



## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

T. PAGE THARP GOVERNMENTAL BUILDING  
102 STARKSVILLE AVENUE NORTH, LEESBURG, GEORGIA 31763

DECEMBER 22, 2022 AT 11:00AM  
T. PAGE THARP BUILDING  
OPAL CANNON AUDITORIUM  
WWW.LEE.GA.US

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

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### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Billy Mathis, Chairman        | District 3 |
| John Wheaton, Vice-Chairman   | District 1 |
| Luke Singletary, Commissioner | District 2 |
| Chris Guarnieri, Commissioner | District 4 |
| George Walls, Commissioner    | District 5 |

### COUNTY STAFF

Christi Dockery, County Manager  
Kaitlyn Good, County Clerk  
Jimmy Skipper, County Attorney

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- |   | <u>PAGE</u> |
|---|-------------|
| 1. <b><u>INVOCATION</u></b>   |             |
| 2. <b><u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u></b>   |             |
| 3. <b><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b>  |             |
| (A) Consideration to adopt a Resolution to Appoint the Initial Members to the Hospital Authority of Lee County.   | 1 - 5       |
| (B) Consideration to approve payment for the County's portion of the cost of the sidewalk project on Firetower Road.  | 6 - 13      |
| (C) Consideration to purchase two (2) ambulance chassis.  |             |
| 4. <b><u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u></b>  |             |
| (A) Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.   |             |
| 5. <b><u>PUBLIC FORUM</u></b>   |             |
| <i>Citizens will be allowed to address the Board of Commissioners regarding any issues or complaints. Individuals should sign up prior to the start of the meeting.</i> |             |
| 6. <b><u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></b>  |             |
| (A) The next regularly scheduled County Commission meeting is <b>Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 6:00pm.</b>   |             |
| 7. <b><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></b>  |             |

AGENDA MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

*Lee County is a thriving vibrant community celebrated for its value of tradition encompassing a safe family oriented community, schools of excellence, and life long opportunities for prosperity and happiness without sacrificing the rural agricultural tapestry.*

Persons with special needs relating to handicapped accessibility or foreign language interpretation should contact the ADA Coordinator at (229) 759-6000 or through the Georgia Relay Service (800) 255-0056 (TDD) or (800) 355-0135 (voice). This person can be contacted at the T. Page Tharp Building in Leesburg, Georgia between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice of seven (7) working days. The meeting rooms and buildings are handicap accessible.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LEE  
COUNTY, GEORGIA TO APPOINT THE INITIAL MEMBERS TO THE  
BOARD OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF LEE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE  
FOR THE INITIAL TERMS OF SUCH MEMBERS; TO PROVIDE FOR  
AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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WHEREAS, by Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Lee County, Georgia, adopted December 13, 2022, such Board activated a Hospital Authority, to be known as the "Hospital Authority of Lee County" (the "Hospital Authority") pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. §31-7-72; and

WHEREAS, in accord with the provisions of O.C.G.A. §31-7-72(a), the initial members of the Board of the Hospital Authority are to be appointed by the governing body of Lee County for staggered terms as specified by Resolution of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is adopted in accord with such statute and in order to appoint the initial members of the Board of the Hospital Authority for the terms herein specified.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Lee County, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that the following persons are hereby appointed as the initial members of the Board of the Hospital Authority of Lee County for the terms indicated:

| <u>Appointee</u>    | <u>Length of Initial Term</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bruce Houston, M.D. | 3 year term                   |
| Jennifer Heyer      | 3 year term                   |
| Dana Hager          | 2 year term                   |
| Randy Carr          | 2 year term                   |
| Rick Muggridge      | 1 year term                   |

Upon the expiration of the initial terms as set out above, all future appointees to the Board of the Hospital Authority shall serve staggered terms of three (3) years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its adoption by the Board of Commissioners of Lee County and the members appointed to the Board of the Hospital Authority pursuant to this Resolution shall assume office on January 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.

SO RESOLVED, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2022.

