



BALDWIN COUNTY REGULAR MEETING

January 02, 2024

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION

1. Emergency Medical Service (EMS) - Bud Owens, Atrium Health

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [2.](#) December 19, 2023 Regular Meeting

ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

3. Update on Fleet Management Program - Assistant County Manager
4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair - Board

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

REMINDERS

Reminders

January 1, 2024, Monday, All Non-Emergency Departments Will Be Closed in Observance of New Year's Day.

January 2, 2024, Tuesday, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, 1601 North Columbia Street, Suite 220.

January 15, 2024, Monday, All Non-Emergency Departments Will Be Closed in Observance of MLK Day.

January 16, 2024, Tuesday, 5:00 p.m., Work Session with Development Authority, 1601 North Columbia Street, Suite 220.

January 16, 2024, Tuesday, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, 1601 North Columbia Street, Suite 220.



**BALDWIN COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING**
December 19, 2023
1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220
6:00 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Emily Davis
John Westmoreland
Kendrick Butts
Sammy Hall
Henry Craig (Virtual)

OTHERS PRESENT

Brandon Palmer
Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emily Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Father Bryan Kuhr delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Sammy Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Kendrick Butts made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2023 Work Session, December 5, 2023 Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting, December 5, 2023 Executive Session, December 14, 2023 Work Session and December 14, 2023 Regular Meeting as submitted. Vice Chair John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to amend the Agenda to add the Bike Grant, Radio Grant and Certificates of Appreciation and to remove Agenda Items 9 and 10 which are the previously adopted Baldwin County Board of Elections Local Legislation Outline and Staggered Elections for Commissioners. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Bike Grant Program

County Manager Carlos Tobar reported U Create Macon is a one stop shop for biking for youth in the region with the goal of having a youth bike hub in each county. The Middle Georgia Regional Commission has funded bikes for youth. This is the first regional push to get more youth outside on bikes. Mr. Tobar stated eight bikes will be presented tonight, and the smallest bike will be used by the Fire Department Toy Drive.

Chair Davis asked this year's recipients to come forward to receive a bike: R.J. Dawson, Zayden Jones, Cameron Marshall, Hakeem Durden, Jakyla Hill, Kaylee Blount Elijah Davis and Lenora Brown.

EMA Radio Grant

EMA Director Wayne Johnson reported the County applied for a GEMA grant and received 200 weather radios to be placed in critical City and County facilities. Mr. Johnson also reported that in 2019 Putnam County applied for a \$400,000 grant for a generator for the Sinclair Water Authority, and in recent weeks notification has been received that the grant was approved. County Manager Tobar stated costs have increased since the application was submitted, and Senator Ossoff is requesting additional funds for the purchase of the generator. He also reported that Putnam and Baldwin Counties will each provide a \$35,000 match.

Certificates of Appreciation

Commissioner Kendrick Butts presented Certificates of Appreciation to T.J. Webster and Danny Register for their civic involvement and hard work in Baldwin County. Due to their community service many improvements have been made especially in the Coopers and Oconee Heights areas.

Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Budget and Fee Schedule

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson presented a Resolution for adoption of the fiscal year 2024 budget and fee schedule. She reported law mandates the adoption of the Resolution before the fiscal year begins. Ms. Hudson stated a public hearing was held, the budget was made available for public review / comment and all legal requirements have been met for advertising the public hearing and budget adoption.

Vice Chair John Westmoreland made a motion to adopt the 2024 Budget Resolution and attached fee schedule as presented. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Appointment to Middle Georgia Aging Advisory Council

Chair Davis stated the Middle Georgia Regional Commission has established an Aging Advisory Council to provide critical input to the aging and disability services provided by the Regional Commission in coming years. Chair Davis stated she has been serving on this council, and requested Board approval to continue to serve.

Commissioner Kendrick Butts made a motion to approve that Chair Emily Davis shall continue to serve on the Middle Georgia Aging Advisory Council. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG)

County Manager Carlos Tobar reported the Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) participants will come through Baldwin County, and the County has been asked to allow the Recreation Department facilities to be used as the overnight venue. Mr. Tobar stated he is proposing the County charge a fee of \$1,500.00 for the use of the facilities.

