

AGENDA
THE JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

January 8, 2024

6:00 P.M.

JOHNSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT ANNEX

The Johnson County Board of Commissioners held their REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING on January 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Johnson County Government Annex. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. led the Invocation.

Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. led all in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Felice Pullen made a motion to accept the minutes of the last Regular Monthly Meeting held on December 11, 2023. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous 5-0.

Commissioner Larry Pope made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on December 19, 2023. Commissioner Felice Pullen seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous 5-0.

Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. stated the amount of bills from the General Fund for the month of December amounted to \$176,970.53. Total amount of bills from all funds for the month of December was \$279,812.25. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. made a motion to approve the monthly bills for December of \$279,812.25 from all funds. Commissioner Felice Pullen seconded the motion. The vote to approve the bills was unanimous 5-0.

County Administrator Bill Lindsey gave the Financial Report. As of today, the General Fund will have a balance of \$1,646,495.43 after the monthly bills are paid. **A COPY OF THIS FINANCIAL REPORT WILL BE FILED WITH THESE MINUTES.**

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Consideration and Approval of Amendment to Subdivision Ordinance – County Administrator Bill Lindsey and County Attorney Joseph Sumner are working on this ordinance and trying to get a date set up with the health inspector. This item was tabled.

New Business

- A. Set Qualifying Fees for 2024 Election- Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. presented to the board a copy of an Order and Resolution to set Qualifying Fees for the 2024 Election. Chairman McAfee asked how the qualifying fees are set, and County Administrator Bill Lindsey stated it is set by state law, and it is 3% of the base salary for each office. County Administrator Lindsey stated it would be published in the

paper also. Lindsey stated the qualifying fees for the County Commissioners are in the amount of ninety dollars (\$90.00), Board of Education in the amount of sixty-seven dollars (\$67.00), Judge of Probate/Magistrate Court in the amount of one thousand two hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$1,229.00), Sheriff in the amount of one thousand four hundred eight dollars (\$1,408.00), Tax Commissioner and Clerk of Superior Court in the amount of one thousand two hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$1,229.00), Coroner in the amount of one hundred ninety dollars (\$190.00) and County Surveyor in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. made a motion to set the qualifying fees for public offices in Johnson County for election year 2024. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw seconded the motion. The vote to approve setting the qualifying fees for public offices in Johnson County for election year 2024 was approved unanimously 5-0.

B. Adopt Countywide Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update-County
Administrator Bill Lindsey stated this is the last step in the whole Comprehensive Plan process. Lindsey presented to the board a copy of the resolution to adopt the Countywide Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update and stated it basically covers all of the solid waste activities on how we collect our waste, how we dispose of it, and where it goes. Lindsey stated the plan has to be updated once every ten years in conjunction with the Comprehensive Plan update. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. called for a motion to adopt the Countywide Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw made a motion to adopt the Countywide Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update. Commissioner Larry Pope seconded the motion. The vote to adopt the Countywide Joint Solid Waste Management Plan Update was approved unanimously 5-0.

C. Selection of Architect for Boys & Girls Club Building Renovations- County
Administrator Bill Lindsey stated to the board that Rich Bennett with the Regional Commission sent out a Request for Qualifications back in October seeking potential services from architectural firms to help with the process in the renovations of the former daycare facility at the old catfish plant to be repurposed for the Boys & Girls Club building. Lindsey stated the board held off of this last month, because we had to make the decision first whether or not to pursue CDBG funds for this project. Lindsey stated once the board approved that last month, then the board can go ahead with the architect selection. Lindsey stated there were two architectural firms that responded to the Request for Qualifications, and both of them are from Valdosta. Lindsey stated to the board that the firms are J. Glenn Gregory and McCall & Associates. He stated both firms scored even under the Regional Commission's scoring system, and the only difference between the two is that the McCall firm appears to have done more recent CDBG work. Lindsey stated they have done a number of projects, one was a Boys and Girls Club down in Brooks County, and they have done some Senior Center buildings, Health Department buildings and things in that nature. The Gregory firm's last CDBG project was back in 2014, and that was ten years ago. Lindsey stated that there has been a lot that has changed with the CDBG process and the requirements since that time. Lindsey recommended to the board that he would be more comfortable going with the firm that has done more

recent work, which would be the McCall Firm. They have also laid out their hourly rates and also submitted a tentative project time line for the work they would do, and the other firm did not do that. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. asked would this be paid for if the grant goes through and Lindsey stated it would. Chairman McAfee asked if the grant does not go through, where would the funds come from, and Lindsey stated if the grant doesn't go through, he didn't see how we could afford to do the project. Lindsey stated that both firms charge 10% of construction costs which is standard for CDBG. Development Authority Executive Director Hugh Darnley asked the board if there were any writing fees, and Lindsey stated that neither firm listed any. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. called for a motion to approve McCall and Associates for the Boys and Girls Club building renovations. Commissioner Larry Pope made a motion to approve McCall and Associates for the Boys and Girls Club building renovations. Commissioner Felice Pullen seconded the motion. The vote to approve McCall & Associates for the Boys and Girls Club building renovations was approved unanimously 5-0.

