



Miller County

Board of Commissioners

179 S. Cuthbert St.
Colquitt, Ga 39837



SPECIAL SESSION MEETING
07/18/2022, 10:00 A.M., County Government Complex
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Kreg Freeman, Vice Chairman Ladon Calhoun, Commissioner Worsley, Commissioner Edwards, Commissioner Nixon. Others Present: Douglas Cofty, Faye Whittaker, Austin Lambert.

Chairman Freeman calls the special called meeting to order. Special session 07/18/2022. We have got two items on the agenda. One of them is executive session affidavit. I think all we need to do right there is just sign why we went into executive session the last time. I think it's nothing else. We need to deal with that. The other thing is the purchase of equipment for the road department, the mowers. Mr. Cofty stated Mr. Kreg by request, I've got the three quotes from the 3 different John Deeres, and I've got them all highlighted yellow. The different prices and the ones Mr. Allen brought those are the ones in color. Commissioner Worsley stated yeah, I just brought something to look at pictures. The Bush hog is not the correct model, but it was only one they had. We get an idea what he's looking at. Mr. Cofty stated Faye put together as that SPLOST report. It shows you where he's at as far as monthly payments are already coming out. We went through the SPLOST and his balance and then the balance of the TSPLOST is at the bottom. On the road department SPLOST report. We Ms. Whittaker stated we really can't finance any more payments because he's right there at the limit.

Vice Chairman Calhoun asked so, he's actually \$378 over by your report. Mr. Cofty stated that's on the average monthly estimate. But yeah, that's his payment but I mean, there's some months he gets \$14,000 and there are some he gets \$12,000 but we did the last 6 months, we averaged it out and it come out to be \$13,000.00. Ms. Whittaker stated and on the new John Deere and the service truck and dump truck those are just estimates because we do not have the payments yet. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked Commissioner Nixon, You got it all figured out? Commissioner Nixon stated she did. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked when do we think or anticipate the USDA for the other stuff coming through? Mr. Cofty state so what we're waiting on. I got the letter from Ms. Linda Westberry, and we have to have the auditors audit for 2020 and 2021, We have to give them current copy of the balance sheet and summary, we've got all that but we're waiting on the audits. So, we can't do anything until we get on. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked would that be complete within a month? Mr. Cofty then we have to approve the budget for 2023. So it all hinges on how quickly we get that budget done. Because like we're already halfway through the year it's probably going to be March like with the truck's it was February or March. So depending on how quickly we can get the budget. You all got to prove the budget. We've got to get them forms to them. Then we have to go through that we have to still have that that meeting with them. And it's just step after step. So I mean it could be anywhere from now until the

