

**Board of Commissioners Agenda Meeting
Administrative Building Commission Chambers
March 26, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Members Present:

Chairman John Daniell
Commissioner Mark Thomas
Commissioner Chuck Horton
Commissioner Amrey Harden
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Staff Present:

Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Diane Baggett, Communications Officer
Justin Milligan, IT Director
Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Donna Norton, Budget Officer
C.J. Worden, EMA Director
Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Call to Order:

Chairman John Daniell called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance:

County Attorney Daniel Haygood led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:

ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the March 26, 2024 Agenda.
Second:	Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Final Action:	Motion Passed.

Statements and Remarks from Citizens:

None.

Statements and Remarks from Commissioners:

Chairman Daniell reminded citizens of the upcoming Town Hall Meeting on April 16, 2024 at 6pm.

Update on Oconee County Libraries from Executive Director Valerie Bell:

Presented by:	Valerie Bell, Executive Director of Athens Regional Library System
Discussion:	Athens Regional Library Executive Director Valerie Bell gave an update on the Oconee County Libraries. She expressed excitement over the new library at Wire Park and introduced the hoopla app for streaming services. She addressed some recent parental concerns explaining children must be eleven years of age to enter the library without an adult or caregiver over sixteen years of age, a new middle school section being made in the Young Adult section, and a review process where a parent can approve books for their children. She provided a handout to explain the request for reconsideration process.

Commissioner Horton questioned the number of children coming into the library without adult supervision. Ms. Bell responded it was few, primarily those within walking distance. Commissioner Saxon asked the age a child could receive a library card. Ms. Bell explained anyone can receive a library card, but a parent must sign for a child under age eleven. She also added that the librarians often know the children and parents from frequenting the library. Commissioner Thomas asked if a child would be prevented from checking out an adult book. Ms. Bell explained that parents must make the decision for their children based on family values. The library will not stop a child eleven and up from checking out Young Adult books.

Discuss Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:

Presented by: C.J. Worden, EMA Director

Discussion: EMA Director C.J. Worden requests an update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan to use a planner to facilitate meetings leading to the finished product. He recommends execution of a proposal from Lux Mitigation and Planning corporation for \$28,800, which aligns with the approved funding level by FEMA and GEMA/HS. This request includes a budget amendment for the life of the project up to the approved contract amount provided by Lux Mitigation and Planning.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the April 2, 2024 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss Additional FY24 Funding for Law Enforcement Equipment:

Presented by: Melissa Braswell, Finance Director

Discussion: The Sheriff's Office has a need to upgrade workstation computers, equip ten SRT Team members with special equipment, and move forward with an E911 HVAC monitoring system. Finance Director Melissa Braswell requests a budget amendment for the life of the project up to the approved amount for additional funding of \$156,000.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the April 2, 2024 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss OVP Tennis Court Expansion Project:

Presented by: Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Discussion: Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Davol explained the OVP Tennis Court Expansion Project is an approved SPLOST project with only a portion of the courts built. Due to current demand, they would like to provide additional courts at OVP, allowing the current court at HCM to be converted into Pickleball courts once the project is complete. The request is to approve W&A Engineering's professional services contract for a total of \$202,880 and includes all budget amendments for the life of the project up to the approved contract amount from SPLOST 2021.

Commissioner Saxon verified the new courts would be on both sides of the current courts. Commissioner Harden confirmed the contract would include specifications to put the project out for bids, support for construction meetings, and review of payments.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the April 2, 2024 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Executive Session:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Second: Chuck Horton

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Adjourn into Executive Session: 6:28 p.m.

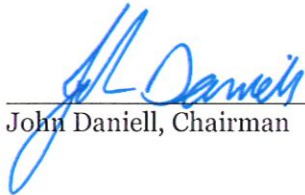
No action was taken in Executive Session.
Executive Session Adjourned: 6:48 p.m.

Regular Session:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn back into Regular Session.
Second: Amrey Harden
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Adjourned into Regular Session: 6:49 p.m.

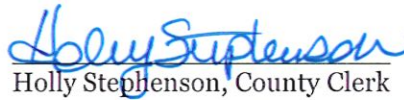
Meeting Adjourned:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Meeting Adjourned: 6:49 p.m.



John Daniell, Chairman

4-2-24
Date

 4-2-24

Holly Stephenson, County Clerk Date