Fulton County Fiscal Court

Regular Session

January 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Judge Jim Martin. The Pledge was led by Wade Adams and invocation given by Hugh Caldwell.

**Attendance:** Jim Martin, Hugh Caldwell, Wade Adams, Jim Paitsel, Shaun Parks, Naomi Jones, Leslie Woods, David Thomas, Charles Choate, Barbara Atwill, Derek Goodson, Alan Coffey, Steven Williams, J L Atwill, Rick Major and April Gallimore.

**BUSINESS**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Jim Paitsel, carried by all members present approved to remit the $68,833.20 of Cares money to the Sheriff’s Office, to be applied to the debt owed. Jim Martin addressed the court about the 2nd round of Cares money, the money was received by the Fiscal Court after December 31, 2020. The Sheriff has approximately $98,000.00 in debt to the Fiscal Court, including the $15,000.00 advancement. Derek stated there are still some fees still outstanding but there looks to be a short fall of approximately $3,000.00 to $4,000.00.

Jim Martin addressed the court about the Detention Center inmate report. There are currently 374 inmates, compared to 514 this time last year and at the annualized rate 1.6 million dollars in shortfall the Detention Center is still operating in the black. The Detention Center did receive $100,000.00 in the first round of Cares Funds to help offset this shortfall in revenue.

**INRE: Minutes**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the minutes.

**INRE: County Attorney’s Report**

No report given.

**INRE: Fulton County Clerk’s Quarterly Report Oct-Dec 2020 (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 305)**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the Clerk’s Office 4th Quarter report for 2020.

**INRE: Fulton County Clerk’s Year End Report Jan-Dec 2020 (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 310)**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Jim Paitsel, carried by all members present to approve the Clerk’s Office 2020 year-end report. The Clerk’s Office is expecting to turn over $31031.91, this large excess fee is due in part to the increase in deed room fees and the grants received for the 2020 election cycle.

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the Clerk’s request for funding a new phone system out of the 2020 excess fees. Gore Communication submitted an estimate of $3600.00.

**INRE: County Treasurer’s Report (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 348)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

**INRE: Bills**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the bills. Jim Paitsel asked about Sam Gov in the amount of $1999.00, Jim Martin stated this was an administrative fee to restore this pass through account for FEMA and Homeland Security grants. This is a 5 year admin fee. Jim Paitsel and Hugh Caldwell asked about the long distance services through Pioneer. The County now uses Gibson Connect, so there is confusion as to why there is still a bill from Pioneer and Century Link. Jim Martin stated this would be looked into and corrected.

**INRE: Transfers (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 317)**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the transfers.

**INRE: Fulton County Employees (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 319)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Jim Paitsel, carried by all members present to approve the employees. Wade Adams asked about the request from the Clerk’s Office for County portion of benefits for the new hire. Naomi Jones stated that there had to be a formal request for Fiscal Court to pay the County portion of benefits of any employee in the Clerk’s Office.

**INRE: Approval of Resolution No. 2021-1 Authorizing the Extension of Lease of the Hickman Clinic (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 326)**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve Resolution 2021-1. This resolution extends the lease agreement for 5 years with a 1% rate increase every year.

**INRE: Approval of Resolution No. 2021-2, Providing for Additional Sick Leave for all Fulton County Employees ordered to quarantine relative to Covid-19 during the year 2021 (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 346)**

Motion made by Shaun Parks, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by Wade Adams, Shaun Parks and Jim Martin, opposed by Hugh Caldwell and Jim Paitsel. Jim Martin stated that the Covid Legislation allowed 2 weeks of sick leave due to quarantine. This federal mediate expired 12/31/2020. This resolution states that Fulton County Fiscal Court will allow employees 2 weeks sick pay for Covid related quarantine. This will expire 12/31/2021.

**INRE: Approval of Bid Document of Upper Bottom Road Ditch Reconstruction 2021**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve the scope of work and bid advertisement for the Upper Bottom Road ditch reconstruction. Bids will be accepted until February 12, 2021, and be awarded during the next Fiscal Court meeting on February 13, 2021. This work is being paid through an emergency grant application, and is an 80/20 grant. The state portion is paid in two waves, half up front and the other half reimbursed after the project is complete.

**INRE: Approval of Statement of Affiliation for Fulton County Fire/Rescue**

This item will be tabled until next meeting.

**INRE: Approval of Ken-Tenn Service Participation Agreement Change**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve the Ken-Tenn Service Participation Agreement. This agreement is amending the previous agreement to resolve an audit issue with the TN partners.

**INRE: Agreement with Chris Lattus (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 338)**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve the agreement with Chris Lattus. Jim Paitsel requested that Mr. Lattus apply to the Crime Victim Compensation Fund for reimbursement.

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve the remaining $20.00 per resident, for Gibson Electric build out fee for Fulton County, with a limit set at $5000.00. This will allow Gibson to move forward on the new internet line project for Fulton County residents.

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the filing of complaints and other documents against those sponsored EMT students who failed to complete the EMT course. Fiscal Court sponsored students in the amount of $1000.00 each, with the agreement that students would complete the course. There are two sponsored students that failed to complete the course and have not paid back the sponsorship money as of today.

Wade Adams inquired about the bid proposal from Republic for trash pickup for Fulton County. Jim Martin stated the proposal included $23.00 monthly fee per resident, seniors fee would be $18.00 per month and once per month access to the landfill for pay customers, this doesn’t include curbside pickup for large items but would include a twice per year large item pick up. This would require all 946 County residents to use Republic, would be attached to the local water bill, and for those on wells, of which there are 392, Republic would bill them directly. Wade Adams stated he was not in favor of forcing residents to use any particular service, and stated that each resident should be able to choose which company they would like to use. Halls Waste submitted a bid of $21.00 per month, with a curbside pickup for $45.00 minimum. Halls would allow you to own your trash can. Both of these require a franchise billing system.

Jim Martin addressed the court about meeting audit requirements for the Ethics Commission. Martin suggested the County needed a committee as well as training for individuals on the Ethics Commission. No motion was made.

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to enter into closed session at 10:23 AM.

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to exit closed session at 11:02 AM.

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to amend section 5.15 of the personnel policy to allow all department heads to hire employees that do not have a diploma or GED equivalent subject to the employee pursuing the attainment of such.

Motion made by Shaun Parks, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to adjourn at 11:04 AM.

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Naomi T. Jones, Fulton County Clerk