

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., in the Auditorium at the Brooks County Ag/Extension Building located at 400 East Courtland Avenue, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. James Maxwell, Chairman; Mr. Willie Cody; Ms. Myra Exum, via telephone; and Mr. Rhett Rowe. Mr. Patrick Folsom, Vice Chairman was not present. Others present were: Ms. Jessica McKinney, Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Jason Kemp, County Attorney; and various residents.

Chairman called meeting to order. Mr. Cody led all in attendance in prayer.

Health Insurance Quotes

The employee health insurance is up for renewal July 1, 2020. Two proposals were presented to the Board for consideration; our current provider, Harris Tennyson, Holwell & Fletcher; and Tom Dorywalski and Tim Rose, Taylor Insurance Services.

Mr. Tennyson presented the renewal for FY20-21 with a 13.7% increase from Cigna Healthcare. Due to the renewal increase, Mr. Tennyson reached out to other companies and received a quote from Aetna. Three plans were presented from Aetna: OAMC 5,000, 80/60, OAMC 3,500, 100%, and OAMC 2,500, 80/60. Both plans would require more out of pocket expense for employees; increase in copays; ER copay, and increase in premium for the County.

Taylor Insurance Services presented the implementation of the Lifestyle Health Plans Association Level-Premium Equity solution. The benefit program provides turnkey major medical health benefits with an integrated wellness and lifestyle improvement program designed to address the root cause of the escalating cost of healthcare-employee health behaviors. The program seeks to truly stabilize premium cost for employers from year to year. Their recommendation is to move to the lifestyle health plans, level premium, self-funded with an integrated wellness plan and GAP strategy. The GAP strategy utilizes level-premium, self-funded plan through Lifestyle and underwritten by Gerber Life combined with GAP insurance underwritten through Nationwide Insurance.

Mr. Cody commented on wanting to help employees and going with the best plan; and made a motion to accept the proposal from Taylor Insurance; Chairman called for a second once, twice, three times; and motion died for lack of a second.

Ms. Exum stated she is not ready to make a decision at this time. Mr. Rowe made the motion to remain with Holwell & Fletcher and approve the new plan with Aetna, Ms. Exum seconded. Chairman called for the vote. Chairman and Mr. Cody voted no. Ms. Exum and Mr. Rowe voted yes. Vote was tied 2 to 2. The Board tabled the motion until a full Board is present to be able to break the tie.

RFQ Firm Interview Results/Recommendations

- **Ag/Extension Design Build** – Excellence Exceeded reviewed all proposals received in response to request for the design and construction of the new Brooks County AG/Extension Building. All respondents were interviewed in person to discuss their proposals. The interviews were held May 28th and May 29th. In attendance representing Brooks County was the Administrator, Jessica McKinney, Scott Johnson, and Matt Schlachter, both representing Excellence Exceeded. All three independently evaluated the proposals and the presentations made by each firm.

Based on the results of the evaluation, Excellence Exceeded recommended the Brooks County Board of Commissioners enter into contract with SC Barker Construction/A+B Architects for the design and construction of the new Brooks County Ag/Extension Building. Ms. Exum made the motion to accept the recommended proposal from SC Barker Construction/A+B Architects to design and construct the new Brooks County Ag/Extension Building, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

- **Courthouse Renovations** - Excellence Exceeded reviewed all proposals received in response to request for renovation of the Brooks County Courthouse. All respondents were interviewed in person to discuss their proposals. The interviews were held May 28th and May 29th. In attendance representing Brooks County was the Administrator, Jessica McKinney, Scott Johnson, and Matt Schlachter, both representing Excellence Exceeded. All three independently evaluated the proposals and the presentations made by each firm.

Based on the results of the evaluation, Excellence Exceeded recommended the Brooks County Board of Commissioners enter into contract with McCall Architecture/Barber Contracting Company for the renovation of the Brooks County Courthouse. Ms. Exum made the motion to accept the recommended proposal from McCall Architecture/Barber Contracting Company for the renovation of the Brooks County Courthouse, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

- **Next Steps** – Mr. Johnson advised the next steps are to notify the awarded recipient, prepare contracts; and then the design process. Both projects are expected to be completed in one year with design and construction.

Development Authority - Pending Funding Request of \$92,531.56 – Development Authority Director, Tiffany Holmes previously submitted an invoice to the Board for reimbursement of expenses for 2019. This issue was tabled for further discussion due to the expiration of the Intergovernmental Agreement between Brooks County and Development Authority. Ms. Exum made the motion to pay the pending invoice in the amount of \$92,531.56 from the Development Authority Fund, Mr. Rowe seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Update on Plan for 2021 SPLOST Negotiations – Excellence Exceeded will assist the County with SPLOST negotiations with the municipalities, City of Quitman, City of Morven, City of Barwick; and City of Pavo. Assistance will also include preparing the referendum to put on ballot for November and Intergovernmental Agreement. The County needs to come up with a list of projects to include on the SPLOST. Administrator will prepare letters this week to go out to the municipalities. Mr. Johnson proposed meetings need to start in early July to prepare the Resolution prior to August 3rd. On motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Rowe, the Board unanimously approved the plan for the 2021 SPLOST presented by Excellence Exceeded.

On the motion by Mr. Cody the Board closed the special called meeting to go into executive session at 12:42 pm, Mr. Rowe seconded.

The Board returned to the special called meeting at 1:00 pm on the motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Rowe.

Adjournment - Mr. Cody made the motion to adjourn special called meeting at 1:00 p.m.; Mr. Rowe seconded.

Mr. James Maxwell, Chairman
Ms. Jessica McKinney, Administrator
Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk