



Public Utilities and Transportation Committee

Minutes

Caucus Suite 204

December 20, 2023

9:00 am

Staff Present: Wright Bagby, *Committee Chair, Board of Commissioners (Via Zoom)*
Larry Maxey, *Committee Co-Chair, Board of Commissioners*
Bruce Ivey, *Committee Chief of Staff, Public Utilities Division Director, Special Projects Manager*
John Carroll, *Airport Manager*
Ryan Davis, *Facilities Manager*
Emma Wells, *Solid Waste Director*
Ben Brooks, *Assistant Public Works Director*
Steve Hulse, *Utilities Administrator, Water*
Troy Atkins, *Assistant Utilities Administrator, Water*
Tim Shuler, *Assistant Utilities Administrator, Water*
Lauren Chumbler, *Committee Secretary, County Manager's Office*

Others Present: Mona Dennis, *Citizen*

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Bagby called the meeting to order.

II. Review Minutes from October 18, 2023 Meeting

The minutes were approved by common consent.

III. Public Participation

IV. Order of Business

1. Airport

a. Status of Taxiway Lights

Airport Manager John Carroll stated the taxiway lights have been out since May, but they are working with Brad from the Water Department to fix. Stated they are waiting on a part from the manufacturer, which is a single source. Mr. Carroll stated they are exploring other options due to the timeframe.

b. Bright Work Lead On/Off Runway 1/19

Mr. Carroll stated the lead on/off area of Runway 1/19 has degraded and gotten dirty over time. Stated the Prison has used a power washer to assist in brightening the lead on/off. Mr. Carroll stated he is waiting to hear feedback from tenants to see if it is better and they're hoping to continue to brighten the rest of the paint as well.

c. Renewal of U.S.D.A Fish and Wildlife Agreement for 2024

Mr. Carroll stated the U.S.D.A. renewal agreement will be coming to the Board of Commissioners in January. Stated it is for \$7,499.95, which is roughly the same as last year.

d. Wildlife Strike November 26, 2023

Mr. Carroll stated there was an aircraft that struck a deer in November. Stated it did damage to the aircraft. Mr. Carroll stated he does not know if they will request insurance payment or not. Stated official wildlife on the current contract has been out twice since the incident and hope to come out one more time before the end of the year.

County Manager Jamie McCord mentioned that they received three bids for Runway 1/19 extension the day before. Stated the lowest bid was almost \$7,000,000. Mr. McCord stated they will get this to the Commission after the first of the year once it is reviewed as the bids did come in over budget. Commissioner Bagby asked if any of the bidders had a timeframe of when they could start. Mr. McCord stated he was not sure, but would find out more information.

2. Engineering

a. Closure of unopened R/W off The Trail

Public Utilities and Transportation Division Director Bruce Ivey stated the citizens have completed the survey with the legal description. Stated he is recommending it go to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Bagby and Commissioner Maxey agreed to send it to the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Ivey stated he will send it to the County Attorney to draw up the Quit Claim Deeds.

b. Right of Way Deeds Herring Drive Cul-de-sac

Mr. Ivey stated this was a request from citizens that bought property at the end of Herring Drive. Stated the citizens have finished the cul-de-sac and the County has inspected. Mr. Ivey stated this will start on a one year maintenance period. Stated the citizens provided the deed for the right of

way. Commissioner Bagby and Commissioner Maxey both agreed to send to the Commission.

3. Facilities

a. Glenwood

Facilities Manager Ryan Davis stated they are finishing the design phase of the Glenwood renovation. Stated they are starting to receive numbers on costs and will have to reevaluate some things in order to cut costs. Mr. Davis stated he needs guidance on if the design work just needs to be for Glenwood or if they need to add the training center and evidence building that was included in the 2023 SPLOST package. Mr. Davis and Mr. McCord explained that if it is all three buildings, it would delay the proposal up to three months. After discussion, Commissioner Bagby stated he feels as if they would rather not delay. Commissioner Maxey agreed.

c. AdventHealth Stadium

Mr. Davis stated they are working on the clubhouse renovations to bring them up to standards. Stated they will have temporary facilities while the work is being done and this will be completed in phases. Mr. Davis stated he does not have firm numbers yet, but is hoping to get them before the end of the year.

c. LEC

Mr. Davis stated he is waiting to receive a proposal from Sizemore for the test fit at the LEC.

d. Admin HVAC Update

Mr. Davis stated the new HVAC equipment was supposed to be delivered this month, but has been delayed. Stated we are in the queue and he is hoping to have it by the Spring, but does not have a date yet.

4. Public Works

a. Petition for road improvements - Daniel Drive

Assistant Public Works Director Ben Brooks stated this a small dead end road that a citizen turned in a petition for road improvements on last week. Mr. Brooks stated this road was actually already on the list to be surface treated at the beginning of the year. Citizen Mona Dennis asked what the difference between surface treatment and paving was. Mr. Brooks explained that it is not paving, but a tar and gravel mix that will help the issues the road has. Mr.

McCord explained that the surface treatment should last as long as paving, if not longer. Ms. Dennis explained that there were builders that have tore up the road and there may be future builders. Mr. McCord asked Mr. Ivey to look into logging permits and stated they would take that into consideration.

b.Paving/LMIG

Mr. Brooks stated they finished paving for the year last week with a total of thirty three miles, which includes twenty five in the County and eight in the City. Stated there was about ten miles that will carry into 2024. Commissioner Maxey stated he has heard a lot of great feedback about the paving at the dump site in Armuchee. Mr. McCord stated the City might be selling their milling machine and could potentially sell it to the County. Mr. Brooks and Assistant Utilities Administrator Tim Shuler stated they went and looked at it and stated it is in good shape. Mr. Brooks stated the LMIG list was approved at the last Commission meeting and they will be submitting the application before the February 1st deadline.

c. Infrastructure Lindale/Riverside

Mr. Brooks stated the contractor finished last week. Stated they completed around 600 feet of sidewalk in Lindale and roughly 2,000 feet of sidewalk in the Riverside community. Mr. Brooks stated they are looking to further the sidewalks in the Jamestown community in Lindale. Stated there are some obstacles they will have to address, but they will look at it after the first of the year.

d. Chubb Road

Mr. Brooks stated they got the final asphalt down and the fence contractor started Monday and should be finished by the end of the week.

e. Grant application for rubberized asphalt

Mr. Brooks stated the County was awarded a grant to use rubberized asphalt. Stated they are going to use it on a section of Terhune Road. Stated they are working with Purchasing on putting a bid package together as they are going to outsource it. Mr. Brooks stated they are hoping to have the project complete by the Spring.

f. SRTA grant application

Mr. Brooks stated there are a few grants available for infrastructure so they are looking at applying for Three Mile Road or Mango Road, which were both included in the 2023 SPLOST package.

g. Harrison/Foster Avenue

Mr. Brooks stated they received a petition for Harrison Road and Foster Avenue off of Hwy 27. Stated it was last paved in 1993 and it does qualify for repaving. Stated now it is on their radar and they will look to add it to the list for 2025 as the 2024 list has already been set. Mr. Brooks stated they have drafted a response back to the petitioner that they will send.

5. Solid Waste / Recycle

a. 2023 Event Participation

Solid Waste Director Emma Wells stated in 2023 they had 1,690 participants total. Stated there were eight events in 2023 across ten days. Stated they recycled 11.58 tons of household hazardous waste, 22.68 tons of electronics and 38.23 tons of tires.

b. RWD Grant

Ms. Wells stated this was approved at the last Commission meeting and she will be submitting the application before the end of the year.

c. GCIP Grant for Summer Intern

Ms. Wells stated there is a grant available for an intern. Stated if this is granted, the intern would be working on opening the recycling reuse store, which would help keep items out of the landfill.

d. November 4 Reimagined Recycling Craft Event

Ms. Wells stated they had a craft event in November, which is a fun event with great attendance.

e. Remote Site Updates

Ms. Wells stated they received their two new receiver boxes, which has been a great addition. Stated they also have new signs on the comingle boxes that includes a QR code that will take you to Solid Waste's website. Ms. Wells stated she is also starting a competition between remote sites to see who can bring in the most tonnage.

6. Water

a. Water Rate Study Update

Utitlites Administrator Steve Hulsey stated Gary Burkhalter is getting the information together to begin the Water Rate Study. Stated it's been

twelve years since there was a study completed. Mr. McCord stated they put a slight increase in the 2024 budget for the anticipation of a rate increase. Mr. Hulsey stated the engineering firm for the Bidley Well Site is working on obtaining the permits from the EPD. Stated after the permit is obtained, they will begin the design and construction of the site.

7. County Manager's Report

8. Chief of Staff's Report

9. Chairman's Report

V. Other Business

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

VI. Adjourn

*****Next Meeting, TBD, 2024***