for public safety, Sheriff's department, fire department Y24 budget; Revenue Bond for Expansion of the jail. |
| Background: | N/A |
| Analysis: | N/A |
| Financial Impact: | N/A |
| Alternatives: | N/A |
| Recommendation: | N/A |
| Funds are available in the following accounts: | N/A |
| <u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u> | N/A |



Finance Committee

Meeting Date: September 12, 2023

GACD Agreement

| | |
|---|--|
| Department: | USDA-Natural Resources Conservation |
| Presenter: | Donna B Williams |
| Caption: | Motion to approve the Contribution Agreement between the Ga Association of Conservation Districts and Augusta-Richmond County Board of Commissioners |
| Background: | Conservation partnership serves to facilitate the implementation of planned conservation practices. The partnership is to assist interested landowners with the NRCS application process and conservation practice implementation. The provider is responsible for providing technical support to participants for planned conservation as outlined in the agreement. This agreement supports the objectives of both organizations and leverages their capabilities to efficiently and effectively implement conservation activities as outlined in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 and subsequent Farm Bills. |
| Analysis: | This agreement is to assist landowners with Farm Bill applications, design and layout of conservation practices, development and management, contract planning and eligibility determinations. |
| Financial Impact: | Total cost to Augusta for this two program is \$40,000 (\$20,000 ea. for FY2024 and FY2025. Agreement expires September 30, 2025 |
| Alternatives: | Not approve agreement |
| Recommendation: | Approve 2023 Contribution Agreement with GACD and Augusta |
| Funds are available in the following accounts: | 101071212/5212119 Professional Services 101071212/5911110 Reimbursements |
| <u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u> | N/A |

**CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT
GACD-02-23-013
BETWEEN THE
GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, INCORPORATED
AND THE
RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this ____ day of ____, 2023, by and between the RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS(hereinafter referred to as the “Provider”); and the Georgia Association Of Conservation Districts, Incorporated (hereinafter referred to as the “GACD”).

I. PURPOSE:

This long term conservation partnership serves to facilitate the implementation of planned conservation practices. This “partnership” is to assist interested landowners with the NRCS application process and conservation practice implementation. The Provider is responsible for providing technical support to participants for planned conservation as outlined in this agreement. The task involves the following technical support:

- Assisting landowners with Farm Bill Program application process
- Design and layout of conservation practices.
- Activities associated with various Farm Bill conservation programs contract development and management
- Contract planning
- Eligibility determinations
- Processing applications

All technical assistance provided must meet USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and specifications as set forth in its Departmental manuals, handbooks, and Field Office Technical Guide, conservation planning, conservation practice application, and other areas of technical assistance.

II. OBJECTIVES:

Under the provisions of this agreement NRCS is assigned responsibility of managing the technical assistance supplied by the Provider to landowners to plan and implement conservation practices on eligible land, manage easements, and complete evaluation and monitoring of completed practices. This agreement will support the objectives of both organizations and will leverage their capabilities to efficiently and effectively implement conservation activities as outlined in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 and subsequent Farm Bills.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

A. GACD will

- Provide a list of program participants to county personnel contracted through the Provider, that have scheduled conservation practices, as identified in Part IV, Section

A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables**, and identify and prioritize work assignments at the field office level.

- Provide technical guidance to the Provider and the county personnel maintained through this agreement when requested and provide clarity on work plan and other agreement details.
- Provide working materials and equipment needed to perform duties and to bear the cost of operation, maintenance and repair of equipment except for cost due to gross negligence by the Provider. NRCS accident reporting procedures will be followed.
- Coordinate reimbursement of the Provider on a quarterly basis upon receipt of properly completed required documentation. Documentation must include a detailed list of accomplishments utilizing the Deliverable Tracking Report as referenced in Part IV, Section A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables**. GACD costs share shall not exceed the total obligation as identified in Part VI, **Resources Required**, equal to no more than **\$40,000.00**
- Review all new technologies and innovative practices, including applicable standards and specifications, prior to initiating those technologies and practices.
- Provide quality assurance for services provided under the agreement.