**Board of Commissioners  
of Lee County, Georgia**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billy Mathis, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kaitlyn Good, Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LEE COUNTY, GEORGIA TO ACTIVATE A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY FOR LEE COUNTY; TO DECLARE THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY TO FUNCTION IN LEE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OF THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LEE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE FOR MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY, THE ORGANIZATION OF THE AUTHORITY, AND RULES AND REGULATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE AUTHORITY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESCISSION OF CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF LEE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER MATTERS**

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WHEREAS, under O.C.G.A. §31-7-72(a), a Hospital Authority for Lee County was created as a public body corporate and politic to be known as the "Hospital Authority of Lee County"; and

WHEREAS, under O.C.G.A. §31-7-72, in order for such Hospital Authority to transact any business or exercise any powers under state law, the governing body of Lee County is required to adopt a Resolution activating such Authority for Lee County; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of Lee County has determined that there is a need for a Hospital Authority to function in Lee County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to activate the Hospital Authority of Lee County in accord with Georgia law.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Lee County, Georgia, and it is resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. That the Hospital Authority of Lee County is hereby activated to function in Lee County by the governing body of Lee County as authorized pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 31-7-72(a).
2. That the governing body of Lee County hereby determines that there is a need for a Hospital Authority to function in Lee County.
3. That the Hospital Authority shall consist initially of a Board of five members to be appointed by the governing body of Lee County for staggered terms. The Hospital Authority shall be a public corporation which shall constitute a public body corporate and politic as authorized under Hospital Authority's law as codified in O.C.G.A. § 31-7-70, et seq. With respect to the members appointed to the Board of the Hospital Authority, two members shall be appointed for initial terms of three years, two members shall be appointed for initial terms

of two years, and one member shall be appointed for an initial term of one year. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for terms of three years. If at the end of any term of office a successor has not been appointed, the member whose term of office has expired shall continue to hold office until a successor is appointed. The persons to be appointed by the governing body of Lee County as the initial members of the Board of the Hospital Authority shall be appointed by such governing body by separate Resolution.

4. All members of the Hospital Authority Board shall be residents of Lee County. The members shall elect one of their members as Chair and another as Vice-Chair and shall also elect a Secretary/Treasurer who may, but need not be, a member of the Board of the Hospital Authority. The members of the Board of the Hospital Authority shall receive no compensation for their services, either as members or as employees of the Hospital Authority, but may be reimbursed for their actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, or, in the alternative, the members may elect to be reimbursed for such expenses on a per diem basis in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount authorized by O.C.G.A. § 31-7-74 from time to time. As authorized by O.C.G.A. §31-7-74, the Board of the Hospital Authority shall make rules and regulations for the governance of the Authority and may delegate to one or more of its members, officers, agents, or employees such powers and duties as may be deemed necessary and proper.

5. All members of the Authority shall be required to comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. §31-7-74.1 relating to the disclosure of conflicts of interest and prohibited transactions with respect to a member of the Hospital Authority.

6. Each member appointed as a member of the Board of the Hospital Authority shall take the oath of office as required by O.C.G.A. § 31-7-74.2 prior to the commencement of such persons duties as a Board member of the Hospital Authority.

7. The "area of operation" of the Hospital Authority shall be as defined and established pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 31-7-71(1).

8. The Board of the Hospital Authority shall have the functions and powers as provided in O.C.G.A. § 31-7-75, as now existing or as hereafter amended. The Hospital Authority shall comply with all of the requirements of the Hospital Authority's law, codified at O.C.G.A. 31-7-70.

9. Copies of this Resolution, and copies of any Resolution adopted by the governing authority of Lee County providing for filling vacancies in the membership of the Board of the Authority or making any changes in membership to such Board, shall be filed with the Department of Community Health as required by O.C.G.A. § 31-7-72(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its adoption by the governing body of Lee County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.

SO RESOLVED, effective this 13 day of December, 2022.

