Oconee County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Administrative Building Commission Chambers
July 30, 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
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Donna Norton, Budget Officer
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director
C.J. Worden, EMA Director
Adam Layfield, Water Resources Director
Justin Milligan, IT Director

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.
Chairman John Daniell called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance:
Commission Chuck Horton led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:
ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the July 30, 2024 Agenda.
Second:	Mark Saxon
Voted in Favor of Motion:	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 announced the following openings on Citizen Advisory Boards: four positions on the Planning Commission and four positions for the Recreational Affairs Advisory Board.
The deadline for applications is August 16, 2024 at 12noon.

Discuss the Dawson Park Phase 1 Design Services Recommendation:

Presented by:	Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Discussion:	After issuance of an RFP and review of the seven solicitations received by a review committee, the recommendation is to award the design, permitting and construction management to the top ranked firm, Lose Design, for $975,000 and allow the Chairman to sign the finalized contract, and budget amendments as necessary for the life of the project not to exceed $1 million to include possible ancillary costs.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

<u>Discuss Hog Mountain Road Multi-Use Path Bid Award:</u>

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: After issuance of an RFP and review of the four bids received, Public Works recommends awarding construction of the Hog Mountain Road Multi-Use Path project to the low bidder, Backbone Infrastructure LLC, not to exceed $2,431,636. The request includes all future budget amendments for the life of the contract up to the contract amount, and authorizing the Chairman to execute the necessary documents.

Commissioner Harden asked the status of obtaining right-of-way.
Mr. Woodall explained the two parcels needed have been acquired.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

<u>Discuss a Budget Amendment for Thermal Imagers for the Fire Department:</u>

Presented by: Melissa Braswell, Finance Director

Discussion: The request is to award the purchase of fourteen new thermal imagers to the lowest bidder, Pro Fire & Tactical, LLC for a total price of $92,820. The request includes a budget amendment from the General Fund balance for the replacement.

Commissioner Harden asked if the county currently had fourteen imagers and how the replaced imagers would be disposed of.
Chairman Daniell explained there will be enough imagers for each front-line engine, and disposal or donation options would be investigated.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Commissioner Mark Thomas joined the meeting.

<u>Discuss a Budget Amendment to Replace the Courthouse Fire Pump System:</u>

Presented by: Melissa Braswell, Finance Director

Discussion: The request is to award replacement of the Courthouse fire pump and controller replacements to Central Fire Protection, Inc. who submitted the lowest quote in the amount of $57,375. The request includes approval of a revenue neutral budget amendment not to exceed $65,000 for the life of the project from SPLOST 2021.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

<u>Discuss a FEMA Matching Grant Opportunity for Traffic Message Boards:</u>

Presented by: C.J. Worden, EMA Director

Discussion: The EMA Director requests approval to purchase six message boards with a FEMA 75/25 match grant opportunity from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The total purchase will be $77,154 with a reimbursement of $57,886.50 to come from fund balance. The request incudes amending the FY25 budget to cover the grant for the life of the project up to the approved amount. This will bring the total number to eight message boards.

Commissioner Harden confirmed the grant has already been approved.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Discuss a New Alcohol License for La Laguna Express, LLC:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

Discussion: County Clerk Holly Stephenson requests approval of a new alcohol license for La Laguna Express, LLC who has purchased the Los Primos restaurant at 7990 Macon Highway. The registered agent, Mr. Manual Sanchez Salazar, has completed the RASS Training and the application is complete aside from proof of building ownership or a lease of the building.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Discuss the 2025 Resurfacing and LMIG Application:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Public Works requests approval of the annual LMIG grant through GDOT to provide funding for the FY25 resurfacing program, authorizing the FY25 LMIG submittal to GDOT, authorizing the Chairman to sign necessary documents, and approve any necessary budget amendments for the life of the project up to the contract amount. The grant does require a 30% match of resurfacing funds received. The resurfacing program proposes to resurface 31.11 miles of roadway for an estimated total cost of $8,734,377.26. The FY25 LMIG budget is $750,000. The LMIG grant of $756,310.42 exceeds the expenditure budget by approximately $6,310.42. The request includes a revenue neutral budget amendment for $6,310.42.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Discuss the Colham Ferry Road Shoulder Widening and Patching Project:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Public Works requests approval for two-foot shoulder widening and patching in preparation for resurfacing on Colham Ferry Road. The estimated cost is $1,861,731.92 to be completed in calendar year 2024 with funding from the Local Road Assistance funds of $919,305.88 and TSPLOST of $942,426.04. The request includes any necessary budget amendments up to the contract amount for the life of the project.

Commissioner Thomas asked when the actual overlay would be completed on Colham Ferry. Mr. Woodall explained it will be done in FY25.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Discuss a GEFA Loan Modification for the Calls Creek WWTP Update:

Presented by: Adam Layfield, Water Resources Director

Discussion: Water Resources requests a loan modification to defer payment to begin on April 1, 2026 for the present Calls Creek upgrade which should be completed in December, 2025.

Commissioner Thomas asked about the timeline of the project.
Mr. Layfield expects the project to be completed by December of 2025.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

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:	6:19 p.m.

John Daniell

Chairman John Daniell

Holly Stephenson

Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

8-6-24

Date