



Miller County Government
304 W. Pine Street
Colquitt, Georgia 39837
P: 229.758.4104 | F: 229.758.2229
Board of Commissioners



Present: Chairman Ladon Calhoun, Vice Chairman Jeff Cox, Commissioner Edwards, Commissioner Bowen
Others Present: Faye Whittaker, Douglas Cofty, Andy Moore,, Austin Lambert, Crystal Roberts, Leigh Ribolzi, Mandy Roland, Mike Middleton, William Smith, Sheriff Clenney, Kevin Calhoun, Jayme Smith, Robin Rau.

6:00 P.M. – Welcome & Call to Order. Prayer and pledge of allegiance

Housekeeping

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Calhoun stated all right, we need to add FLOST to the agenda. if we do not have any additions to the agenda we need to get approval. Commissioner Edwards made motion to approve. Vice Chairman Cox seconded it. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Calhoun stated the minutes look to be in order. We need a motion to approve. Commissioner Nixon made motion to approve. Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports

Chairman Calhoun stated all right financial reports, I need a motion to approve. Vice Chairman Cox made a motion to approve. Commissioner Bowen seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Appearances

Crystal Roberts – Georgia Recovery Bus Tour. Mr. Miller did not show.

Old Business

E911 Software Contract

P25 Radio system

NEW BUSINESS

Beer and Wine License

Maintenance of Non-County Roads

Tax Assessor's Service Contract Renewal

Spending Resolution

time as the FY2526 operating budget is adopted. Be it further resolved that the resolution is to be made part of the minutes of the regular session minutes of July the 14th, 2025. So be it resolved this 14th day of July the 20 25th. So, I need a motion to adopt that. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Bowen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. All right.

EDF Solar MOU

Chairman Calhoun stated you want to talk about that EDF? Mr. Cofty stated yeah basically, this is just for you all to review. It is Mou from a solar company that we have been talking to. I've sent it to the

county attorney just waiting for his response. But if you go in there, I know Mr. Keith kind of looked through it. He actually sent me some more files from a county today that's been dealing with them. So, we just kind of need to review them. But just kind of look that over. There's really no timeline to get it back. Just going to wait for the county attorney and then we'll move forward with that. It does list a lot of how they want to talk about tax abatement stuff. And like I said, that that's going to take a while. You all need to get with the development authority and then the tax assessors board. So we all there's a lot of steps need to go through that before we move that route. So there's no action. Chairman Calhoun stated any questions on that? All right.

ACCG Safety Discount

Chairman Calhoun stated the ACCG safety discount form. Mr. Cofty stated this is an annual form that needs to be signed by the chairman. It just lists off as the safety coordinator and to be able to qualify for the safety discount, we just have to have sign. Chairman Calhoun stated so, I need a motion to approve the to approve Austin is the safety coordinator and the and the safety discount.. I'll make a motion. Commissioner Nixon made motion, Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

ASPIRE Building Roof

Chairman Calhoun stated next Aspire building roof quotes. Mr. Cofty stated, so you know, Aspire has been kicked out of their place or just been asked to leave their office and they've been talking to us about the old Dr. Rentz pink building. Mark and I have looked it over and I turned it over to him to get some quotes for the roof. And there's the three, the three different roofers that he's got down there. I got it listed in the prices and it looks like Bob's roofing company with was the lowest with 15,845 and then all the way up to 17,750 and that's for a 26-gauge metal. And included in there is the business license from the city, the insurance, everything that's required. Chairman Calhoun stated do you want a motion or you just that's just for us to look at? Mr. Cofty stated well, we need to go ahead and get it done. Aspire's kind of asking me every day if we're getting something done. So, I mean, if you all want to go and make a motion or, you know, I can go up to 25,000 if I needed to. Chairman Calhoun stated No, that we don't need to go. Mr. Cofty stated I'm just saying I can approve if you if you want to go ahead and do it now, that's fine. Chairman Calhoun stated is anybody familiar with Bob's roofing company? Mr. Cofty stated yeah, Renee Garcia is going to be doing. Chairman Calhoun stated oh, okay. So, we need a motion to approve the bid for \$15,845. All right. So, I need a motion to approve the \$15,845 bid. Vice Chairman Cox stated this isn't the same figure on here. Mr. Cofty stated now, there's two different ones that are one is a shingle on that one and then it see it says it should tell you. Vice Chairman Cox stated yeah, it's the metal. Yeah, it says I could read it. Yeah. Mr. Cofty stated and I did pass along to Aspire that, you know, due to what we're going to have to doing with the building that we would be coming up with them at least kind of. Chairman Calhoun stated do we get a motion to

approve. Commissioner Bowen made the motion, Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Widening and resurfacing of Cooktown Rd.

