

**COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023  
9:30 O'CLOCK A.M.  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM**

Coffee County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, May 1, 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 AJ Dovers asked County Fire Chief Steve Carver to give the invocation. Everyone participated in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Chairman O'Steen announced National Day of Prayer will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> at Central Square Gym at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the pre-meeting work session and the regular meeting held on April 3, 2023, and the executive session held on April 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 stated the County has received bids for a Certificate of Deposit / Money Market Account on April 26, 2023. Mr. Vickers recommends depositing \$5,000,000.00 into a Money Market Account at Colony Bank at a rate of 4.64% and \$10,000,000.00 into a Certificate of Deposit at Douglas National Bank at a rate of 5.26%. ( Bids are listed in the pre-meeting work session minutes). Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve or reject bids for Certificate of Deposit / Money Market Account. Commissioner Jowers made a motion to approve depositing \$5,000,000.00 into a Money Market Account at Colony Bank at a rate of 4.64% and \$10,000,000.00 into a Certificate of Deposit at Douglas National Bank at a rate of 5.26%. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

County Administrator Vickers reviewed the Brush Spraying Contract with Bristow LLC for FY 2023. This contract is for \$125.00 per acre not to exceed a total of \$40,000.00 annually. If any Commissioners have any roads they would like to add to this list please let Wendell know. Chairman O'Steen asked for a motion to approve or reject the Brush Spraying Contract for FY2023. Commissioner Dovers made a motion to approve the Brush Spraying Contract with Bristow LLC. Commissioner Paulk seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Mr. Jason Whiddon, Code Enforcement Director, stated this is the first reading of the rezoning request for Mr. Prudencio Reynoso for .66 acres located at 56 Elm Street from C, Commercial to W-LI Warehouse Light Industrial. Mr. Reynoso plans to manufacture cargo trailers on this property. The Planning Commission recommends denial of this request. The Staff agrees with the Planning Commission.

Mr. Jason Whiddon, Code Enforcement Director, stated Mark Karras has made an application for a rezoning request for 11.2 acres located at 177 Satilla Park Drive from R2, Residential to RM, Residential, Mixed. This is for the purpose of building affordable housing. The Planning Commission met on April 17, 2023 and recommends approval of this request. The Staff agrees with the Planning Commission. Chairman O’steen asked for a motion to enter a public hearing. Vice-Chairman Kitchens made a motion to enter a public hearing at 9:38 a.m. Commissioner Dovers seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed. Mr. Mark Karras stated that he will submit an application to the Department of Community Affairs to build an affordable housing development. This property borders the Douglas City Limits. There were no other comments from the audience. Chairman O’Steen asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Dovers made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:41 a.m. Commissioner Paulk seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Attorney Rowell addressed the Commission concerning any Conflict of Interest in this property. Attorney Rowell asked the Commission if any Individual or family member has any business interest or family members have any business interest in this property. There were no Commissioners that stated any conflict of interest in this property. Chairman O’Steen asked for a motion to approve or reject the rezoning request for Mark Karras for 11.2 acres located at 177 Satilla Park Drive from R2, Residential to RM, Residential Mixed. Commissioner Paulk made a motion to approve the rezoning request for Mark Karras for 11.2 acres located at 177 Satilla Park Drive from R2, Residential to RM, Residential Mixed. Commissioner Dovers seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Ms. Princess Zachery, Human Resources Director, discussed the changes to the County Personnel Policy regarding sick leave and holiday pay. The recommended changes would be for public safety employees to accumulate (6) hours per month sick leave. The maximum amount of sick leave accrued would be 960 hours for full-time regular (40) hour per week employees, 1032 hours for full-time public safety employees and 1,440 hours for full-time firefighters. The new holiday schedule would add Good Friday, Juneteenth and Veterans Day to the current schedule. Ms. Zachery also stated this change would add the option to roll over (5) holidays for public safety employees to the next year with the approval from the Department Head. Chairman O’Steen asked for a motion to approve or reject the changes to the County Personnel Policy regarding sick leave and holiday pay. Vice-Chairman Kitchens made a motion to approve the changes to the County Personnel Policy regarding sick leave and holiday pay. Commissioner Jowers seconded the motion. All Commissioners unanimously agreed.

There were no comments from the audience.

Chairman O’Steen asked for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Commissioner Dovers 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.

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County Clerk

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Chairman