

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MARION COUNTY, GEORGIA
VIA VIDEO and TELECONFERENCE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS
April 29, 2020 – 5:00 PM

PRESENT: Those present on the video call (ZOOM meeting ID 932 9994 5931) were Chairman George Neal, Commissioner Steve Young, Commissioner Jody Grimsley, Commissioner Matthew Gunnels, Commissioner Norman Royal, County Manager Justin Strickland and County Clerk Sylvia Russell. City of Buena Vista Mayor Kevin Brown also joined the call based on the City’s shared interest in SPLOST funding.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Neal called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and asked for opening comments. County Manager Strickland mentioned the automated fuel pump tracking system has been installed and all users will convert to the new system on May 1, 2020.

DISCUSSION

- a. SPLOST III Referendum (later determined to be SPLOST VI).

County Manager Strickland introduced the topic of issuing a referendum to place Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) on the ballot for the general election in November 2020. This will be the sixth iteration of the tax for Marion County. County Manager Strickland pointed out the next couple of years are expected to have reduced income due to the economic downfall during the COVID-19 pandemic. He reviewed five options for the allocation of SPLOST VI Funds and recommended Option 2, which allows for a carryover of our current agreement to share 35% of this tax revenue with the City of Buena Vista and modifies allocations as follows:

Roads, Streets, Bridges	\$171,430.00	11%	
Water and Sewer	\$623,375.00	40%	
Emergency Medical Services	\$300,000.00	19%	
Public Safety	\$338,960.00	22%	
Public Buildings	\$124,675.00	8%	100%
County Total	\$1,558,440.00	65.00%	
Municipal Total	\$839,160.00	35.00%	
Total	\$2,397,600.00	100.00%	

Commissioners Young, Gunnels, and Royal liked option 2, specifically the update of project distribution. Commissioner Grimsley also liked option 2 and asked why distribution to water and sewer is still high. Chairman Neal and Commissioner Young pointed out there are pending maintenance needs for tanks and water facilities. The Commission asked County Manager Strickland to further analyze Option 2 with water system needs in mind.

County Manager Strickland asked Mayor Kevin Brown to review and prepare project lists for the city in anticipation of a joint resolution.

The Commission will vote on a final resolution after all framework is established.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Royal made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:26 PM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grimsley and the motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

Chairman George Neal, Jr.

Sylvia Russell, County Clerk