Chairman Calhoun stated all right widening and resurfacing of the road. Mr. Cofty stated so the RFP closed out Friday and the only bid that we got in was from Oxford. They come in I think we had 1.2 million. They come in at 1.183 million. So we've got about 26,000 under our budget. And Andy had talked about taking that money and going from Phillipsburg side of Cooktown all the way to Kimbel Road and putting the reflective markers all on there. So we'll have money to do that. Mr. Moore stated yeah, we, you know, we went for paving, but we going to make it a little past Kimbrel. We got a little extra that would really enhance that road to go back and put the raised pavement markers on it. It helps the elderly drive at night. You know, it helps everybody, but the elderly mostly. So, you know, that 26,000 way more than cover it, then we'll just add the rest into some paving. But I'd like to see it if you all, you know, if that's what y'all wanted to do, I could work that in there. Because we going, you know, about a mile and something in Baker County and we get that we can, you know, we can fix that when we pay. Vice Chairman Cox stated you said in Baker County going into Baker County. Mr. Moore stated we can't pay Baker County, but we limb cut that section too, you know, and got it cut back. Chairman Calhoun stated I wish they' have went just a little bit further right there. I know you can't go in other county, but it was just a little bit in other county right there. Mr. Moore stated well, he's still out there, so we need to trim a bush or two. He's been doing pretty good on the pave roads and he's skipping the spots where they're dangerous, you know, when he is not in a straightaway. And then we've been getting the sign guy to go back with him, you know, to help him get the curves and things cut. We've been working on a good many paved roads here lately. So, and we're going to get Philipsburg, but he'll just have to have some we really have to have some help to do it because it's healing and curvy. Chairman Calhoun stated all right. We need a motion to then approve them. Commissioner Edwards made motion, Vice Chairman Cox seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

E911 Recorder quote

Chairman Calhoun stated all right E 911 recorder quote. Ms. Butler stated that is for our entire recorder. What it does is it records all the phone calls and radio traffic that comes into 911. Um when they put it in last year, it was under a contract with them for one year. Then it's now coming up for renewal and those are the three prices that they've given us for the renewal. The first one is the parts 247 on-site and remote support, software updates, and 247 monitoring. And then the second one, the only difference between that, the second, third, and the first one is that they don't offer the 247 remote support. So something tears up in the middle of the night, they're not going to come fix it. We'd have to wait till 8:00 the next morning. Chairman Calhoun stated so you want to do the first one, correct? Ms. Butler stated I would prefer to do the first one just so we don't have to worry if anything happens in the middle of the night like bad weather something somebody will come on and fix it so

that we don't lose any communication that we may need later on for open records. Chairman Calhoun stated we got plenty of money. Ms. Whittaker stated she has that in that special account.. Chairman Calhoun stated okay we need a motion to approve Whitney's recorder contract. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Nixon seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Tax Commissioners Resolution

Chairman Calhoun stated resolution approving write off of property taxes older than seven years. Mr. Cofty stated his is for the tax commissioner. She submitted it to me to give to you all. I'll let her talk about it. Ms. Suggs stated that with our new property software, particular deal may come up and it may show back taxes. So then we look at all years and it'll have on their um which ones aren't checked and I'll go to look and it could be the year 1997. So how we figure out it's been paid. We pulled the tax digest for that particular year and go search that bill and it tells what date it was signed off on being paid. It just was not posted properly. It's confusing to us and it's confusing to the taxpayer because it looks like they haven't paid taxes when they actually probably have. So, I'm requesting that we requested that we have a resolution signed off on this to exclude any back taxes seven years and later. Now, these were already the ones that were paid, but there are some that are still outstanding. This this is state law. We're supposed to have. Chairman Calhoun stated what's the board's pleasure? Commissioner Bowen stated if I'm understanding you correctly, the state law says if it's seven years or longer that you automatically supposed to write that off. It's a state law. That's what you got. Chairman Calhoun stated do you want to be notified when she does it or not? Commissioner Bowen stated I mean, this is state law, so I say that's her. Ms. Suggs stated basically, this is just me being transparent. Commissioner Bowen stated if I'm understanding correctly, you didn't even have to come before us because it was state law kind of sort of, right? Ms. Suggs stated yeah. I'm just letting y'all know what I'm doing. Commissioner Bowen stated Yeah. Thank you for that, too. Chairman Calhoun stated so, do we need to do anything? Mr. Cofty stated you just need approve the motion to the resolution. Chairman Calhoun stated do I need to read that? Mr. Cofty stated no, you don't need to read it. Chairman Calhoun stated all right. So, I need a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Bowen made the motion, Vice Chairman Cox seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan

Chairman Calhoun stated next is the Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan. Mr. Cofty stated with Debbie, we kind of finished up our disaster recovery plan. It's that big book right there. So we just need to get the chairman to and the vice chairman both chairman and vice chairman to sign off on. Chairman Calhoun stated so we need a motion to sign this plan redevelopment plan. Commissioner Nixon made motion, Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Departments

Fueling Center

Chairman Calhoun stated All right. Fueling center. Mr. Cofty stated it's running normal. We are having that shelter put on it tomorrow to kind of offset some of that sun that's beating down on that LCD board. Other than that, it's down a little bit because the school has not, you know, had they hadn't been picked back up. It's running.

Road Department

Chairman Calhoun stated road department, you got anything? Mr. Moore stated I had a couple quotes in there for a box blade, I think. Yeah. I was thinking that we might have turned them in. Mr. Cofty stated so, I got them right here. but I want you all to see the, Mr. Keith kind of he viewed that Mower Max running. He can tell you a little bit about it. I got those three quotes here and then box plate quotes there. Mr. Moore stated Ladon you're looking. I think you're looking at three quotes. That's three different booms is what that is. One's a 22 foot, one's a 24, one's a 26. And everybody I talked to was, you know, you pretty much if you're going to cut highways and you're going to cut dirt roads, probably want to go with the 24, the one in the middle because you don't want to be too long on dirt roads and you don't want to be too short on highways. You know, that's kind of what they was recommending. Mr. Cofty stated tell them about the box blade. what you need it for. Mr. Moore stated to replace the one we got now. It's pretty much in bad shape. You know, we've done welded it back together numerous of times, but it's just getting where it's so unlevel that it just don't work well when we trying to level roads with it. Chairman Calhoun stated that's a 12 foot what that is? Mr. Moore stated yeah, that's all we pull. Chairman Calhoun stated the whole machine. Correct. Mr. Moore stated Yeah and there's an attachment that goes on the front. You can get different ones. But like we are, we use if we go out there right after a rain over that quote and it makes tracks in the road. We use the blade that's on the ones we got to kind of level the tracks back out. Chairman Calhoun stated and this is in addition to your fleet now or you going to get rid of one? Mr. Moore stated that'll be up to you all. The little excavator could be used for either one. You know, right now we shorthanded, but. Mr. Cofty stated or traded in. Chairman Calhoun stated the excavator one's the one that's kind of slow, right? Mr. Cofty stated that's the one the public complaining about. Chairman Calhoun stated yeah. Mr. Moore stated I mean, we could really use to keep we done paid on it three years, I guess. You know, that's still up to y'all. But Mr. Keith came and looked at that one when it was running and one of our operators came and ran it and he took to it, you know, well, and the machine does I think the machine does what it's supposed to do and I know me and Mr. Keith you talk to both of us has talked to a lot of people about the machine? I know Jeff's been around one probably. Commissioner Bowen stated Seminole county's got one. Early county's got one. I think Decatur's got two. Mr. Moore stated I think I think Early County's got two and Decator county's got two. Nobody's talked to me about any major issues

