

After Agenda

Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 2, 2022
6:00 PM
Room 108, Spalding County Annex Building

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular on Monday, May 2nd, 2022, in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex Building, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioners James Dutton, Rita Johnson, Ryan Bowlden and Gwen Flowers-Taylor were present for the meeting. Also present were County Manager, Dr. Steve Ledbetter, County Attorney, Stephanie Windham and County Clerk, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) by Chairman Clay Davis.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

II. INVOCATION

The Invocation was delivered by Pastor Zachery Holmes of Grace Paradise Fellowship Baptist Church.

III. PLEDGE TO FLAG

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Commissioner Rita Johnson, District #3.

Commissioner Bowlden asked that the agenda be amended to include an item #3 under Presentation and Proclamations for a Proclamation recognizing May 9-13 as Manufacturing Appreciation Week in Spalding County.

Motion/Second by Bowlden/Dutton to amend the agenda to include a Proclamation for Manufacturing Appreciation Week in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Consider request from Warden Carl Humphrey for a Proclamation recognizing the Correctional Officers and Employees at the Spalding County Correctional Institution for their dedicated service in performing their duties.

Dr. Ledbetter read the proclamation and Warden Humphrey introduced members of his staff in attendance.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to recognize the Correctional Officers and Employees of the Spalding County Correctional Institution and to proclaim the week of May 2-7, 2022, as Correction Officers and Employees week in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider request from Sheriff Darrell Dix for a Proclamation recognizing the Deputies and Detention Officers at the Spalding County Sheriff's Office during the Law Enforcement Officers Week, May 11-17, 2022, for their dedicated service in the performance of their duties.

Dr. Ledbetter read the Proclamation and advised that a copy would be sent to the Sheriff for his office. Sheriff Dix could not attend the meeting this evening.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to recognize the Deputies and Detention Officers at the Spalding County Sheriff's Office and to proclaim the week of May 11-17, 2022, as Law Enforcement Officers Week in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Amendment to the Agenda to include a Proclamation declaring the week of May 9-13, 2022, as Manufacturing Appreciation week.

Dr. Ledbetter read the Proclamation.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Bowlden to approve the Proclamation and declaring the week of May 9-13 as Manufacturing Appreciation Week in Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – None.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and the topic they wish to discuss. Speakers must direct your remarks to the Board and not to individual Commissioners or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Commissioners or County employees are not a matter of public concern and personal attacks will not be tolerated. The Chairman has the right to limit your comments in the interest of disposing of the County's business in an efficient and respectable manner.

Speakers will be allotted three minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of the Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the commissioners during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting. No speaker will be permitted to speak more than three minutes or more than once unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

No one signed up to speak.

VII. MINUTES –

1. Consider approval of Minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on April 4, 2022.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve the Minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on April 4, 2022. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Dr. Ashok Kanugula is here this evening to review for the Board a new Graduate Medical Education Program (GME) at WellStar Spalding.

Dr. Kanugula is the Program Director for the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program at WellStar Spalding. He then covered for the Board what the GME is, how it works and what it is going to offer to this Community. WellStar already has this program at Kennestone Hospital and Atlanta Medical Center. This will be the third GME program under WellStar Health Network and is located at the Spalding WellStar Hospital.

WellStar created this program with the goal of bringing physicians into this Country in hopes that they will remain once they complete their training. The program is a 3-year program. The GME Primary Care Clinic is located next to the Atlanta Heart Association offices on 8th Street next to WellStar Spalding Hospital. These doctors will be acting as the Primary Care Physicians for patients coming into the Clinic and will be servicing the citizens whether they have insurance or not. The plan is for them to perform preventative and basic care. They will not be practicing any old school medicine. They will be practicing up to date medicine that is evidence based and cost-conscious quality care.

Chairman Davis then stated that we have an aging doctor population in our County currently we have more doctors preparing for retirement than those planning to continue their practice. He then stated that it has been found that most doctors who go through the GME program tend to stay in that local area. That would be great considering we will have 10 people entering the program now and next year there will be another 10 and the year after that we will have another 10 will be coming on board and we hope that these doctors will stay in our community and continue to provide services to our constituents.

