The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Due to COVID 19, this meeting was held at the Adult Literacy Center. Members present were Leland Adams, Chad Kenney, Greg Palmer, Clarence Thomas, and Tim Williamson.

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order.

The invocation was led by Commissioner Clarence Thomas, followed by the pledge to the flag.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion to add establishing a social media page for the County to the agenda. Motion failed due to lack of a second. Commissioner Williamson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kenney to approve the agenda as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Kenney the minutes from the April 20 regular meeting were approved as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Under Reports, County Manager Brandon Braddy reporting for EMA Director Donnie Daniels, stated Chairman Adams had signed a State of Emergency Resolution (Res. No. 20-05-01) on February 12, 2020 at 4:30 pm for flooding on Three Rivers Lane, Dead River Road, and Towns Bluff. A Public Health Emergency Resolution (Res. No. 20-05-02) was signed on March 20, 2020. The Chairman signed a resolution (Res. No 20-05-03) on March 30, 2020 amending Resolution 20-05-02.

Road Department Superintendent Milton Fountain reported the 2013 John Deere 672 motor grader with the sloper has been down for the last three weeks with an exhaust filter issue. The cost of repairing the grader was $10,000.00 and is now running. The 2014 John Deere 672 motor grader was having sensor issues. This grader is now running. The 2008 John Deere 6130D tractor that pulls the 12-foot scraper has been at Lassiter being repaired but is also running now. Mr. Fountain said the Road Department will began pulling ditches. The side arm mower is in Macon at Flint with an injector being repaired. Mr. Fountain asked the Board to consider using $50,000.00 of the 2021 LMIG funds for some pothole patching. Mr. Fountain also suggested using the LMIG funds for Connell Land and a portion of Petross Road. Mr. Fountain reported a bridge culvert on Old River Road North is collapsing but says he can repair it with concrete for about $10,000.00. Other culverts in the county are also being inspected.

The Board reviewed the work orders and project list and financial reports.

The Board reviewed the financial reports.

Under Old Business, Sheriff Doug Maybin read the following memorandum and requested it be included in the minutes of the meeting:
“In reference to Commissioner Palmer’s concerns regarding the ISO Survey made at the March 9, 2020 Commissioner’s meeting, I would like to respond by reporting to the Commission Board that the data was collected and the survey completed on March 10, 2020. With the assistance of my staff, I compiled and completed the survey and personally emailed the information to Ms. Pamela Ainsworth, Community Hazard Mitigation Field Representative. On Thursday morning, March 12, 2020 I spoke with Ms. Ainsworth via telephone and confirmed receipt of the email and that all information needed was contained. Ms. Ainsworth advised that she had received the report and assured me that all information needed to complete her inspections was submitted. Again, I am requesting this response to be read into the meeting minutes, as well as Ms. Ainsworth’s confirmation of receipt of all data needed to complete her inspections. It should therefore be noted that the ISO ratings WILL NOT be increased, and home insurance premiums WILL NOT automatically be doubled for lack of information as was previously stated by Commissioner Palmer at the March 9, 2020 Commission Board Meeting.”

Commissioner Palmer stated that he would donate some of his land for a fire station.

Under New Business, before discussing appointing a member to the Library Board, Commissioner Chad Kenney recused himself from participating in the discussion because the only person to apply was his wife, Jean Kenney. Commissioner Palmer made a request to say that we do not have any applicants because the one applicant we have is not suitable for the job in his opinion. Commissioner Palmer had given the Commissioners a printout of a formal complaint against the person applying for the position and requested to run the ad for the position in the paper for another month. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to advertise the position again and not take this application. Motion died due to lack of a second. Commissioner Williamson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to adopt the Resolution (Res. No. 20-05-04) appointing the only applicant, Jean Kenney to the Montgomery County Library Board. Commissioners Adams, Thomas, and Williamson voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Palmer voted against the motion. Commissioner Kenney abstained. Motion carried.