B. PROVIDER will:

- Provide employees to perform technical services in the State of Georgia.
- As identified in this Statement of Work, Part IV, Section A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables** and Part VI, **Resources Required**, provide administrative and technical assistance to private landowners in conserving, improving, and enhancing their natural resources as well as in-kind supplies and services. The total cash supplied by the Provider will be **\$40,000.00**
- Provide technical assistance to participants as described in this Statement of Work and Part IV, Section A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables**. Ensure personnel meet the GACD qualification standards for assigned responsibilities and for operation of equipment to perform those responsibilities.
- Ensure the Provider personnel maintained through this agreement, remain current with all training and certification requirements, to obtain and keep USDA NRCS Level II Computer Access current and up to date. This includes reporting changes to records and completing required Ag Learn courses when appropriate.
- Use existing NRCS policy, training procedures, and supervisory guidelines to ensure that all provided assistance meets NRCS standards.

- Comply with the special provisions included in this agreement and to work within this agreed-to **Statement of Work** and Part VI, **Resources Required**. Meet applicable NRCS standards, specifications, and program requirements. Be consistent with the conservation program goals and objectives in the agreement; and incorporate, where appropriate, low cost alternatives that would address the resource issues and meet the objectives of both the program and program participants for which assistance is provided.
- Limit request for reimbursement for technical assistance provided as described in this **Statement of Work**, Part IV, Section A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables** and Part VI, **Resources Required**.
- Be responsible for gross negligence during use of any NRCS property and to reimburse the NRCS for such costs. Gross negligence is defined as willful destruction of NRCS property.
- If applicable, the Provider shall carry liability insurance to operate a government vehicle in the amount of a minimum of \$500,000 and provide a certificate of insurance to GACD. Nongovernment employees will not drive government vehicles unless proof of insurance is made available to GACD.
- Provide at least fifty (50) percent of the cost of the technical assistance listed in Part IV, Section A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables**. The Provider must match the USDA funds awarded on dollar-for-dollar basis from non-Federal sources.
- Request reimbursement from GACD for GACD's share as referenced in this Statement of Work, and the **General Terms and Conditions of this Agreement**. Total reimbursement shall not exceed the GACD portion referenced in Part VI, **Resources Required**. Reimbursement shall be requested through the use of:
 - Documentation must include a detailed list of accomplishments utilizing the Deliverable Tracking Report as referenced in Part IV, Section of A, **Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables**.
 - **Deliverables Tracking Report** must be certified, signed, and dated by the appropriate Richmond County official and the NRCS District Conservationist with the following statement: *"I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this bill has not been previously submitted and that program accomplishments will meet planned activities under this agreement. I have examined and certify that this request is correct for payment."*
- Requests for Reimbursement shall be no more often than every 30 days for the period this agreement is in force
- Requests for Reimbursement shall be submitted via email to an address given.
- Warrant that the technical services provided:

- Comply with all applicable Federal, State, and Tribal and local laws and requirements;
- Are consistent with the conservation program goals and objectives in the agreement
- Incorporate, where appropriate, low-cost alternatives that would address the resource issues and meet the objectives of both the program and program participants for which assistance is provided.
- Be subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to NRCS and other USDA employees when using Government owned property or equipment.

IV. EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DELIVERABLES

A. Deliverables associated with this agreement include item listed in table A.1 and the following:

- Submit the Deliverables Tracking Report when requesting any payment.

Table A.1 Lists the Practice Development, Review and Certification deliverables associated with this agreement

