

# After Agenda Board of Commissioners - Special Called Meeting May 15, 2023 9:30 AM Room 108, Spalding County Annex Building

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held a Special Called Meeting on Monday, May 15, 2023, in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex Building, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioner Rita Johnson was present for the meeting. Commissioners Gwen Flowers-Taylor, Ryan Bowlden and James Dutton were absent from the meeting. Also present were County Manager, Dr. Steve Ledbetter, Attorney David Penland for County Attorney, Stephanie Windham, and County Clerk, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

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

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

### II. INVOCATION

Dr. Ledbetter delivered the invocation.

### III. PLEDGE TO FLAG

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

## IV. AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. The Jewkes Law Firm will present and answer any questions the Board may have regarding their response to the RFP for Indigent Defense.
  - Jordan Jewkes with the Jewkes Law Firm gave an overview of the challenges and successes his firm has had while representing Indigent Defendants in Spalding County and covered the need for the increase indicated in the bid for services. He also introduced Harry Charles who advised the current cases being handled in State Court and the need for the County to re-evaluate along with Judge Thacker the amount being charged by the County to the individuals using this service. He also introduced Natalie Sundeen who represents children in Juvenile Court as guardian-ad-litem and she explained the need for additional resources as the children have to be represented and each parent also has to be represented.
- 2. The Kidd, Cato, Easom & Roquemore Law Firm will present and answer any questions the Board may have regarding their response to the RFP for Indigent Defense.

Doug Kidd of Kidd, Cato, Easom & Roquemore Law Firm stated that although they are currently located in the northern part of the state, if they receive this contract, he will be purchasing an office in Spalding County and opening the office to service Spalding County. Mr. Kidd further stated that his firm has extensive experience in handling indigent cases, and he has served as a Judge in the past.

# V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Davis/Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 a.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.