with the machine. I was thinking and when we demoed that one there was a representative from the state Alabama and he said they had 95 of them and he said that they hadn't had any major issue you know all of them have some little mine or something but the. Commissioner Bowen one thing the guy from the state of Alabama told me is if you're going to mow trees with it don't get an extendable boom you want to keep your boom as short as possible extendable boom when you're cutting trees is going to bounce and break and fracture. Said that they've got extendable booms, but they use them. It's it was the Alabama DOT guy who was talking. He said they get the guard rails and more the banks on the back side of guardrails with extendable booms is anything to move trees and brush with heavy duty stuff. You don't want you don't want that. And it was it was impressive what it what it would do. It was quiet that the cutting head on it is like a mower like the Alamo one that we have now, but it was a bigger. It's I think the one we got is a four or five foot. It's like a six foot. So, you should go faster. And the DOT guy told me that like on this one, if you mess around and get too close to a ditch and fall off in it like you do lots of times, that you can actually turn these four wheels the same way and just walk out and just crawl out the thing. And it's articulate. It's like some trucks do. If you're going to turn to the right, the front tires turn to the right, back tires turn the opposite way, turn around shorter and all. It looked impressive to be honest. an issue for what the quote is on that I think. Didn't you say that that's close to what the tractor plus the alamo? Mr. Cofty stated yes it was with John Deere. Mr., Moore stated they're pretty much the same price. I think what impressed me and Mr. Keith both the most was it looks long but as he was talking about the way that that thing it just turned around right in I mean it just turned around. I mean it didn't you didn't have to pull up back up. That thing just he just whooped it right around, hit it the other way. It pretty impressive machine, you know. I mean, it's got a lot of good features to it. And I'm like, Mr. Keith, I think it'll speed up the process. Chairman Calhoun stated well, my thoughts are I'm okay with the box blade. I would like to wait till we do the budget and see what kind of money we can get for the excavator machine and then we'll talk about that. Mr. Cofty stated I still got to get financing anyway, I'm waiting. Mr. Moore stated it's fine. I mean, we running what we got and we've been doing good with what we got. I don't know if I told you all or not, but I know Mr. Keith has asked about it. What I'm looking at from the time we got the Alamo, we kind of put them cutting, you know, a streak. Instead of doing the jumping around, we cut from like on this side of the county, we cut from Cooktown over to Baker County line. We cut every dirt road in that in that streak. We did the same thing on the other side of the county and we then we moved over to another district. Then we caught the two middle sections. With us doing it that way, we don't get as many complaints because when we cut this road, you don't cut another one. Somebody said, "Well, you should have cut mine while you was here, whatever." So, we was cutting streaks. We've made a lot better time. And by December, if we keep going at the rate we are now, it'll be a two year about a two-year pattern. You know, we it's took us about two years to cut all the roads and we're working on getting some of the high, you know, we'll have highways and all cut. I think the second, you know, we fixing to start over once we cut Philipsburg. We'll be starting over on this side. But I think it's going to go a little faster because some of the roads had, you know, hadn't grown back as much. So, we can keep them on a pattern as much as possible. I know we get calls, you got to put out fires. But it's worked really well trying to cut them and then, you know, right where to go back and start, you know, start over. Getting them on a getting them on a pattern is really helped us out and make better time

instead of just moving all over the county. But the this trip is going to take us about two years. I think we'll be a little bit quicker the second go round. And if we look at getting other machine, I think it'll

Chairman Calhoun stated well, I'm not saying that Rico doesn't do a good job with that escalator. I'm just saying he does an excellent job, but it's just like I passed him today and like he had to stop. He had to get out the way and he had to move his stuff out the way and I passed him and he waved and then he gets over there and he has to move it back over there. But the other thing you just kind of. Mr. Moore stated at the time, you know, and we've talked about this some, you know, when you add on, you all know about adding on something. It needs to be in a cycle to be traded, you know, because you go to having problems. We starting to have a few valve problems, you know, on the Alamo. It's something you need to put on a I'd say a three-year cycle, you know, to move it. When we got that one, we was just having so much problem with, you know, being broke down for three months, you know, that we wasn't making any time. Chairman Calhoun stated and but it's been running good for the last six months, though, had it. Mr. Moore stated yeah everything's been kind of, you know, I mean, we have our problems, but we hadn't been down any length of time with either one of them. They both have a few little minor issues, but, you know, I think we need to look at, you know, kind of when we want to move things, you know, instead of trying to run it till it just falls apart, right? If we want to keep moving faster, Chairman Calhoun stated we'll look at it during the budget session. Faye will be glad to. Vice Chairman Cox stated what would be your projection on of a schedule with this machine?