**Board of Commissioners  
of Lee County, Georgia**

By: 

\_\_\_\_\_  
Billy Mathis, Chairman

Attest: Kaitlyn Good

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kaitlyn Good, Clerk

## Kaitlyn Good

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**Subject:** FW: Firetower Rd. Sidewalks  
**Attachments:** Firetower Rd.pdf; GDOT Funding Assistance.pdf

**From:** [bob.alexander@cityofleesburgga.com](mailto:bob.alexander@cityofleesburgga.com) <[bob.alexander@cityofleesburgga.com](mailto:bob.alexander@cityofleesburgga.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 4:33 PM  
**To:** Christi Dockery <[cdockery@lee.ga.us](mailto:cdockery@lee.ga.us)>  
**Subject:** Firetower Rd. Sidewalks

Christi,

As we discussed today the Board of County Commissioners approved the cost of the sidewalk design on Firetower Rd. within the unincorporated area of the County March 23, 2021. The City of Leesburg was able to receive funding assistance from GDOT with a 70% commitment of the project cost. Zane Grace Construction was awarded the construction contract with an estimated cost of \$184,210.69 on Firetower Rd. The County's estimated construction cost would be \$13,500. Please let me know if the Board of Commissioners approves the County participation in the construction of the sidewalks.

Thanks,  
Bob Alexander  
City Manager



**Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner**  
One Georgia Center  
600 West Peachtree Street, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
(404) 631-1000 Main Office

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Billy Breeden  
Mayor of Leesburg  
107 Walnut Avenue  
Leesburg, Georgia 31763

**RE: Funding Assistance for Sidewalks on SR 3, SR 32 and Firetower Road**

Dear Mayor Breeden:

The Department has approved the City's request for funding assistance for sidewalks on SR 3, SR 32, and Firetower Road. The Department will commit up to **\$304,000** or **70%** of the project cost, whichever is less. The project will be funded out of the Department's Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) Program. These funds will be in addition to any other LMIG funds allocated to the City. Failure to begin the projects before March 30, 2022 may result in the cancellation of funds.

In order to receive the funds, the City will need to submit the following items:

1. GDOT Approved Encroachment Permits for work on SR 3 and SR 32
2. Application (see attached)
3. Bid tabulations for the work.

Please submit required information to [wwright@dot.ga.gov](mailto:wwright@dot.ga.gov) or to the address below:

**Georgia Department of Transportation  
Office of Local Grants - 17th Floor  
One Georgia Center  
600 West Peachtree Street NW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (404) 347-0231 or at: [wwright@dot.ga.gov](mailto:wwright@dot.ga.gov)

Sincerely,

**Bill Wright**  
Digitally signed by Bill Wright  
DN: cn=Bill Wright, o=Office of Local Grants,  
ou=Local Grants, email=wwright@dot.ga.gov, c=US  
Date: 2021.04.15 14:32:22 -0400

Bill Wright  
Local Grants Administrator

cc: Van Mason; Hon. Johnny Floyd; Hon. Carden Summers; Hon. Bill Yearta; Bob Alexander; Shannon Bradford





Civil  
Marine  
Environmental  
EMC Engineering Services, Inc.

