

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON JUNE 1, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM IN THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Lanier Keene	Chairman
Alfonza Hall	Vice Chairman
Jowan Johnson	Commissioner
Mel Powell	Commissioner
Clay Reid	Commissioner
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Paula J. Ball	County Manager/Clerk

Chairman Lanier Keene called the meeting to order.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments were as follows:

Jerry Sercer presented pictures showing seepage from the Wilcox County landfill on his property. He questioned what is being done. He was given a timeline of all actions since the spot on his property was discovered.

The prior month's minutes from the May 4, 2021 regular monthly meeting and the May 20, 2021 special call meeting were approved as presented with a motion from Commissioner Mel Powell. Commissioner Clay Reid seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Department head reports were as follows:

EMA/Fire Coordinator Larry Brown stated a fire class was held in Rochelle with 22 attending. Pitts is testing this month. The Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by the State and will be coming to the County and Cities for adoption. We are waiting on parts for the Rescue Truck.

Charles Futch stated the new ambulance has arrived. We are waiting on a radio to come in and it will be installed and the ambulance will be fully ready to go on the road.

Chairman Lanier Keene stated he had requested at the April meeting that all County vehicles be marked. He asked that they be marked within the next 15 days.

The first item of new business was a presentation by Don Wood, Randy Crenshaw and Jerry Rhodes, representatives of Middle Georgia EMC, about broadband being installed throughout their region. They added they are going out on a limb to provide the service. In order to receive federal funding, they must serve 100% of their customers. Wilcox County has been ranked as one of the lowest served internet counties. The pandemic has magnified the importance of internet services. Middle Georgia EMC will own the fiber but it will be run by Connection Connect. They will service the fiber and bill the customer. It will be a huge economic benefit to the County. Their plan is to connect the first customer in January 2022.

The next item of new business was budget amendments for the EMS and Sheriff's Office. These amendments will increase the EMS budget and EMS grants by \$5,750.00 and increase the Sheriff's budget and insurance proceeds by \$14,462.00. Commissioner Clay Reid made a motion to approve the amendments. Commissioner Mel Powell seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The first item of old business was appointments to the Heart of Georgia Area Agency on Aging. Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to reappoint Ruby Dantley and Vickie Kemp to another term. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The second item of old business was the acceptance of the 2021-2022 Public Defenders budget. They have requested \$31,022.27 from Wilcox County. Commissioner Clay Reid made a motion to continue their budget at the level of \$29,143.00 since we approved two increases to them in 2020. Commissioner Mel Powell seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Mel Powell made a motion to enter into a joint executive session with the Wilcox County Board of Elections and Registrations. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Clay Reid made a motion to reconvene into regular session. Commissioner Mel Powell seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to terminate the Elections Supervisor. Commissioner Clay Reid seconded the motion that carried four to one with Chairman Lanier Keene abstaining.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lanier Keene, Chairman

Paula J. Ball, County Manager/Clerk