end of the year. It all depends on how we can get the audit forms and the budget. but it's a guarantee. I mean, it's pretty much done. It's just we got to wait on it. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated so, you're looking at 5 or 6 months, Mr. Cofty stated probably and I did go down there and look at that mower that Andy's got and it's just, I mean, he's welded on top of welds. it is, it is in very bad shape. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked How old is it? Do you know how old it is? Commissioner Worsley stated 15 years old. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated 15 years old. Commissioner Nixon asked So, he needs it pretty quickly. Commissioner Worsley stated well, I talked to him today again and he told me he had both of them running now, you know. They can just go out at any time, but they were both on him now for a change. The other old mowers got a gearbox that's been whining, I don't know how many months but it's still cutting, and it is not near as bad as the other ones. Of course it's not as old, well its only about 13 years old. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated pretty old for a mower. Mr. Cofty stated like I said, I've got you all different quotes all the way from a Rhino 2150, which they do not recommend, up to the Rhino 4150 and the Bush Hog 3815. It's supposed to be the same equivalent. This this is the same company. It's just they own two different brands. and then 3 different prices from three different John Deere dealerships and if you look at this sheet here, that's the summary that tells you basically when they'll be available and when I talked to them. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated so, the 2150 is not comparable to the 4150 and the 3850. Mr. Cofty stated It can only cut up to 2 inches. Commissioner Worsley stated yeah, it's very lightweight. Mr. Cofty stated yeah. That's what they said. It's just that what they had available but like I said, if we do go with the 4150s, it's going to be 60 days plus and I am not knocking anybody, but you see what happen with the motor grader. I mean, you really don't know if you're going to get it 60 days Commissioner Worsley stated I talked to Randy this morning and he went ahead and ordered two of those 4150s from last week. But not for us, he just wanted them just in case we go with him. Mr. Cofty stated but those are your dates, that just kind of gives you what timeline you're looking at. Commissioner Worsley stated personally I like to keep business local if we can. Commissioner Edwards stated oh yeah. I'm all for that. I mean, that's what we wanted to do anyway to keep business local. Commissioner Worsley stated you know, we bought those trucks. We bought local. Commissioner Nixon stated Mm hmm. Commissioner Worsley stated you know, these people pay taxes here and. Commissioner Edwards stated most definitely. Chairman Freeman asked who's got the mower and the 4150 mower in stock. Anybody? Mr. Cofty stated nobody. Chairman Freeman asked who has got smaller mower in stock? Mr. Cofty stated that's the one out of Donalsonville but I guess it's that Blakely outfit. Chairman Freeman stated SunSouth. Mr. Cofty stated yeah. which they were higher if you look at that John Deere MX7, they were the highest one on that on that quote. Commissioner Edwards stated all three of these are local right. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated where all was they from Donalsonville, Bainbridge, and Colquitt. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated I'm sure that Colquitt would if he wanted a MX7, they were probably get you one Mr. Cofty stated them and Bainbridge was the same price on the MX7. Commissioner Worsley asked has anybody talk to Andy to see what his feelings was on this thing. Commissioner Edwards stated I just know he just said he needed a mower and at the time, you know, he just had one. It was on one leg. Mr. Cofty stated that's what he told me to do. Commissioner Edwards stated yeah. Chairman Freeman stated Well, Doug done called around here. Decatur County's got like seven mowers total. They got two big ones and they got five of the smaller ones. I am going and tell you I am not even recommending the bigger mower. First thing, you are going to spend as much repairing the mower down through the years. The life of the mower is just about as the mower cost. When the first thing they ever got right there, me and Charles Musgrove kept up with them too and they've been long gone and you done bought by the time the mower was wore slammed out, you done bought the mower again. It isn't nothing but a

maintenance nightmare. The other counties are running them smaller mowers. Only advantage you get with the bigger mowers, you can reach out there close to the fence line over there. Get up under a tree limb. Commissioner Worsley stated or cutting the ditch. Because with that there 15-foot mower, you can let it down into the slope of the ditch instead of trying to ride that tractor on that slope. Commissioner Edwards stated if you road out there in my district, that's what you're going to need. Because especially down Kelly Road is just covered over the road. Commissioner Worsley stated so if Andy said time they make a round that's around 1100 miles that they cut. To mow the right of way back and forth, you know. Chairman Freeman stated this morning. I mowed down and it's probably a quarter of a mile worth or more. It took about 30 minutes to mow the ditch down there, you got more speed, and you aren't dragging the mower in the dirt. Chairman Freeman stated I am not the only one sitting up here, but I argued against this from that first day they got a bigger mower, I got one of them out there. If you aren't mowing on level ground, you looking to tear the mower up. Commissioner Edwards asked well, can you cut the ditches with the other one? It's mine. It did it for. But I know since

they've been tractors in existence. The convicts used to do it long time ago. All they had was a mold that went behind the tractor. Look at the amount of fuel though you're going to be burning, going back and forth. Yeah, but you're making more time. I'd take two of them mowers right there and cut more grass. I done operated equipment. I know, I done operated it all my life. You take two of them mowers and mow more when you can with that wide. My word is three times as wide. But I just thank you backing it up doing that. How much how much equipment do you have operating this guy? Over years quite a bit. Our chickpeas, our fried peanuts, our board, our own one or you ever bought the field for one. Yeah. I want to attract it with a mower right now. I am not the only one sitting up here but My thoughts, my thoughts on it would be is, I'm not talking about our employees but it takes a pretty good person to run one of those and not tear it up. You could put a less experienced person on a smaller mower, and it would probably run longer The mold will probably last longer. You know what I mean? Like you can run a small mower. You could run, you could run a big mower, coach. Like I said, you got to cut, you constantly got to be folding it watching it up, not hitting nothing, and warping it up, and man, I'm not saying we don't need a big one, but I mean, we got one big one. and I mean Well, apparently, apparently, you got to think about money. We don't have the money either. So, I mean, you got to think about, that's going to be the next thing. You do not have the money to buy. You got plenty of money and two squash to buy. Yeah. Tea squashed. The only exception of that rule right there was to put in the fueling station which complements anything to do with the roads and travel. That's the reason for that right there coming out of there. These spots need setting back to do the roads and only the roads. They don't need to be buying equipment out there because if you start that, you're going to deplete it because you're going to be running out of for them. And that'll be that'll become a habit. And then you ain't going to have the money to that right there was actually set aside for to do that. That's one of the main reasons it got voted in. You don't need to be buying equipment out of there. But I'm just looking at buying a paper point just with the payments. Because you already downloaded up on the Red Response. So you were asking about the USA USDA grant, right? And that we could pay, we could use that to pay for this. Is that right? Or no? The USDA is. It's going to take a couple of months. Different mower is all approved. And what it is the USDA grant basically gives you 50, 000 for every 100000. And I think how 1 08000. So, we're going to get the 50000 off of that. We're still going to owe what 58000 but I think with the tractors that we were going to trade in, it was going to bring us down about thirty, 15000, something like that. So, we will go out and take care of that with what we had in the class. Well, you don't need to sell your cracker after. Yeah. You purchase it in because you play a win. That's one of them. Yeah, we were going three one. Seven outright or something. How we're going to do it but that's a totally different mower than

what was. So, we've already approved. We've already approved that deal Gotcha. And it's just contingent on us getting that audit and the tax return. Uh huh. So, this would be a totally different deal that we would start. Now, it might go through as quick but it's going to be the first of the year if we. Yes. Did this. Mm hmm. Does that make sense? It does. It does. So, if he needs it right away. And that's like, I guess that was my next question. Does he need it right away? Or is there something we could apply? I mean, I'm just asking. I don't know. I'm just asking. I mean, if we applied, you're that sometime next year for some seniors. I mean, we would, we would still be in the, if it tears up, tear if it doesn't, I mean, it. Gotcha. You know, you just never. But your kind of, you, it's kind of two months out on getting one anyway. Mm hmm. Kind of. Right. You know. I mean, I'm just trying to look at it. And yes, of the wooden money you're looking at. I mean, forget it. We're not going to use sea slugs. cage. He got money. He doesn't have the money. So it isn't going to hurt us. I use a tea splash one time. If you start using that tea squash, like I said, you'd be able to use it for that. We'll use it for this. Well, if you use it one time, just purchase one more. I don't see. That's what I'm saying. I I don't see. I mean, if you use it one time, just the person more. If that's, he needs it. you start dipping into that, it's going to become a habit. It becomes a habit if you make it a habit. You got to make it a habit. and they've got to pass this time to continue on.

What tractors has he got down there that he's using? Do you know what kind, what do you got? Number three oh three. It's one of John Deere. Just got make do top on it. Mhm. Don't care about it. They run it yet. High gear it must have. They need road gear. But they get by with it. How old is it? There's an old one. And what's the other tractor you got? The other one is an old limb cutter tractor. It's got a cab air conditioner on it. Mhm. If I say ado Hey, cut the tractors running pretty good right now. You know, I think the crackers aren't no real big issue and they quit tomorrow. But if we can wait and get that grant save a lot of money. And same thing with the moors, I really think that everybody need to talk to Andy and get his opinion on this thing about what he thinks he needs. Was he the one running the show? Absolutely. These are the waters responsible for getting it done or it don't get done and it's come down on top of his head. I agree with that. So that would be my suggestion as if everybody's talking to Andy and see what he says, what he thinks. Well, we know what he thinks already. We got to talk to him. He wants, he wants one of these mowers, I mean. That's what he wants. Whatever he wants, want to do the job. So y'all already talked to him. I mean, I don't know which one he wants. I just know that he was telling me before he got the other one too. 4150. Yeah, forty-1 5one. And so on this coat, there's also a tractor. It will be looking at that now or not. Just the mower. Okay. Just Gotcha. I'm pretty sure that's what we approved last time though, right? That tractor in that moment. Pretty much just saved about the same thing that it did with the black USD. Okay. Okay. I was just still ongoing. We know what he needs. He the one out there working. So ain't no need to get nothing my way because it's not going to hold up. Alright, what y'all want to do? Are these two the same? That one? No. No. That's a seven-foot lift top of this one. Uh huh. Yeah, that should be the same. Okay. Okay. Me, I want to go with 4150 from Flanagan getting a little bit. How are you going to pay for it? Well, if we went anywhere else, I was going to go home. She ain't got no money. You don't get it. He needs it so. Yeah. You're not going to miss. You know, I am not going to use them but to buy that piece of equipment. Yeah but he's he's got that promise out to Payments. I mean that you ain't just doing away with payments. I mean Bottom line, he need a more. When do you want? You got \$60,000 set aside. That's that's accumulated money. After rainy day money. That's money that ain't already accounted for. You don't need to get it out of taste bus. I'm just stumble. Mm hmm That's your pavement. That's right. So, can we get out of that? Yeah, you got \$60, 000. Yeah, you get it, man. It'll be the half of us will be gone though. So. Well, you're not going to do anymore paper this year. Your payment's done good It it it don't matter. You're relying on the the the money building up and it it don't matter what