BID FORM  
FIRETOWER ROAD SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

EMC PROJECT NO.: 21-4010  
LEESBURG, GEORGIA  
prepared for:  
CITY OF LEESBURG

| NO. | ITEM DESCRIPTION                                 | QTY   | UNIT | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL       |
|-----|--|-------|------|------------|-------------|
| 1   | TRAFFIC CONTROL, per MUTCD                       | 1     | LS   | 3000.00    | 3000.00     |
| 2   | MOBILIZATION/DEMobilIZATION                      | 1     | LS   | 3700.00    | 3700.00     |
| 3   | GRADING COMPLETE                                 | 1     | LS   | 28,340.00  | 28,340.00   |
| 4   | CONCRETE SIDEWALK                                | 2,091 | SY   | 47.45      | 99,636.15   |
| 5   | RE-BUILT CONCRETE DRIVEWAYS                      | 333   | SY   | 58.64      | 19,527.12   |
| 6   | 5' WHITE CROSSWALK STRIPING                      | 7     | EA   | 230.00     | 1610.00     |
| 7   | PAINTED 24" WHITE STOP BAR                       | 7     | EA   | 300.00     | 2100.00     |
| 8   | STOP SIGN (R1-1) PER MUTCD                       | 1     | EA   | 175.00     | 175.00      |
| 9   | MAILBOX, RELOCATE                                | 17    | EA   | 100.00     | 1700.00     |
| 10  | SINGLE POST SIGN, RELOCATE                       | 6     | EA   | 100.00     | 600.00      |
| 11  | WATER VALVE, RELOCATION                          | 1     | EA   | 220.00     | 220.00      |
| 12  | DEMO & REMOVE EXISTING CONCRETE SIDEWALK SECTION | 12    | SY   | 20.00      | 240.00      |
| 13  | REMOVAL OF EXISTING CURB & GUTTER                | 88    | LF   | 7.00       | 616.00      |
| 14  | 36" CMP STORM PIPE                               | 5     | LF   | 100.00     | 500.00      |
| 15  | GASTD 1001B STRAIGHT HEADWALL                    | 1     | EA   | 4250.00    | 4250.00     |
| 16  | PERMANENT GRASSING                               | 0.5   | AC   | 1400.00    | 700.00      |
| 17  | TEMPORARY GRASSING                               | 0.5   | AC   | 1100.00    | 550.00      |
|     |  |       |      |            | 5167,464.27 |

TOTAL: \$167,464.27

10% CONTINGENCY: \$16,746.42

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$184,210.69



## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

T. PAGE THARP GOVERNMENTAL BUILDING  
102 STARKSVILLE AVENUE NORTH, LEESBURG, GEORGIA 31763

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021 6:00 P.M.  
T. PAGE THARP BUILDING  
OPAL CANNON AUDITORIUM  
WWW.LEE.GA.US

MEETING MINUTES  
VOTING SESSION

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### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Billy Mathis, Chairman        | District 3 |
| John Wheaton, Vice-Chairman   | District 1 |
| Luke Singletary, Commissioner | District 2 |
| Rick Muggridge, Commissioner  | District 4 |
| George Walls, Commissioner    | District 5 |

### COUNTY STAFF

Christi Dockery, County Manager  
Kaitlyn Sawyer, County Clerk  
Jimmy Skipper, County Attorney

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The Lee County Board of Commissioners met in a voting session on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The meeting was held in the Opal Cannon Auditorium of the Lee County T. Page Tharp Governmental Building in Leesburg, Georgia. Those present were Chairman Billy Mathis, Vice-Chairman John Wheaton, Commissioner Luke Singletary, Commissioner Rick Muggridge, and Commissioner George Walls. Staff in attendance was County Manager Christi Dockery, County Clerk Kaitlyn Sawyer, and County Attorney Jimmy Skipper. The meeting was also streamed on Facebook Live.

### INVOCATION

Commissioner Muggridge led the invocation.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and the audience said the Pledge of Allegiance in unison.

### CALL TO ORDER

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- (A) **Consideration to approve the Board of Commissioners meeting minutes for March 9, 2021.**  
Commissioner Walls made the **MOTION** to approve the Board of Commissioners meeting minutes for March 9, 2021. Commissioner Wheaton seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Muggridge voting yea.
- (B) **Consideration to approve the minutes for the Special Called meeting of the Road Committee of the Board of Commissioners for March 9, 2021.**  
Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to approve the Board of Commissioners meeting minutes for March 9, 2021. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Muggridge voting yea.

### CONSENT AGENDA

NONE

### NEW BUSINESS

- (A) **Recognition of employees' years of service.**  
Chairman Mathis recognized the following employees for their years of service to Lee County:  
25 years – Larry McDuffie - Captain  
15 years – Susan Smith – Tax Commissioner

(B) **Deputy Director Barbara Reddick of the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission, to present program on Healthy Aging Communities. Consideration to approve a resolution to participate in the application process to designate Region 10 as an Age-Friendly Region.**

Deputy Director Barbara Reddick discussed the purpose and benefits of designating the region as age-friendly. AARP approached the SWGRC about a partnership with counties and cities in the region and already have had a few entities partner. There is not another Age-Friendly Region in the nation; we would be the first. Ms. Reddick stated that supporting this initiative and signing the resolution would not involve any additional funding by the County; it simply shows that officials would consider those individuals in the community age 65 and older in any future plans for development.

The goal for an age-friendly community is to provide safe options for housing, transportation, and community services and involvement. Currently, approximately 13% of the population in Lee County is 65 years of age and older (regionally it is 10%), with this percentage projected to nearly double by 2033 and outnumber those younger than age 18 (statistics provided by AARP). So far, all 9 counties previously approached and presented with the information have adopted the resolution. Ms. Reddick stated that AARP also lists eight (8) domains of livability (eight things that are important to everyone, not just those 65 and older): Outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information, and community support and health services. This aligns with what is already in the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Their staff would serve as a liaison between the counties, state, and AARP officials, with no additional work for any of the counties or cities in that regard. Ms. Reddick again pointed out that we would be the first region in the nation to be designated as an Age-Friendly Region. As an Age-Friendly Region, we would be promoted in AARP publications and there would be a huge roll out. The Regional Commission is looking for support for this partnership with AARP in an effort to further educate the community. Support from all 14 counties in the region is not required, yet it is desired. At this time, there is enough support, however, the SWGRC would like support from all counties in the region. This designation could lead to additional resources as well as grant and volunteer opportunities.

Commissioner Muggridge made the **MOTION** to approve a resolution to participate in the application process to designate Region 10 as an Age-Friendly Region. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Wheaton and Commissioner Singletary voting yea.

(C) **Jasmine Wooden, Corporate Health Partners, to present last year's highlights and this year's proposed changes to the Wellness Program. Consideration to approve a Client Services Agreement (renewal) with Corporate Health Partners.**

Ms. Wooden presented highlights from the past year, including a positive risk reduction from the baseline year (2013) with High Risk having decreased from 60.8% to 48.3% and Low Risk remaining at 15%. There were several success stories with tobacco use, weight loss, and diabetes. This year's proposed changes to the Wellness Program include more focus on mental health, an emphasis on reviewing claims and targeting opportunities for risk reduction, a commitment to look closer at the diabetic and hypertensive populations, and offer more educational resources and coaching sessions. Chairman Mathis added that there would be no increase in cost.

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to approve a Client Services Agreement (renewal) with Corporate Health Partners. Commissioner Singletary seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Muggridge and Commissioner Walls voting yea.

(D) **Leesburg City Manager Bob Alexander to present on the Firetower Road Sidewalk Improvement project.**

City of Leesburg Mayor Billy Breeden and Councilmember Judy Powell were also present. Mr. Alexander summarized the City of Leesburg's Sidewalk Improvement project, stating City officials consolidated the DARTS plan (bike and pedestrian plan) from 2011 to focus on the highest priority project, which they believe to be an interconnectivity of the schools with sidewalks. The sections in question include segments along U.S.

19, State Route 32, Magnolia Street, Leslie Highway, Old Smithville Road, and Firetower Road. The City would like the County's participation to complete the section of Firetower Road within the unincorporated area of the County. The city has already approved the contract for design, contingent upon County approval.

Projected costs are as follows: The total cost for design is \$16,300.00, with the County's portion being \$8,736.00 (based on linear feet-1242 feet), and the total cost for construction (estimated at \$25.00 per foot) is \$105,000.00, with the County's portion being \$55,890.00. Mr. Alexander added that the City would present to the GDOT Commissioner in efforts to obtain a 70-30 split, which will greatly reduce costs; the County's estimated construction costs would be around \$17,000.00. At this time, Mr. Alexander requests that the County commit to a portion of the design cost only.

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to participate with the City of Leesburg on the Firetower Road Sidewalk Improvement project, with the County's portion of the design cost at \$8,736.00 to come from TSPLOST funds. Commissioner Singletary seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Muggridge and Commissioner Walls voting yea.

## PUBLIC HEARING

NONE

## DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

### Planning, Zoning, & Engineering

- (A) Consideration to approve an application from Mark Reese (Z21-002) requesting to re-zone a total of 9.710 acres from I-2 (Heavy-Industrial District) to R-1 (Single-Family Residential District). The property owner is Mark Reese. Parcel numbers 169246022 and 169267007 of land being part of Land Lots 246 and 267 of the Second Land District, Lee County, Georgia. Planning Commission members and Planning Department staff recommend approval. Public Hearing held March 9, 2021.

Commissioner Singletary made the **MOTION** to approve an application from Mark Reese (Z21-002) requesting to re-zone a total of 9.710 acres from I-2 (Heavy-Industrial District) to R-1 (Single-Family Residential District). Commissioner Muggridge seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Wheaton and Commissioner Walls voting yea.

- (B) Consideration to accept a proposal from Thronateeska Heritage Foundation, Inc. for the document scanning and data services for the GIS project.

County Manager Christi Dockery summarized the proposed project, stating that Thronateeska staff would digitize building plans, which must be retained for the life of the building, making it easier for the public and for staff to view these plans. The project would take approximately one and a half days to complete, with staff working no more than 16 hours per week.

Commissioner Muggridge made the **MOTION** to accept a proposal from Thronateeska Heritage Foundation, Inc. for the document scanning and data services for the GIS project at a cost of \$25.00 per hour, to come from Contingency funds. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Wheaton and Commissioner Singletary voting yea.

- (C) Consideration to award an RFQ for consulting services for the Land-Use Study on Effects of Large Scale Solar Energy Systems.

- (D) Consideration to award an RFQ for consulting services for the Study Short-Term and Long-Term Effects of Financing Construction of Large Scale Solar Energy Systems through Revenue Bonds and Ad Valorem Taxes.

Chairman Mathis stated that for these two items (C and D) several bids were received, one for \$59,000.00 and one for \$15,000.00 for a total of \$74,000.00, but suggests this project be tabled. There is no rush to complete this project. Commissioner Muggridge agreed, stating that this could be an excellent Master's Thesis or project for an intern. Chairman Mathis added that the \$15,000.00 was just for tax implications. The Development Authority has spent a lot of time and done a great deal of work already and have collected much information,

so that part seems unnecessary.

Commissioner Muggridge asked how much an ACCG intern usually costs. County Manager Christi Dockery stated that these positions are usually grant funded for approximately \$12 per hour. Ms. Dockery will look into internship possibilities with ACCG and other entities.

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to indefinitely table awarding both an RFQ for consulting services for the Land-Use Study on Effects of Large Scale Solar Energy Systems and an RFQ for consulting services for the Study Short-Term and Long-Term Effects of Financing Construction of Large Scale Solar Energy Systems through Revenue Bonds and Ad Valorem Taxes. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Muggridge voting yea.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS & GOVERNMENTAL BOARDS/AUTHORITIES**

- (A) **Consideration to appoint one member to the Planning Commission to fulfill an unexpired term of four (4) years. Board vacancy due to the resignation of Mr. Darrel Finnicum. Current term expires 01/31/2025. Letter of interest in appointment received from Mike McVey.**

Commissioner Singletary made the **MOTION** to appoint Mike McVey to the Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term of four (4) years, expiring 01/31/2025. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Wheaton and Commissioner Muggridge voting yea.

- (B) **Consideration to appoint one member to the Housing Authority Board (Resident) for a term of one (1) year. Current term expires 03/31/2021. New term expires 03/31/2022. Letter of interest in reappointment received from Latrisha Bell.**

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to reappoint Latrisha Bell to the Housing Authority Board for a term of (1) year, expiring 03/31/2022. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Muggridge voting yea.

## **COUNTY MANAGER'S MATTERS**

- (A) **Updates on County projects.**

County Manager Christi Dockery discussed ongoing projects in the County: (1) Animal Shelter renovations are completed, including painting, counters, various repairs; and (2) the following roads are nearly completed, just awaiting final striping and/or shoulder work: New York Road, Airport Road, Richardson Road, and the Palmyra Subdivision. Staff will check with the Utilities Authority for the status of their project on Glendale Road. Once completed, the resurfacing of the Glendale Subdivision may begin.

- (B) **Consideration to award the bid for the landfill retaining wall.**

Commissioner Muggridge made the **MOTION** to award the bid for the landfill retaining wall to W.J. Kirksey Construction for \$155,000.00 to come from SPLOST VII funds. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Wheaton and Commissioner Singletary voting yea.

- (C) **Consideration to approve an application for the FY2021 LMIG Safety Action Plan, with a match of 30%.**

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to approve an application for the FY2021 LMIG Safety Action Plan, with a match of 30% for a project total of no more than \$350,000.00 (application due April 15, 2021). Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Muggridge voting yea.

- (D) **Consideration to approve the purchase and installation of a walk-in cooler and freezer at the Jail.**

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to approve the purchase and installation of a walk-in cooler and freezer for the Jail from Russell Service Company for \$28,262.00 to come from SPLOST VII funds. Commissioner Muggridge seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Walls voting yea.

**COMMISSIONER'S MATTERS**

(A) **Discussion of paving crew for Public Works.**

Chairman Mathis summarized the previous meeting of the Road Committee on March 9, 2021, stating that, if the rest of the Board agreed, he would like to have staff move forward and advertise for the five (5) positions discussed as part of a road crew. County Manager Christi Dockery stated that staff could start that process, adding that there are currently two (2) existing vacancies at Public Works being advertised for (Equipment Operator 2 and Equipment Operator 3).

Chairman Mathis asked that staff check with area technical colleges to see if there are any programs involving equipment operation or related instruction or training that we may could partner with for recruitment. Chairman Mathis suggested staff be less restrictive in the hiring process by looking into hiring individuals and then training them due to the current labor pool. Commissioner Walls suggested sending current employees through training. Staff will advertise for the current vacancies as well as the five (5) new road crew positions.

Commissioner Walls asked if the technical school in Americus has any relevant training because he knows they train linemen, but isn't sure about heavy equipment operation. County Attorney Jimmy Skipper added that he believes SGTC in Americus offers a program for Caterpillar operators. Ms. Dockery confirmed that job listings are advertised on our website and Facebook page as well as on veterans' forums.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

NONE

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S MATTERS**

NONE

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

NONE

**PUBLIC FORUM**

*Citizens will be allowed to address the Board of Commissioners regarding any issues or complaints. Individuals should sign up prior to the start of the meeting.*

Major Bell – Withdrew request to address the Board

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (A) The offices of the Lee County Board of Commissioner will be ***closed Friday, April 2, 2021*** in observance of Good Friday.
- (B) The next regularly scheduled County Commission Meeting is April 13, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:32PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY CLERK

*Lee County is a thriving vibrant community celebrated for its value of tradition encompassing a safe family oriented community, schools of excellence, and life long opportunities for prosperity and happiness without sacrificing the rural agricultural tapestry.*

Persons with special needs relating to handicapped accessibility or foreign language interpretation should contact the ADA Coordinator at (229) 759-6000 or through the Georgia Relay Service (800) 255-0056 (TDD) or (800) 355-0135 (voice). This person can be contacted at the T. Page Sharp Building in Leesburg, Georgia between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice of seven (7) working days. The meeting rooms and buildings are handicap accessible.