| Practice Description | Practice Code |
|--|---------------|
| Agrichemical Handling Facility (NO) (309) | 309 |
| Amendments for the Treatment of Agricultural Waste (591) | 591 |
| Animal Mortality Facility (NO.) (316) | 316 |
| Brush Management (314) | 314 |
| Closure of Waste Impoundments (NO) (360) | 360 |
| Combustion System Improvement (NO) (372) | 372 |
| Composting Facility (NO.) (317) | 317 |
| Conservation Cover (AC) (327) | 327 |
| Conservation Crop Rotation (AC) (328) | 328 |
| Cover Crop (AC) (340) | 340 |
| CNMP Development (102) | 102 |
| Critical Area Planting (AC) (342) | 342 |
| Diversion (FT) (362) | 362 |
| Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (AC) (647) | 647 |
| Farmstead Energy Improvement (NO) 374 | 374 |
| Fence (FT) (382) | 382 |
| Filter Strip (AC) (393) | 393 |
| Forage and Biomass Planting (512) | 512 |
| Forest Stand Improvement (AC) (666) | 666 |
| Forest Trails and Landings (AC) (655) | 655 |
| Grade Stabilization Structure (NO.) (410) | 410 |
| Grassed Waterway (AC) (412) | 412 |
| Heavy Use Area Protection (AC) (561) | 561 |
| Hedgerow Planting (FT) (422) | 422 |
| Herbaceous Weed Control (Ac.) 315 | 315 |
| Integrated Pest Management (AC) (595) | 595 |
| Irrigation Pipeline (FT) (430) | 430 |
| Irrigation Reservoir (NO. AND AC-FT) (436) | 436 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Irrigation System (NO. AND AC), Micro irrigation (441) | 441 |
| Irrigation System (NO. AND AC), Sprinkler (442) | 442 |
| Irrigation Water Management (AC)(449) | 449 |
| Mulching (AC) (484) | 484 |
| Nutrient Management (AC) (590) | 590 |
| Pipeline (FT) (516) | 516 |
| Prescribed Burning (AC) (338) | 338 |
| Prescribed Grazing (AC) (528) | 528 |
| Pumping Plant (NO.) (533) | 533 |
| Riparian Forest Buffer (AC) (391) | 391 |
| Riparian Herbaceous Cover (AC) (390) | 390 |
| Roof Runoff Structure (NO) (558) | 558 |
| Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (SF) (798) | 798 |
| Silvopasture Establishment (AC) 381 | 381 |
| Solids/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632) | 632 |
| Spring Development (NO.) (574) | 574 |
| Stream Crossing (NO.) (578) | 578 |
| Streambank and Shoreline Protection (FT) (580) | 580 |
| Terrace (FT) (600) | 600 |
| Tree/Shrub Establishment (AC) (612) | 612 |
| Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (AC) (490) | 490 |
| Underground Outlet (FT) (620) | 620 |
| Waste Storage Facility (NO.) (313) | 313 |
| Waste Transfer (634) | 634 |
| Waste Treatment Lagoon (NO.) (359) | 359 |
| Waste Utilization (AC) (633) | 633 |
| Water and Sediment Control Basin (NO.) (638) | 638 |
| Watering Facility (NO.) (614) | 614 |
| Well (NO.) (642) | 642 |
| Wildlife Upland Habitat Management (AC) (645) | 645 |

Deliverables Tracking: Table B.1 provides a sample Deliverables Tracking Report. Use this report to identify the specific work performed during each payment period. The Deliverables Tracking Report tracks and totals reimbursement requirements based on the deliverable's cost rates based on practice and task level performed. Actual Deliverables Tracking Report will be provided to the Provider in Excel format.

Table B.1 Sample Deliverables Tracking Report

Separate Deliverable Tracking Report must be submitted for each individual county working in support of this agreement.

Appling County

1st Quarter

| Customer Name | Date of Service | Task Level | Program | Description | Amount Paid to County per Deliverable |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|---|---------------------------------------|
| John Doe | 10/23/2012 | Administrative | EQIP | Farm Bill Program Applications & their processing | \$ 20.00 |
| Jane's Farm | 10/24/2012 | Technician | CTA | Fence (FT) (382) | \$ 90.00 |

Sample

Actual Deliverables Tracking Report will be provided to the Provider in Excel format by GACD

V. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

- A. The expiration date of the Agreement is **September 30, 2025**. The Agreement is effective from the later of: 1) the date signed by both parties or 2) the 24 month period preceding the expiration date.

