

**COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2023
9:30 O'CLOCK A.M.
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM**

Coffee County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 9:30 o'clock a.m. with the following present: Chairman Ted O'Steen, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Kitchens, Commissioners Johnny Wayne Jowers, AJ Dovers and Oscar Paulk. Also present were County Attorney Tony Rowell, County Administrator Wesley Vickers, and County Clerk Tracie Vickers. Also present were Agency Directors/Department Heads, the media, and members of the public.

Chairman O'Steen called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Commissioner Paulk asked Mr. Wendell Troupe to give the invocation. Everyone participated in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Chairman O'Steen announced the courthouse will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the pre-meeting work session and the regular meeting held on July 3, 2023. Vice-Chairman Kitchens made a motion to approve the minutes, and this was seconded by Commissioner Jowers. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Dovers made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Paulk seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

County Administrator Vickers reviewed the mid-year budget amendments. There is an increase in the General Fund of \$1,099,000.00. The major increase was for the purchase of audio/ visual equipment for the courtrooms of \$374,000.00. This will be reimbursed from grant funds. Some other reasons for the increase is the purchase of road department equipment, a mid-year COLA increase and employee benefits. There was also an increase in the Income Premium Tax Fund of \$330,000.00 and the E-911 fund of \$75,000.00. Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve the mid-year budget amendments. Commissioner Paulk made a motion to approve the mid-year budget amendments. Commissioner Dovers seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve the ACCG voting delegate for the 2023 Legislative Leadership Conference. Commissioner Jowers made a motion to appoint Chairman O'Steen as the 2023 Voting Delegate. Vice-Chairman Kitchens seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

County Administrator Vickers reviewed the bids received for (2) mulchers at the road department. The bids received were:

Mulcher for Excavator:

NED Prinoth	M5500E-1300	\$45,090.92
NED	Denis Climaf DAH-150E	\$63,356.22
Yancey	Shearex VM-50SR	\$71,800.00
Yancey	HM 3013	\$60,473.96

Mulcher for Skidsteer

NED	Prinoth M450S-1900	\$34,046.77
NED	Dinis Climaf DAF-180D	\$43,359.80
Yancey	Shearex HM-70SR	\$47,110.00
Yancey	CAT HM418	\$46,710.00
Dobbs	SEPPI cl175	\$39,000.00

Mr. Vickers recommends the low bid.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve the bids for the (2) mulchers at the road department. Vice-Chairman Kitchens made a motion to approve the low bids for the NED Prinoth mulchers. Commissioner Jowers seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

County Administrator Vickers discussed the ratification of the agreement between Coffee County and BIS digital for the Coffee County Superior Court audio / visual equipment for upgrades to courtrooms A and B and the Jury Assembly Room. The cost of the upgrades is \$373,500.00. The County will pay for the equipment and will be reimbursed by the grant. This agreement will need to be ratified today. Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to ratify the agreement between Coffee County and BIS Digital for the Coffee County Superior Court audio / visual upgrades. Commissioner Jowers made a motion to ratify the agreement with BIS Digital. Vice-Chairman Kitchens seconded the motion. All Commissioner unanimously agreed.

Chairman O'Steen stated this is a public hearing for the Coffee County and the Cities of Ambrose, Broxton, Douglas, and Nicholls 2023 Comprehensive Plan update. Ms. Loretta Hylton, Senior Planner, South Georgia Regional Commission, stated this is a public hearing today to transmit the 2023 Comprehensive Plan to the Department of Community Affairs. Coffee County has held the first public hearing, the kickoff meeting and the (3) required workshops. It is now time to transmit it to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission and the Department of Community Affairs for review. Once Ms. Hylton receives it back from Department of Community Affairs and makes any necessary changes Ms. Hylton will bring the Comprehensive Plan back before the Commission for final adoption. Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to enter a public hearing. Commissioner Jowers made a motion to enter a public hearing at 9:41 a.m. Commissioner Dovers seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed. There were no public comments. Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Jowers made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:41 a.m. Commissioner Paulk seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve or reject the transmittal of the Coffee County and the Cities of Ambrose, Broxton, Douglas and Nicholls 2023 Comprehensive Plan Update to the Southern Georgia Regional Commission and the Department of Community Affairs for review. Commissioner Dovers made a motion to approve the transmittal of the 2023 Comprehensive Plan to the Department of Community Affairs. Vice-Chairman Kitchens seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Ms. Olivia Pearson, 614 Taylor Circle, stated there will be a town hall meeting on August 19, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at Gaines Chapel. She would like to invite everyone to attend.

There were no further comments from the audience.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Commissioner Jowers made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:45 o'clock a.m. and this was seconded by Commissioner Paulk. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

County Clerk

Chairman