versus the two-year program you was talking about? Commissioner Bowen stated that guy from the DOT the Now, this is the Alabama DOT. You know, it's a whole different ball game than Miller County. They're on a three-year what they do. They trade theirs every three years. Chairman Calhoun stated how many hours? How many hours they put on? Mr. Moore stated well, I think it'll speed it up to and and if we if we keeping them cut like with even with the two years. I know that sounds like a lot, but it's a lot better than be honest. I've been here 18 years and I don't think we cut every road in the county. And we get mighty close to being cut every road in the county. But we put them on a rotation cycle. You know, we got a little better plan of what we're doing instead of just jumping around. And it's made a big difference in what we're getting done by not moving all the time. I believe that if we went with this machine and had a faster one on the other side of the county, I'd say we probably could do it in a little over a year or, you know, it might cut it down to a year. And that's kind of the goal I was always at is be able to cut them all in a year. Chairman Calhoun stated do you remember how much we paid for that excavator machine? Mr. Cofty stated I do not it was before my time. Vice Chairman Cox stated what I was saying in two years it's almost about grown. I mean you're back to square one. Mr. Moore stated yeah. The what's helped us is we've kept the little sidearm mower running and it like he's back over where we going to start back with the machine once he gets the highway cut and he's cutting the weeds. Well then the limb cutter don't have to cut the weeds. He's cutting the trees. But it's mighty old too. Me and Doug talked about that today. There's a lot of them used out there on the internet that's bringing three \$4,000. And the one we got it's 18 years old, you know, and that is really Mr. Keith I know seem to look which y'all probably have too. When you mow them weeds that's a lot of road that the limb cutter doesn't have to cook. And if we could just keep that machine running but you know the old iron on it getting rotten. I welded on it this morning a half a day, but he's back running. But it's something that is not that expensive and it does a lot of good. And you know, if you all would be

interested, we could kind of look maybe for a good used one on the internet and, you know, try to get us another one of them, you know, to help keep it running. Chairman Calhoun stated you talking about a boom mower for the tractor. Mr. Moore stated no well, it's you hook it. It's a really It's a ditch cutter. it's they it hooks to the three-point hitch. It's got a mowing deck on it and it'll when you pick your lift up, it'll mow a little over your head when you hold your deck up, but it just goes along and mows the weeds and then when the limb cutter comes to mow that road, all he's got to do is mow the trees, you know, instead of trying to mow the road and having to mow the weeds and all that, it's already done. And it really works well and makes everything move faster with that kind of running ahead of him. He can move fast enough that what I've been doing is I let him cut over here and then, you know, move to the other side of the county and cut my section. But the old machine's getting old. Commissioner Bowen stated it kind of looks like a batwing more with just one section. It's offset to the to the right side and it'll pick up and down. And like I say, mows the ditch part that encroaches into your road. He mows that down where the guy with the limb cutter comes by. Mr. Moore stated he could ride along and you know basically mow right up to somebody's fence and everything that the weed is growing on the side of the road. Chairman Calhoun stated can you get us some prices on or some pictures or something? Chairman Calhoun stated all right. Sheriff, you got anything. Good. Whitney, you done. Ms. Butler stated yes, I'm done for now. Chairman Calhoun stated What about you? You got anything over there? I say something sitting out there. Ms. Henry stated you don't want to talk about it? I mean, it's turned out well. I think we still have some radio work to do and write an article for the new when we get there. Chairman Calhoun stated all right. I've been told that we need to go into executive session for two things. You want to do real estate or personnel first? Mr. Cofty stated whichever you choose first. Chairman Calhoun stated let's do real estate first. Who you want? Who you need in there for that? Mr. Cofty stated Mr. Kevin and Ms. Virginia. Chairman Calhoun stated motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Edwards made motion, Vice Chairman Cox seconded. All in favor.

Executive Session

NONE

Chairman Calhoun stated all right if there's no other business no other questions. I need a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Cox made motion to adjourn. Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor. Moton carried.

Chairman Calhoun stated there's no more anything need to be discussed. I need a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Edwards seconded.

Meeting is adjourned.

SIGNATURES

Cristene Edwards, Commissioner – District 1

Jeff Cox, Vice Chairman – District 2

Keith Bowen, Commissioner – District 3

Niki Nixon, Commissioner – District 4

Ladon Calhoun, Chairman – District 5

Douglas Cofty, County Manager