The Board received only one application for the Department of Family and Children Services Board appointment to fulfill the unexpired term of Gwen Rivers, who has resigned. Commissioner Thomas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Williamson to adopt the Resolution (Res. No. 20-05-05) appointing Evelyn Carpenter to the Department of Family and Children Services Board. Commissioners Adams, Kenney, Thomas, and Williamson voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Palmer voted against the motion. Commissioner Kenney abstained. Motion carried.

On a motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Thomas the Board agreed to accept the Middle Georgia Mental Health Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Thomas the Board agreed to accept the Heart of Georgia Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging Contract Amendment # 3. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Commissioner Kenney, seconded by Commissioner Williamson the Board accepted the Middle Georgia Probation Contract for the Magistrate Court. Motion carried unanimously.
The Board reviewed a quote for repairs on the Tax Commissioner’s Office from All-Pro Seamless Gutters & More for $1,200.00 to change out the ceiling tiles. Georgia Power was asked to inspect the building for recommendations on keeping the Tax Commissioner’s Office cool when the outside temperatures rise. Due to COVID 19, Georgia Power is not sending out any employees. A quote from Gordian was previously received for insulation work for $6,730.19. On a motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Williamson the Board agreed to accept the quote from All-Pro for $1,200.00. Commissioners Adams, Kenney, Thomas, and Williamson voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Palmer voted against the motion. Motion carried.

On a motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Kenney the Board accepted the right-of-way for the paving of Largo Drive.

The Secretary of State has provided funding through the Help America Vote Act to strengthen security for polling places. This grant can be used for security cameras for the Courthouse because the Courthouse is the early voting precinct. This grant will reimburse the County for 75% of the cost. The Board reviewed a quote from Walden Security for $12,900.00 and from Secure Georgia, Ind for $6,134.25. Secure Georgia also quoted $1,000.00 for installing railing on the front porch of the Courthouse. On a motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Thomas the Board accepted the quote from Secure Georgia for a total of $7,134.25 for a security camera system and railing for the Courthouse. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Williamson the Board agreed to complete the patching on Taylor Springs Road for $24,000.00 before it is resurfaced and to authorize the Chairman to approve the change order and amend the project list on the 2020 LMIG application. Motion carried unanimously.

Under Public Comments, Amie Vassey from Republic Services introduced herself and the services offered by Republic.

Ken Patel of Buzzy’s asked the Board to consider allowing the Sunday sales of beer and wine.

Under Commissioner Comments, the Board agreed to have a special called meeting on the health insurance and Sunday Sale of alcohol on May 21st at 5:30 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm on a motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.
The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners held a special called meeting on Thursday, May 29, 2020 at 5:30 pm at the Adult Literacy Center. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss employee’s health insurance, alcohol sales, request to accept county road from Gina Foster, Gordon Foster and Mickey Moore, and the tax office building repairs.

Members present were Leland Adams, Chad Kenney, Greg Palmer, Clarence Thomas, and Tim Williamson.

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order.

Chairman Adams turned floor over to Josh Bean from Partners Benefit Group Insurance Company. Mr. Bean reviewed health insurance plans for the county employees. On a motion by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Kenney the Board agreed to accept a quote from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia. This plan has a $6,500 deductible and the monthly premium will be $661 per employee per month. The $1,500.00 County paid deductible was increased to $2,000.00 which includes the $300.00 brand name drug deductible. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed placing Sunday sale of beer and wine on the November 2020 election ballot. Commissioner Thomas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams to place the Sunday sales of beer and wine on the November 2020 election ballot. Commissioners Adams, Kenney, and Palmer voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Thomas and Williamson voted against the motion. Motion carried.

The Board took no action at this time on a request from Gina Foster, Gordon Foster, and Mickey Moore to accept a private dirt road into the County’s road system.

The Commissioners discussed repairing and correcting the insulation problem at the Tax Commissioner’s Office on South Richardson Street in Mount Vernon. There was a quote submitted and approved from All-Pro Seamless Gutters & More LLC during the May 11th meeting. Prior to proceeding with those repairs, it was discovered the scope of work was not communicated clearly between the County and the business. Commissioner Palmer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kenney to seek additional quotes. Commissioners Adams, Kenney and Palmer voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Thomas and Williamson voted against the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm on a motion by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Williamson. Motion carried unanimously.