month it is. You going to have to use it in the next year and you just don't you you take it away from that. How much longer do we have on these other pads that are coming out? Several years. Here it is to continue. That's a rotating thing. You can have that thing. And we just redid the lease or whatever. I don't know about it because I won't have to check on him. You can say yes now. That's no problem. You just, if something else comes up, I had to have a horror, a horror note on down the road. I mean, he has something else coming up. I mean, I'm. Yeah. This is false money. If you use without, you know, just selling the 60, 000 and now that we're all these payments coming out. Um is not going to be able to build up like that again. The record. Right. Right. It's kind of rainy day money. Mm hmm. Okay So like he's he's I guess he's maxed out now. So that that number ain't going to get no bigger. Wow. It's not it's not like drafted. Yeah we came for the That last little dump. The used dump truck. We paid for that. Just paid for it. Didn't finance it out of squad. So there was. And how much was that? 22000? Yeah. That's where it was a little bit higher than that. Yeah at least he ain't got no payments coming out on it. Pay for. Alright. What we're going to do? I said I said I'm I'm prepared to go to Clint Hagg and get a little kidding. I got two more in ordered. We can take one on when it gets in. You know. And then I ordered. They did not order them for us. They decided to order them and get them on. So, he'll have it in 2 months. Yeah season going to be over by the end. I mean, I I don't see the point. I mean, committing to them, you ain't going to, the money, I mean, the money ain't going to lead you to the mower gets in but I mean, you you make a making a commitment dude Yeah, you can make next spring. Ramp on it. Straighten out. And you said he's running. So, maybe he can keep on peace together. Y'all don't want to get one of these little mowers and try it. The horsepower requirements less. The you they maintenance free. Other than the bearings and the tail oil. I mean, when the mobile goes out with and the tractor goes over the driveway, the mower going to pick up and go over the driveway too. You ain't gotta be worried about working your way in because it's tires. The small emojis cut out the tires. So, they don't have to look out there. Yes, well, do we have a smaller more local? No. That way. Do we? Yeah, you can get one of these. Anyway, yeah, they get those. You see what I'm saying about somebody less experienced. Right. So, like if you got one out there and there's a tree out there, you got to be dodging. This way, they just let it right here. So, they run over it. Uh huh. Well, again, say we are not out there working. Andy is. So, Andy know what he needs. Yeah, I should do this stuff with Andy. I mean, we're not out there working. No, you're right. Right. I know what he's told. I mean, we can sit here all day and tell what what to get but it until we talk to Andy and Andy know what he needs. Is it going to get table? I mean, if one of the big mowers tears up, this little mower be running. It will be running continuously unless they deliberately unless somebody does like they done out there where they throw the engine block off in a ditch. Something like that right there. Some obstacle like that. They going to run over that you can't see in some grass. They say run over something like that. You ain't going to have no trouble with the little mold. And the little mold is going to be running when one of these big mowers down. And they would put one more in. They ain't going to Craig ain't been that big of a issue till lately. I signed some checks in here a while back right there and there's a thousand something dollar worth and it would mow apart. but I mean, I do whatever you want to do. Y'all want to take a look at your table. Well, we need to, we need to move on. We're going to do what we need to do here. Other than signing the executive session affidavit and we went in an executive session for personnel and came out of executive session with No decision made. and that's all I need to do is I guess somebody make a motion for me to sign that affidavit. I'll make it. Second. All the way. Uh. Alright. Motion secured. Table the purchase of the road department equipment and need a motion to adjourn. I'll makeit. Second. All in favor. I.