

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, July 25, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Commissioner Joyce Evans
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall
Commissioner Clay Griner

Vice Chairman Orenstein was not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of July 11, 2022 and the regular session of July 12, 2022. No changes to the minutes were requested.

APPOINTMENTS

Valdosta-Lowndes County Zoning Board of Appeals

County Manager, Paige Dukes presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated the seat that is currently held by Mr. John Hogan expired on June 30th and Mr. Hogan has expressed a desire to continue to serve.

South Georgia Regional Library Board

County Manager, Paige Dukes presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated Dr. Elveta Miller's term expired on June 30th and Dr. Miller has expressed a desire to continue to serve.

PUBLIC HEARING

REZ-2022-13 Hunter Property, Madison Hwy, E-A to C-C, County Water & Septic, ~7ac

Planning and Zoning Director, JD Dillard presented the item stating this request was tabled due to confusion about the actual property size. Mr. Dillard stated while the survey does indicate seven acres overall, the applicants are more or less interested in the two acres as shown on the survey submitted for the potential rezoning to C-C. In addition, Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission voted to approve, with a 7-0 vote. Chairman Slaughter asked if the Commission is approving the two acre rezoning or the total seven acre rezoning. Mr. Dillard responded that the seven acres would be possible to rezone to C-C, but the applicant is fully comfortable with just the two acres being rezoned to C-C. County Attorney, Walter Elliott stated the two acres are what was advertised. Mr. Dillard responded that is correct. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the two acres were specified on the public notice sign located on Madison Highway and Jumping Gully Road, to which Mr. Dillard

responded the specific acreage is not on the signage, just the overall rezoning request from E-A to C-C is listed on both Madison Highway and Jumping Gully Road signage.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Beer and Wine License - Ajaykumar Patel of Devapani, Inc., DBA Solar Food #16 - 3119 Madison Hwy., Valdosta, GA

Accounting Technician, Lorraine Taylor presented the item. Mrs. Taylor stated the applicant is requesting a beer and wine license at 3119 Madison Highway for consumption off premises. She further stated this request is due to a change in ownership.

ACCG IRMA Property & Liability Insurance Program Renewal

Human Resources Director, Kevin Beals presented the item. Mr. Beals stated this is the annual property liability renewal with ACCG. This year's renewal has a rate credit of \$22,799.00, a safety credit of \$53,185.00, and dividend credits of \$88,855.00, totaling \$164,839.00, of program credits. Mr. Beals stated the request is to renew at the current deductible levels of \$2,500.00, per occurrence on all lines except Law Enforcement Liability and \$5,000.00, deductible per occurrence for Public Official Liability. Mr. Beals further stated that they evaluated whether or not the deductibles could be moved up to \$5,000.00 or \$10,000.00, and there was no measurable change. Mr. Beals also stated that this renewal also includes automobile liability and automobile physical damage, which represents 54% of the contributions. In addition, Mr. Beals mentioned that the County had a defensive driving course in June with Utilities and Public Works, adding that there is a program currently designed with Georgia Public Safety training, an online course for post credit for law enforcement. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if the defensive driving course is for all departments that have County vehicles. Mr. Beals responded that the main focus would be Utilities and Public Works based on the amount of driving that they do, but they are looking to have the training again so that other departments can participate. Commissioner Marshall commented that he recently attended a Board of Trustees meeting where they watched law enforcement take the online course, and mentioned that they will receive a grant if they complete at least 80% of the course. Mr. Beals responded that it would work well with safety credits and discounts. County Manager, Paige Dukes stated that Mr. Beals is going to break down the utilization/claims expenses over the last year and get that information out to those departments so that everyone can see where they are and have a conversation about how the County can collectively, in addition to driving and other areas, be more mindful and set a goal to come back to the commission next year with something that has a little less utilization. Mrs. Dukes stated this is important from an accountability standpoint for all the departments, especially with some of them being elected officials outside of the County's direction.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes deferred her report until tomorrow night's regular session meeting of Tuesday, July 26, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Marshall second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the work session at 8:37 a.m.