

Regular Meeting
March 21, 2024

The regular meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners meeting room with Commission Chairman Carl Oliver, Vice-chairman Bob Melvin, Commissioner Mickey George, Commissioner Ben Haugabook, County Attorney Jon Coogle, Accounting Tech Della Griffin and County Manager Roselyn Starling in attendance. Commissioner Richmond Felton was absent.

Chairman Oliver called the meeting to order, and Commissioner George gave the opening prayer.

Vice-chairman Melvin made a motion to approve the January 18, 2024, and February 15, 2024, minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Haugabook and carried unanimously.

Invited Guest

Jim Livingston, Executive Director of RVRC addressed the Board. He expressed his appreciation for the support of the Board and gave an overview of services provided by RVRC. Mr. Livingston also stressed the importance of a Macon County elected official attending the RVRC meetings. He thanked Commissioner George for his assistance in the infrastructure projects. Vice-chairman Melvin asked for a broadband update. Mr. Livingston responded by stating he sent an email to the Board concerning broadband and urged them all to respond to the email related to the challenges of broadband. Commissioner George asked why we were late concerning broadband. Mr. Livingston responded that the broadband project is a very technical subject and difficult project and again urged the Commissioners to respond to the broadband email. Vice-chairman Melvin asked about benchmarking for employees. Mr. Livingston responded that ACCG would provide better insight into salary studies.

LRA Funds

Mr. Andrew Johnson, with CMS provided the Board with LRA funding information. He stated DOT has allocated \$681,998.88 to Macon County for resurfacing projects and matching funds are not required. Commissioners discussed several roads in need of resurfacing from a provided list. The Board decided on the following roads from the list. Martin Road \$110,000, Camp Road \$261,250, White Road \$68,000, Peed Pond Road \$82,500, and Sam Carter Road \$180,000 totaling \$701,750. The additional funding of \$19,751.52 will come from TSPLOST. Commissioner Haugabook made a motion to approve the roads, seconded by Vice-chairman Melvin and carried unanimously. The Commissioners also discussed Gene Wilburn Road and Cut Off Road. Commissioner George stated the Board should make a verbal agreement to get Gene Wilburn Road paved within the next two years. No agreement was made.

LMIG Safety Action Plan

Mr. Andrew Johnson discussed the letter the County received from the Department of Transportation regarding the FY2024 LMIG Safety Action Plan. The plan provides funds in the amount not to exceed \$165,480 for things such as signage, rumble strips, and striping. The Board was provided with a list of roads for review. Mr. Johnson was asked to review the top ten roads and present a plan of action.

Old Perry Road Update

Mr. Joe Vail, with CMS, provided an update on Old Perry Road. He suggested the road be partially paved and partially rocked. A scope of work must be submitted to GTIB to see if this would help Macon County qualify for the \$500,000 reimbursement that was previously submitted. It will cost approximately \$700,000 for this project. Commissioner Haugabook stated we need to make sure we can get the funding before proceeding. Commissioner George expressed the need to carry this through because if the funds are returned, it would reflect badly on the County when applying for future funding/grants.

Discussion of Winchester Road

Commissioner Felton expressed through County Manager Starling that Winchester Road is a safety hazard on the paved portion, and the issue should be addressed. Mr. Johnson suggested taking the road back to dirt and using leftover millings from previous projects on this road. Mr. Johnson will draw up a scope of work for County Manager Starling to review. This will come back before the Board.

Andrew Johnson-CMS Contract Renewal

Commissioner Haugabook made a motion to renew the CMS Engineering contract, seconded by Commissioner George and carried unanimously.

NAACP Request

Commissioner George made the motion to approve the request from the NAACP on use of the Preston Williams Building for two political forums, seconded by Vice-chairman Melvin, and carried unanimously.

Revolving Loan Application

County Manager Starling asked to carry the Revolving Loan topic over until more information is available. Commissioner Haugabook made the motion to carry forward, seconded by Vice-chairman Melvin and carried unanimously.

Commissioner George expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Elect Barfield for her willingness to serve the County. He asked if she could be added to the Commissioner email list considering there is no opposition.

There being no further business, Commissioner George made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Haugabook and carried unanimously.



Carl Oliver, Chairman