2. Consider request from Jeannie Brantley, Planning Director at Three Rivers Regional Commission to apply for CSBG CARES Funding.

Ms. Brantley advised that the items before the Board this evening for consideration are the CSBG Carryover Budget which will spread the carryover funds through the CSBG recipients that you have, and the CSBG Cares which is additional funding in the amount of \$131,030.90. We are proposing to have three programs provided by these funds: Housing Rental and Utility assistance; funding for the Senior Center, which will fall under Health and Social Behavior Programs; and Capacity Building to help provide data management for this program. They are requesting that both of the items before you this evening be approved.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve the request from Three Rivers Regional Commission for the CSBG Carryover Budget and the CSBG Cares funding. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider request from Judge Rita Cavanaugh to designate Marshal Smart Web, Code Enforcement, as Spalding County's representative to inspect Mobile Homes to declare derelict or intact.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Judge Cavanaugh did forward to him her request which reads that under Section 44-7-111 Legislative Bindings and Intent talks specifically about appointing an individual and under the definitions section of 44-7-112, Number 6, indicates local government agent means a person appointed by a local governing authority who is qualified to inspect an abandoned mobile home by demonstrating that he or she is qualified to determine if the abandoned mobile home is derelict or intact and there are legal definitions for both of these.

Judge Cavanaugh is requesting, after having a conversation with Marshal Web, that he be appointed by the Board as the agent responsible for administering this code section with support from our building officials. Since our building officials are contract employees, she felt it would be more appropriate if the person identified as the agent be a fulltime employee of the County in support of this code section.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked how this had been handled in the past.

Stephanie Windham, County Attorney, advised that in the past when we have had to deal with mobile homes and mobile home communities the building inspectors would inspect the mobile homes and then work with code enforcement to issue citations and bring those to Judge Cavanaugh as slum or blighted properties.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve the request from Judge Rita Cavanaugh to designate Marshal Smart Web, Code Enforcement, as Spalding County's representative to inspect mobile homes and declare them derelict or intact. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider approval of MOA with GRPA for the purpose of providing grant funded academic programming at three community centers during summer camps in June and July 2022.

Kelly Carmichael, Supervisor of Leisure Services, stated that before the Board this evening is a Memorandum of Agreement with the Georgia Recreation and Park Association who is partnering with the Georgia After School Network to provide funding in local communities through Park and Recreation Agencies for accelerated learning programs during regular summer programming.

Ms. Carmichael then stated that Leisure Services' objective is to reach more than 100 children this summer at City Park, Fairmont and Ambucs Community Center. While they are enjoying summer camp activities we want to frame out two hours a day to provide them with academic support so the amount of learning they achieved in the prior school year will not be lost as they move to

the next grade level.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked what the ages of the children in the program would be?

Ms. Carmichael advised it would be for ages 5-12.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve the MOA with GRPA for the purpose of providing grant funded academic programming at City Park, Fairmont, and Ambucs Community Center during summer camps in June and July 2022. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider a request from the City of Orchard Hill for an Inmate Work Detail.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the City of Orchard Hill has requested an Inmate Work Detail. The agreement before you this evening is to provide the City of Orchard Hill with the same ability that we provide other jurisdictions across our region for inmate support. Currently, there is not a price in the IGA. That is on purpose, as the intent is to move us away from pricing the cost of the corrections officer in support of those inmates plus an administrative fee into a schedule so that we can update the schedule for all of the IGA that provide this service before you once a year instead of bringing individual IGAs before you.

The City of Orchard Hill has asked that we provide trash pickup along their roads up to 4 times a year. Public Works Director, T.J. Imberger, and Dr. Ledbetter have had the conversation regarding this request. Mr. Imberger stated he feels they do have the ability to perform this work as they do drive service in that area in support of the County roads. Dr. Ledbetter stated that he has had a conversation with Warden Humphrey about this as well and he feels everyone is in agreement that it is for the corrections officer to support the effort to pick up the trash up to 4 times a year under this contract.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that she is not comfortable moving away from the way we have been doing business. She feels we should give them the same contract as we have given the other Cities and Counties in the area and if we are going to change the way we do the charges, then we need to do it to everyone at one time and not implement it when we are signing a contract for new service with a city. Then when staff comes up with a schedule we can renew the contract referencing the schedule for everyone who has a contract.

Dr. Ledbetter then advised that the numbers are consistent across the board for all of our contracts, it is the cost of the salary plus benefits for the Corrections Officer plus a 10% administrative fee and that is what we charge all of the other jurisdictions. The numbers will be the same. They have not been included in the contract so that we can come back to this Board every year as we progress our compensation packages for our corrections officers so that it remains consistent for everybody. Everybody will be treated exactly the same for our contracts.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that she believes that Orchard Hill

feels this will be good for them, but in all honesty, they need to have someone who will be showing up every day. She feels that charging them the same as we are charging everybody else for 4 times a year is totally not fair to them. She feels they should be offered the opportunity to have someone everyday and if they don't want the work detail but 4 times a year that is on them.

Dr. Ledbetter then explained that Orchard Hill will not have their own detail, the detail will be working for Public Works on a rotation around the County like we have right now, we will just add Orchard Hill to the schedule as they work through that area, but only 4 times a year. That is how often they will be inside of their city.

Commissioner Johnson then asked if staff could foresee any problems with this way of performing the service?

Dr. Ledbetter advised that he doesn't foresee any problem, he feels it would be of benefit for the County because the roads would actually be cleaned up inside the City of Orchard Hill in conjunction with what is going on outside of the city limits of Orchard Hill. The area outside of the city is being cleaned up quite well and now there is an opportunity for those who live inside the City of Orchard Hill to have the roadways cleaned up and looking good inside of the city.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that as the Commissioner for the district that Orchard Hill sits in, he is probably more familiar with Orchard Hill than anyone else on the Board and the Mayor and City Leaders are asking for this service and it will not be an additional expense for the County to spend a few hours a quarter clearing their roads of trash, he feels we should give it to them.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve the IGA with the City of Orchard Hill for an Inmate Work Detail.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that it is costing the County something because we will have a work detail in the City 4 times a year so it is costing the County.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the IGA is charging them for the services provided and it is at the same rate that we have in place for any of the other jurisdictions we currently have under contract for this service.

Motion carried 4-1 (Flowers-Taylor).

6. Consider approval of the FY23 MOU with the UGA Archway Partnership for Spalding County.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that before the Board this evening is the information for our Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Georgia. He then read that "the Spalding County Partners are committed to funding the FY23 Community fee for a total of \$20,000." This will cover the operating and project cost at 45%, personnel services at 35% and the travel for the Archway Professionals. Staff's recommendation is that we do approve the cost for the

UGA Archway Partnership. Dr. Ledbetter then added that it is his understanding that the City of Griffin has already ratified their part of the MOU.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve the FY23 MOU with the UGA Archway Partnership for Spalding County.

Commissioner Johnson then asked if the Griffin-Spalding Board of Education has approved the MOU?

Dr. Ledbetter and Ms. Windham confirmed that the School Board has approved the MOU.

Motion carried 4-1 (Flowers-Taylor).

7. Consider request by staff to enter into a contract with Municode to review the current Spalding County Zoning Ordinances and revise the Ordinances to bring them up-to-date with current building codes and industry standards.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that in consideration of the Board's request for staff to "raise the bar" the revision of the Zoning Ordinances is part of your package for this evening. Spalding County currently uses Municode to house all of our ordinances online and we have for a number of years. As a part of our recent discussion with Municode, specifically Mr. James Bonneville who is a part of the legal team for Municode and Civic Plus, we have before you to recodify our zoning ordinances which includes Appendix 4 of our Zoning Ordinance which is also a part of what is online and in our books.

This is a legal analysis with research which is done by fulltime Municode attorneys. They pull in information and best practices across the State of Georgia and across the United States as they are a national firm. They will provide these services to us for a cost of \$34,000 for a complete recodification of our zoning ordinances. Staff's recommendation is that we move this forward and for the Board to authorized Dr. Ledbetter to sign a contract in the amount of \$34,000 of which \$13,600 would be expended immediately to contract for the service. Once the legal memorandum is completed there would be a cost of \$10,200, then once the submission of the draft code is completed and is delivered, we would pay the remaining \$10,200.