Discussion was held regarding security needs, classroom space, and whether there would be any expense to the County above the \$1,500.00 fee.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the BRAG use of the Recreation Department facilities for a fee of \$1,500.00 after careful review of the requirements outlined in the Overnight Town Handbook and the Venue Checklist to ensure the County will be covered for all expenses. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

GA DOT Local Administered Project (LAP) Engineering and Design Procurement Policy and Procedure Certification

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented information regarding the GA DOT Local Administered Project (LAP). He stated this is one component of the LAP certification for DOT and is also required to apply for Transportation Alternatives Program grants and potential other grants. He stated this certification affirms that staff listed in the Letter of Approval have passed required training requirements prior to participating in any of the processes associated with procuring, managing and administering engineering and design consultant services when Federal Aid Highway Program (FAHP) funds are utilized. Mr. Tobar stated he has

passed all required training for certification. The Agreement confirms understanding and agreement with all policies and procedures associated with engineering and design procurement.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the GA DOT LAP Certification as presented. Vice Chair John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Certification for LAP Engineering and Design Procurement Policy and Procedure Certification is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Property Purchase Agreement

Attorney Brandon Palmer presented a property purchase agreement for the purchase of property located on Horace Veal Road. He stated the agreement is for the purchase of 0.2 acres for the price of \$2,000.00. Mr. Palmer explained that the County needs to acquire the property in order to relocate a water booster pump station. Mr. Palmer presented a resolution to accept the agreement to purchase property as outlined, authorize the execution and delivery of documents required in connection with the purchase and authorize the taking of all actions necessary to the consummation of the agreement to purchase the property.

Vice Chair John Westmoreland made a motion to adopt the Resolution including the Purchase and Sale Agreement shown as Exhibit A. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Eggs and Issues

County Manager Tobar reported he had been contacted by Kara Lassiter, Director of the Chamber, requesting the use of the Government Building as a backup location for Eggs and Issues in 2024. Central Georgia Technical College is having technical problems with the AV Equipment, and the Chamber is looking for an alternative location for Eggs and Issues if the need should arise. Mr. Tobar proposed the use of Suite 210 free of charge to the Chamber if there should be a need to host Eggs and Issues at the Government Building.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the use of the Government Building free of charge for Eggs and Issues should the need arise. Vice Chair John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Board

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Dais reminded everyone that non-emergency departments would close at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 22nd for Christmas Holidays. She stated the Water Department will close at 2:30 p.m. with payment for water bills due by December 30th.

COUNTY MANAGERS REPORT

County Manager Tobar presented an update on County activities to include: meeting with Waste Management team to discuss procedural improvements; mobile home park owners compliance with the ordinance changes; CHIP grant construction continues; preparing for 2024 CHIP and CDBG applications; water line replacement off Log Cabin to resume after holidays; sewer project construction anticipated to begin first of year; will be going out to bid for aquatic center; will be scheduling meeting with Pickleball members regarding the withdrawal of donations and reconstruction of courts.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The following people addressed the Board:

Sheryl Jones, 293 W Lakeview Drive, addressed the Board requesting funding for the pickleball courts to be resurfaced; Alvaro Steevens, 114 Hickory Drive, discussed the new pickleball courts in Macon; the tournament recently held there and the amount of revenue brought to the by tournament; Carol Ballew, 193 Lakeshore Circle, discussed 2 surveys done on the multi-purpose path and the neighborhood petition opposing the path; Ben Lovejoy, 136 Newport

Road, discussed the cost of constructing the proposed path with the relocation of utilities, etc. and stated there are other things needed besides this path; Marlene Lovejoy, 136 Newport Road, discussed a meeting that was held in 2020 with the Airport group and SE Engineering and asked if FAA ever approved the project for the trail; Ricky Giles, 205 Lakeshore Circle, expressed his opposition to the project stating the neighborhood does not want the trail in their neighborhood. He stated the tax payer's money should not be used for this project. He stated if money is going to be spent then put it on pickleball or repair water system to encourage economic growth; Jeff Moore, 115 Stephanie Lane, discussed a County committee to meet with pickleball members. He stated the donation is no longer available because pickleball members wanted the pickleball courts redone as phase 1; however, the Commissioners denied that option. He stated pickleball is a health benefit for citizens and asked Commissioners to continue to support the endeavor.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily C. Davis
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk