

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman Todd Higdon
District 1 Commissioner Dennis Adams
District 2 Commissioner Terry Chandler
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 4 Commissioner Brian Kirk
District 5 Commissioner Derek Doster

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda S. Wooten, County Clerk
Mike Pruett, County Attorney

Chairman Higdon called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Item No. 1. Chairman's Update

Chairman Higdon expressed his appreciation to the Board of Election's Office and poll workers for their dedicated efforts in providing Madison County voters with a safe and smooth election process. He acknowledged the long, long hours they worked and the excellent job they performed.

Chairman Higdon stated the Road Department's Gradall excavator has arrived and is currently being used to clean ditches in the city of Carlton.

Chairman Higdon advised the Board of the discussions he has had the last couple of weeks regarding the renovations of the property at 20 Albany Avenue. He met with Tracy Dean to review a design plan for the Board of Elections Office. He met with Julie Harrison to review space for a new Coroner's Office. He said the current chapel area will be converted into a courtroom. He also mentioned the possibility of the Industrial Development and Building Authority moving to the building currently occupied by the Board of Election's Office.

Item No. 2. Hearings and Actions on Rezone Matters, Special Use Permits, Etc.

None

Item No. 3. Consider approving the Industrial Development and Building Authority's recommended engineering firm for a Community Development Block Grant application

On motion by Commissioner Chandler and second by Commissioner Doster the Board approved the recommended engineering firm, Phillips Technical Services, Inc. for the Community Development Block Grant application. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 4. Discuss authorizing the tax commissioner to receive payment by credit card or check

Tax Commissioner Lamar Dalton addressed the Board requesting their consideration in approving a resolution at the February 22nd meeting authorizing his office to receive payment by credit card or check.

Item No. 5. Discuss authorizing the tax commissioner to waive penalty and interest fees

Tax Commissioner Lamar Dalton advised the Board that from time to time mistakes are found that he believes warrants the removal of penalty and interest fees. He provided two specific examples of this occurrence.

On motion by Commissioner Chandler and second by Commissioner Adams the Board voted to authorize Tax Commissioner Dalton to waive penalty and interest fees on the two specific cases he discussed. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 6. Discuss appointing Lee Mitchell to the Planning and Zoning Commission

Commissioner Chandler announced the name of Lee Mitchell to fill the District Two position on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Item No. 7. Discuss filling District Four vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission

Commissioner Kirk announced the name of Reggie Vaughn to fill the District Four position on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Item No. 8. Discuss amending section 2-187 of the Vehicle Fleet Policy to include language in section 2-204

Item No. 9. Discuss amending section 2-204 of the Transportation Policy to include language in section 2-187

Items eight and nine were discussed together. The amendments were written to allow for the readers of each policy the same information regarding the use of personal and county vehicles.

Item No. 10. Discuss amending section 46-36 of the Parks and Recreation Board Policy to change frequency of meetings

The Board reviewed the amendment submitted by the Parks and Recreation Board and suggested a minor change to allow for latitude in scheduling meetings.

Item No. 11. Discuss amending section 50-45 of the Personnel Policy regarding donation of leave time

County Attorney Mike Pruett discussed the amendment which allows eligible employees to donate leave hours to a leave bank for use by eligible recipients, as approved by chairman, human resources and the employee's immediate supervisor.

On motion by Commissioner Adams and second by Commissioner Chandler the Board voted to approve the amendment to section 50-45 of the Personnel Policy as presented. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 12. Discuss going out for sealed bid to paint the old Strickland House on Highway 98 West

Item No. 13. Discuss going out for sealed bid to paint the old Presbyterian Church on General Daniels Avenue

Items twelve and thirteen were discussed together. The Board reviewed a proposal, submitted in December by Watertight Roofing, to paint the Strickland House and the Presbyterian Church. The proposal did not provide all of the usual terms to allow for a comprehensive agreement. The Board chose to postpone action on these projects and perhaps seek sealed bids in the future.

Item No. 14. Discuss conveying parcel 0093 044 to the Collins Volunteer Fire Department

Item No. 15. Discuss conveying parcel D001 097 to the Danielsville Volunteer Fire Department

Item No. 16. Discuss conveying parcel 0023 075 to the Poca Volunteer Fire Department

Item No. 17. Discuss conveying parcel D001 098 to the City of Danielsville

Items fourteen through seventeen were discussed together. Chairman Higdon explained the goal of conveying the land the buildings are on to the owners of the building. He was told that the county is unable to convey land to a private entity, but is able to convey to another political body. The land the fire stations are on would have to go through a sealed bid or auction process. The land the city of Danielsville maintenance shop is on can be conveyed with an agreed upon survey.

At the conclusion of the agenda items, Chairman Higdon recognized Property Appraiser Bill Waldrop.

Mr. Waldrop addressed the Board regarding his request, as a retired police officer, to carry his weapon during working hours. The Board asked the county attorney to look into the possibility of an auxiliary position under the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Higdon provided information submitted by Building and Zoning Department Director Teresa Patton giving the number of Certificate of Occupancies issued in the last three years; there were 140 issued in 2018, 177 issued in 2019 and 224 issued in 2020.

Item No. 18. Urgent Matters

Chairman Higdon requested Board approval to vote on an application submitted for a vacant position that needs to be filled at the Senior Center.

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Kirk the Board voted to approve hiring Kevin King to fill a vacant part-time position at the Senior Center. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Chandler, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES. Commissioner Adams abstained.

Item No. 19. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Chairman Higdon asked if there were any statements or remarks from the public.

Larry Cox asked what the Industrial Development and Building Authority's financial responsibility would be at the new location.

Item No. 20. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Adams the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.