This review will take approximately 9 months to 1 year to complete and doesn't only include cost, it includes time from us, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Zoning appeals to review all of the material and provide input and information back to Municode so that our thoughts and considerations are included in the recodification of our zoning ordinance. Staff's recommendation is that we move this forward.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to approve a contract with Municode to review the current Spalding County Zoning Ordinances and revise the Ordinances to bring them up-to-date with current building codes and industry standards. Motion carried unanimously by all.

X. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- ✓ Great training this week at ACCG, and an even better opportunity to visit with many of the counties across the State of Georgia to hear what is going well and challenges they are currently facing. It's encouraging to share ideas and get feedback.
- ✓ Code Enforcement is a Law Enforcement role and has law enforcement credentials that have been provided to Marshal Web. He is doing a great job for us!
- ✓ Amelia and Yarborough Mill Roads are soon to receive a different type of coating. We should begin Chip-Sealing these two roads within the next two weeks. Pre-work is complete for Amelia and our work crews began work on Yarborough Mill this week.
- ✓ We had an incident today where one of our Public Work crews was working in the area of Jordan Mill Road. The vehicle situated to protect the crew at the bridge. An unknown driver crossed the center line and struck the vehicle. The driver, drove away from the scene and the Sheriff's Department is working to identify the driver for the hit-and-run accident. Thank the Lord none of our employees were injured while they were working.

XI. REPORT OF ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER – N/A

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson

This meeting was a great meeting with all of the good things that were discussed this evening. The proclamation for Manufacturing Week was amazing and the amount of money that the manufacturers are bringing into this County should be put out there for everyone to see. The GME Program is going to be a wonderful program for the residents of Spalding County. She wanted to thank CSBG for the grants that will be helping out in the Community and the GRPA for Leisure Services to provide academic support for the kids during summer camp.

She stated that she wishes someone had been here from the Archway Partnership to bring us up-to-date on everything that has happened since day one when we signed that agreement with the City and the School Board to advise what actually has come out of that program. Hopefully, we can get someone in to update us on what they have done.

Ryan Bowlden

Stated that he did attend the ACCG Conference in Savannah over the weekend. You sit up here and make decisions for the entire County and much of the time it is a thankless job, but when he was in Savannah he had people approach him and ask questions. He witnessed people approaching the County Manager and asking him questions. These are people from other counties wanting to know how we are doing certain things. Why is everything looking so good in Spalding County. Being in this position, he sees it, but it is very slow moving. He was surprised to find that the outside world is paying attention to what is happening in Spalding County.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor

No comment this evening.

James Dutton

Encouraged everyone to keep our Magistrate Court Judge, Judge Cavanaugh, in their prayers. She is in the hospital right now and he is a firm believer that prayer matters and if we can ask hard enough God will grant our prayers.

He also had a great time at the ACCG Conference. In one of the trainings, he heard the same thing that Commissioner Bowlden did. There were people who were excited about spending \$3 million to move up on a list to get their people connected to fiber, and he asked if they had heard about some of the methods that Spalding County was implementing and not spending the \$3 million, and they were amazed and very interested. He listened to some of the problems that other counties were experiencing and was so glad that we weren't experiencing those problems. You come back not only energized by what you learned, but by realizing how well we are doing in Spalding County. We haven't arrived and we have a long way to go, but it has given him a lot of heart to come back and get to work.

Please keep the Junior Deputy Program in your prayers as they learn about our government and our nation's history in Washington DC this week.

Clay Davis

The opening of Quarry's Edge Park was really something. When we talk about our parks at ACCG they are amazed by what Spalding County has to offer.

The ACCG Conference was good, and he would like for staff to start thinking about who else needs to be attending this training.

May 2nd-9th is Teachers Appreciation Week. He thanked the teachers and everyone who is in this field for what they do.

This is budget time for us, our new budget will start July 1st. This is the time we put the budget together, there will be hearings open to the public and he encourages everyone to come in and listen, voice your opinions and make comments regarding the budget. If we don't hear from you, we continue in the direction we are working toward. If you want to change the direction, come in and take the time to voice your opinion.

Advanced voting has started and he encourages everyone to go out and vote.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

***Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously by all.***