

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON MARCH 3, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M. THE MEETING WAS HELD IN THE WILCOX COUNTY LIBRARY.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

David Brown	Chairman
Jowan Johnson	Vice Chairman
Huck Greene	Commissioner
Lanier Keene	Commissioner
Tracy Tyndal	Commissioner
Paula Jones Ball	County Manager/Clerk

Chairman David Brown called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Tracy Tyndal gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Brown asked to allow Brittany Shank to speak. She said she had been overlooked in the public hearing prior to the meeting.

Ms. Shank stated that she lives in Abbeville, owns property in Rochelle and has grandchildren in Seville. She asked the EMS Director if the Abbeville ambulance would move to Rochelle if the Rochelle ambulance was called out. Director Coccaro stated during the day he would be at the station in Rochelle and he would respond. It would depend on the scenario. As of now, we do not have Standard Operating Procedures ready. We were waiting to see how the vote went tonight. Ms. Shank stated moving the ambulance to one side of the county is ludicrous. It needs to stay in Rochelle.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to move the decision on the EMS expansion to the first item on the agenda. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Tracy Tyndal stated Andrew Coccaro is doing a phenomenal job. Wilcox County is very large. The people that live in Abbeville want it there but it doesn't make sense. He stated he is in favor of keeping it as it is right now.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson stated he had been looking at it objectively and had been looking at the numbers. He was for moving it to Abbeville, a majority of the crowd does want it here. He added he would want it in Abbeville if he lived here. Right now he is about 50-50 on the decision.

Chairman David Brown stated there is no perfect situation. Both ambulances could be called out at the same time. He is going strictly by the numbers. We are averaging four calls a day and he feels it would be better utilized in Abbeville.

Commissioner Huck Greene thanked everyone from his area for being concerned. He stated he felt we should leave it alone for a while and do more studies. He is for leaving it as is until these studies could be completed.

Commissioner Lanier Keene stated he is from Abbeville. He loves Abbeville but right now we do not know the costs of the service since this is our first year after taking the service back. It seems more fair for the whole county, since we have two trucks, to leave them in Rochelle. He could not live with himself if someone in the Double Run Community died because the service did not get to them in time.

Commissioner Tracy Tyndal made a motion to leave the EMS service in Rochelle. Commissioner Huck Greene seconded the motion that carried four to one with Chairman David Brown voting against.

The prior month's minutes from the February 3, 2015 Public Hearing on High Rock Road, February 3, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting and the February 12, 2015 Special Call meeting were approved as presented by a motion from Tracy Tyndal. Commissioner Jowan Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no guests with public comments.

Department Head Reports were as follows:

Andrew Coccaro, EMS Director, stated he appreciates all the support he has received. They are receiving a lot of calls and medically everything is going good. He added that we have acquired vehicles for remounts. He is getting quotes for these remounts. Our revenue at this time is approximately \$112,000. Our large medicare payment was sent to the wrong account and we are presently trying to get our money back.

Commissioner Lanier Keene stated he would like to see us work on shortening call time. Director Coccaro stated this is a big problem. The process begins when someone calls 911. They have to process the call and send it to the EMS. Then an ambulance has to respond. We do need a system fix on this. Director Coccaro added the county needs to work on new address signs.

Commissioner Lanier Keene asked Director Coccaro to explain when both ambulances respond to a call. Mr. Coccaro stated there are two people on an ambulance. When they are called to a cardiac arrest, you need all the help you can get to save a life. You have to get the patient stabilized before transport. Once the patient is stabilized the second crew can go to a second call. Also, both ambulances respond to motor vehicle accidents because they never know how many are injured and the severity of the injuries.

The first item of new business was complaints from the Statham Shoals area about semi traffic going to the landing to turn around and causing deep ruts. County Manager Paula Jones Ball stated she has talked with the person involved and they have agreed to drop their trailer and park the truck at their house. She suggested we give this a month to see if the problem corrects itself.

The next item of new business was a request to close Pintail Lane. Chairman Brown stated the person with the request is not at the meeting tonight so we will leave it alone until they come to a meeting to present their request.

The first item of old business was a request from Chad Lamb with Rayonier. He asked to address the Commission about leaving a portion of High Rock Road open to allow them to access their property. He also requested the county provide a warranty deed giving Rayonier the property where they own both sides of the road. Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to table the matter. Commissioner Lanier Keene seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The next item of old business was the 2015 LMIG project. At the February monthly meeting, Road Superintendent Adam Dowdy requested we change this year's project from Harvey Road to Sibbie Road and Cardinal Road for 2015 and move Harvey to our 2016 project. The cost estimate for Harvey was more than we have funds for this year. Sibbie and Cardinal will not use all of the funds so we can save the reserve and combine it with the 2016 funds and have enough to resurface Harvey. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal made a motion to move the projects. Commissioner Lanier Keene seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The final item of business was a proposal to the Fire Departments for the 2015 support. The departments would be offered the following:

City of Abbeville  
City of Rochelle  
City of Pitts  
City of Pineview

\$2000 annual support  
Bi-annual service on vehicles  
Fuel

Cedar Creek

\$1000 annual support (since they get ½ mil tax collection in their district)  
Bi-annual service on vehicles  
Fuel

Commissioner Lanier Keene made a motion to send the proposal to the fire departments.  
Commissioner Tracy Tyndal seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner comments were heard as follows:

Commissioner Lanier Keene stated he was glad that we held the public hearing tonight. He hates controversy because the county is not a winner. His decision was based on the best thing for the whole county. He added that he is elected from District 5 but he cannot tell the rest of the county that he cannot consider them when making a decision.

There being no further business, Commissioner Tracy Tyndal made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jowan Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_ David Brown, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Paula Jones Ball, County Manager/Clerk