Fulton County Fiscal Court

Regular Session

February 15, 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, Barbara Atwill, Derek Goodson, Steven Williams, J L Atwill, Rick Major and April Gallimore.

**BUSINESS**

Derek Goodson addressed the court about the 2020 fees. The Sheriff’s Office looks to turn over the excess fees in March, after having to utilize approximately $3000.00 of the Cares monies.

J L Atwill addressed the court about the current Covid numbers. Fulton County is currently in the yellow category, with eight active cases, one new case today, one hospitalization and thirteen total deaths for the County.

**INRE: Minutes (Rec. Minute BK 2 PG 118)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the minutes with the correction on page 3. The following is the change to be made; **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: County Attorney’s Report**

Rick Major addressed the Court about communication on the pharmaceutical litigation and proposed settlements. The County Attorney’s Office is preparing for the delinquent tax duties that are soon to be starting. Jim Martin asked about the latest information on the Charlie Moore case. Rick received a letter from the Chris Rhoades case, but not the Charlie Moore Case.

Derek Goodson asked Rick Major about Prolien civil papers that are being served on delinquent property tax bill payments. Rick Major stated that companies wait until the end of the statute of limitations period before serving any papers in hopes of foreclosing on these properties, and that period was ending at the end of 2020.

Jim Martin stated that Chris Lattus had fallen on the ice and has a concussion and will be off on medical leave until the doctor releases him.

**INRE: Fulton County Clerk’s 2020 Final Report (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 362)**

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

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Hugh Caldwell, carried by all members present to approve increasing the Gore Communications amount to $3800.00. Naomi Jones stated that there was a telephone that was not accounted for in the estimate.

**INRE: Fulton County Clerk’s 2021 Amended Budget (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 367)**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the Clerk’s Office 2021 amended budget. Naomi Jones stated that there was a budget amendment due to not having the Clerk salary order prior to making and approving the first budget. This is a yearly occurrence because the State sets the salary for the Clerk, but doesn’t get it to the Clerk before the budget is prepared in January of every year.

**INRE: County Treasurer’s Report (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 390)**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Jim Martin stated that the 2nd debt service payment was made in January, which keeps the jail on tract for eliminating all debt in 8 years. There is approximately one million dollars in a sinking fund that will be used to pay the jail debt at the 10 year mark, which will allow for no penalties for early payoff.

**INRE: Bills**

Motion made by Hugh Caldwell, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the bills except the Agility bill for $4500.00. Jim Martin stated he would be looking into this bill a bit more to see if it is still a legitimate expense, since the County/Detention Center now have generators permanently installed.

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve the Fiscal Court to request Security Bank to change the statement due date on the credit cards to later in the month, possibly the 25th. This will allow for the bill to be paid before the due date, if Fiscal Court has a late monthly meeting, and hopefully eliminating any interest charged on the cards.

Jim Paitsel asked Rick Major to find out if other Fiscal Courts pay the County Attorney Association Yearly membership fee. Jim Paitsel asked if Rick Major could pay that fee out of the County Attorney accounts that already exist. Rick Major stated he would pay it if the Fiscal Court voted not to pay, and he would contact surrounding counties to see what other Fiscal Courts do.

Hugh Caldwell requested that the Fiscal Court look into getting Verizon/AT&T wireless home phone unlimited accounts for the Road Dept. This service is cheaper and still allows for long distance calling. Jim Martin stated he would look into it.

**INRE: Transfers (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 375)**

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

**INRE: Fulton County Employees (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 378)**

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

**INRE: Discussion of proposals to manage HRA plan**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve BMS as the new HRA plan administrator and authorize the Judge to sign a new contract with this company. The BMS contract will begin July 1, 2021 at a rate of $4434.00 per year. This rate is based on the number of employees on the plan.

**INRE: Discussion of USDA Rural Business Development Grant**

Motion made by Jim Paitsel, 2nd by Shaun Parks, carried by all members present to approve sponsoring a pass through grant for the EMS to build a training facility in Fulton.

**INRE: Bids for Upper Bottom Project**

Motion made by Shaun Parks, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to approve the Coffey Construction bid of $68235.00 and authorize the Judge to sign the contract. This project is provided through an 80/20 grant. The County has already paid $18649.00 which is more than the 20% required for County portion, thus the County will recoup $1272.00 back from the state portion of the grant funds.

**INRE: Appointment of Search & Rescue Coordinator (Rec. Order BK 27 PG 387)**

Motion made by Wade Adams, 2nd by Jim Paitsel, carried by all members present to approve Randy Adams as the Search & Rescue Coordinator for a 4 year term. Randy Adams has prior experience, but still requires some ICS, management and command courses.

There was no closed session.

Shaun Parks addressed the Court about figuring out a way to get grant and/or other support to build baseball fields for the local T-ball league for Hickman. The Court agreed to look into this.

Motion made by Shaun Parks, 2nd by Wade Adams, carried by all members present to adjourn at 10:05 AM.

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Naomi T. Jones, Fulton County Clerk