- D. Courthouse Update- Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. stated to the board that the new windows came in today. County Administrator Bill Lindsey stated that there is flooring work that needs to be done, and windows and floors are the main items that need to be complete with the courthouse renovations. Lindsey stated that he has had Patricia Glover, Clerk of Court and Jennifer Morris, Probate/Magistrate Judge look at the carpet samples that were submitted to the board, and they have narrowed it down to a couple of options and the board will pick between those shortly. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. stated he wanted to make sure before the board made the final decision on the carpets to let the Judges decide on it.
- E. Development Authority Report- Development Authority Executive Director Hugh Darnley stated to the board that there wasn't anything new to report.
- F. EMS Report- EMS Director Jeff Soles presented to the board the EMS report. Soles stated that Johnson County EMS responded to one hundred fifty-five (155) calls in December. Soles stated they had a collection total of fifty-nine thousand ninety eight dollars (\$59,098.00). Soles stated for the Year of 2023 the Johnson County EMS responded to one thousand seven hundred ninety-eight (1,798) calls and collected four hundred eighty-eight thousand three hundred eighteen (\$488,318.00) dollars. Soles stated the Basic EMT class is going good, and the Johnson County EMS has had sickness going around.
- G. Fire Report- EMA/ Fire Director Shawn Wombles presented to the board a copy of the fire report for the month of December. Wombles stated they had thirty-two (32) calls for December. He stated for the Year of 2023 they had three hundred eight-one (381) calls, and sixty-nine (69) of those calls were vehicle accidents, which means we had some type of rescue or we helped out EMS. Wombles stated that was an increase from last year, and we are seeing a lot of traffic accidents in our community.

Wombles stated they had their annual pump service test during the month of December, and everything passed. Wombles stated they have an audit coming up with Georgia Firefighter Council on January 31, and they will come in and look at the records. They make sure everyone has their 24 hour training, and they look at the pump service test, and they make sure we have the proper insurance to cover all firefighters and equipment. Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. asked Wombles about the weather for tomorrow, and Wombles stated it was supposed to start about ten o'clock and should reach us about three o'clock. Wombles stated we are at a high risk to receive 60-70 mph wind gusts and tornados and that possibly could bring down some trees and cause some structure damage. Wombles stated he has had about fifty (50) people sign up for the CodeRed, and it's a great service that the board provides for people in the community.

- H. E-911 Report- E-911 Director Jessica Reese stated to the board that she is still waiting on AT&T. The E-911 center has four lines and only two are working, and they can't tell her why they aren't working. Reese stated those two lines are what is holding her up, and those lines basically give us location and phone number information when you call 911. Reese stated she called the vendor and asked them could we just move the phone lines, and she was told we could do that. Reese stated she contacted AT&T last Wednesday to get that going. Reese stated the phone system won't be up fully then, but we can still use our CAD and radio system, so we can get in the building to start using it. Reese stated she heard from AT&T today about moving the phone lines, and they put her on their schedule but don't have a date when that might happen. She stated she is still working on the remittance fees from those telephone companies. She stated that GECA reached out to her last week about those fees and got her an updated phone company list. Reese stated she reached out to Charlton County E-911, due to them being in the same situation we are in and got some good information on how to collect those fees. Reese stated to the board that she hopes she can resolve this really quickly.
- I. Johnson County Sheriff's Office Report-Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. presented to the board a copy of the Johnson County Sheriff's Office report. Chief Deputy Sammy Young presented to the board two checks in the amount of twelve thousand (\$12,000.00) dollars total for two surplus vehicles (Dodge Chargers) that were sold.

Public Comment(s) Limit Five Minutes- No public comments were made.

Executive Session

Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr. stated that the board needed to have an Executive Session to discuss personnel and potential litigation.

Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw made a motion to close Regular Session. Commissioner Larry Pope seconded that motion. The vote to close Regular Session passed unanimously 5-0. Regular session was closed at 6:24 p.m.

Commissioner Felice Pullen made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw seconded the motion. The motion to enter into Executive Session passed unanimously 5-0. The board entered into Executive Session at 6:24 p.m.

After the Executive Session was completed, Commissioner Felice Pullen made the motion to close the Executive Session. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw seconded the motion. The motion to close Executive Session passed unanimously 5-0. Executive Session was closed at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Larry Pope made a motion to re-enter into Regular Session. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw seconded the motion. The motion to re-enter into Regular Session passed unanimously 5-0. Regular Session resumed at 7:01 p.m.

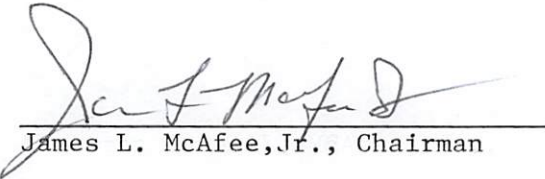
Resume Regular Session


As a result of Executive Session, no action was taken.

Commissioner Larry Pope made a motion to adjourn this Regular Monthly Meeting. Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw seconded that motion. The vote to adjourn the meeting was unanimous 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Commissioners present for this Regular Monthly Meeting: Chairman James L. McAfee, Jr., Commissioner Mike Keene, Commissioner Larry Pope, Vice-Chairman Ron Darrisaw and Commissioner Felice Pullen.

Commissioners absent from this Regular Monthly Meeting: None


James L. McAfee, Jr., Chairman


Ron Darrisaw, Vice-Chairman