VI. RESOURCES REQUIRED

- A. RICHMOND COUNTY and GACD requirements are outlined in the following tables:

Table A.1 GACD AND RICHMOND COUNTY COST SHARE

| AGENCY | FY24 TOTAL COST | FY25 TOTAL COST | TOTAL COST |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| RICHMOND COUNTY | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$ 40,000.00 |
| GACD | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$40,000.00 |

Table A.2 2 YEAR BUDGET SUMMARY

| Category | GACD Funds | RICHMOND COUNTY Funds | Total |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Conservation Program Practice Development, Review and Certification (Administrative, Technical, Easement Development, and CNMP Development) | \$40,000.00 | \$40,000.00 | \$80,000.00 |

- B.** GACD costs share for this agreement is fixed at \$40,000.00

Name/Title of Authorized GACD Rep

Signature

Date

Name /Title of Authorized Provider Rep

Signature

Date



Finance Committee

September 12, 2023

Funding to replace irrigation system

| | |
|---|--|
| Department: | N/A |
| Presenter: | N/A |
| Caption: | Motion to approve funding to replace irrigation system for the entire length of Henry Street. (Requested by Commissioner Catherine McKnight) (Referred from the August 29, 2023 Finance Committee) |
| Background: | N/A |
| Analysis: | N/A |
| Financial Impact: | N/A |
| Alternatives: | N/A |
| Recommendation: | N/A |
| Funds are available in the following accounts: | N/A |
| <u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u> | N/A |



Finance Committee

September 12, 2023

Minutes

| | |
|---|---|
| Department: | N/A |
| Presenter: | N/A |
| Caption: | Motion to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee held on August 29, 2023. |
| Background: | N/A |
| Analysis: | N/A |
| Financial Impact: | N/A |
| Alternatives: | N/A |
| Recommendation: | N/A |
| Funds are available in the following accounts: | N/A |
| <u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u> | N/A |

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Commission Chamber

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

1:10 PM

FINANCE**PRESENT**

Mayor Garnett Johnson

Commissioner Jordan Johnson

Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle

Commissioner Francine Scott

Commissioner Stacy Pulliam

1. Motion to approved funding for the November 7, 2023 .05% sales and use tax for the James Brown arena.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Pulliam.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

2. Discuss and find a path forward to funding/ hiring Post Certified guards for prison work crews that is so desperately needed. (Requested by **Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle**)

Motion to approve receiving this item as information and refer it to the Administrator as a funding priority for inclusion in the upcoming budget discussions.

Motion made by Pulliam, Seconded by Scott.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

3. Discuss the funding stream for the renovations of existing jail and build a new jail pod. (Requested by **Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle**)

Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$310,000 from the Contingency Fund as an emergency procurement for the replacement of locks and hinges at the Jail and to defer to the Administrator to come back with recommendations on funding for the new Jail pod.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Scott.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam.

Motion carries 4-0.

4. Discuss requesting each department within the Augusta-Richmond County Consolidated Government model a 5% & 10% budget cut; to include the general and expenditure funding accounts. **(Requested by Mayor Garnett L. Johnson)**

Motion to refer this item to the full Commission with no recommendation.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Pulliam.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

5. Motion to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee held on August 8, 2023.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Pulliam.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

6. Discuss a funding shortfall for the 2023 Arts in the Heart Festival.

Motion to approve funding in the amount of \$30,000 for the shortfall for the 2023 Arts in the Heart Festival.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Pulliam.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

Motion to reconsider the motion.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Scott.

Motion carries 4-0.

Motion amended to approve charging the \$30,000 to the Contingency Fund for the Arts in the Heart Festival.

It was the consensus of the committee that this be approved without objection.

7. Adopt updated funding timeline to reflect increased collection rate.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Pulliam.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

8. Motion to approve resolution authorizing proceeding with the issuance by Augusta, Georgia of its water and sewerage revenue bonds in order (A) to finance in whole or in part, the cost of certain improvements to the water and sewerage system of Augusta, Georgia and (B) if economically feasible to refund outstanding debt of Augusta, Georgia relating to the water &

sewerage system; to declare the intent of Augusta Georgia to reimburse itself with a portion of the proceeds of such bonds for expenditures made in connection with such improvements; and for other related purposes.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Pulliam.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Guilfoyle, Scott, Pulliam

Motion carries 4-0.

9. Motion to **approve** funding to replace irrigation system for the entire length of Henry Street. **(Requested by Commissioner Catherine McKnight). (Referred from the August 15, 2023 Commission Meeting)**

It was the consensus of the committee that this item be referred to the next committee meeting without objection.

