

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2010, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #2, 214 W. KING STREET**

THE CHAIRMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG  
ROLL CALL TO DETERMINE QUORUM

**The following members were present:**

Mike Babb, Chairman  
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman  
Greg Jones, Member  
Randy Waskul, Member  
Mike Cowan, Member

**Others Present:**

Citizens  
Robert McLeod, County Administrator  
Robert Smalley, County Attorney  
Dept Heads  
Press

**A Motion to approve the agenda with the exception of one change was made by Chairman Babb and seconded by Commissioner Brooker. Item #1 on Consent Agenda #2 “Fair Weather Work Schedule” was omitted from the agenda. Approval of the amended agenda was unanimous.**

**Ms. Jean Garland was presented the Employee of the Month Certificate for January, 2010. Ms. Garland is employed in the Planning Office.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Waskul to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2009. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Waskul, Jones, Brooker, and Cowan in agreement.

**CONSENT AGENDA #1:**

1. **Georgia Work Ready Program:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Cowan to formally sign the “Work Ready Business Commitment Form.” During the 2009 Chamber of Commerce presentation of the Work Ready Program, the Board of Commissioners agreed to join the Work Ready Program Initiative. The “Work Ready Business Commitment Form” is a follow up to that agreement. The Georgia Work Ready Program was created to ensure that Georgia's workers have the best skills, easy access to training and more job opportunities. Workers complete an online examination and receive a Work Ready Certificate, which assesses the real world skills of a worker. Georgians can use their Work Ready Certificate to prove their work readiness to potential employers. Georgia also offers gap training aimed at helping to improve Certificate scores, enabling career growth and continued success. The Work Ready Program also involves a job profiling process that identifies the exact skills required for specific jobs is helping create the perfect match between Georgia workers and jobs. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “A”)**
2. **Reappointment of Commissioner Randy Waskul to the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center Board:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Cowan to reappoint Commissioner Waskul to the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center Board. Commissioner Waskul was reappointed for a two-year term expiring

on January 31, 2012. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

3. **Reappointment of Dan Rogers to the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center Board:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to reappoint Dan Rogers to the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center Board for a two year term. Beforehand, Mr. Rogers had been filling in the term of a previous member. His new term will expire on January 31, 2012. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
4. **Plateau Excavation Contract Change Order:** Motion was made by Commissioner Cowan and seconded by Commissioner Waskul to approve change orders to the Plateau Excavation Contract. The change orders are for the amount of \$18,829.37, bringing the new contract total to \$1,145,610.46. Prior to discussion, the Whitfield County Engineer Kent Benson, established that the new change orders would be additions to the original contract with Plateau Excavation. The extraordinary rainfall experienced by Whitfield County since late September caused extensive damage to the erosion control devices on the site. Two stop-work orders were issued, but no fines were accrued. As required by law, the site's erosion control plan was amended to provide extra protection from sediment leaving the site. The design engineer, American Consulting Professionals, specified the changes. The change orders reflect charges for labor and materials to install the added erosion control measures. This was the second time this motion was presented to the Board. The first time was on February 15, 2010, and the motion failed 3-2 due to questions involving rate of pay for Plateau Excavation employees. This issue was addressed by Mr. Benson allowing Plateau Excavation to review their labor pay rates versus Whitfield County's labor pay rates. After seeing the disparities between the two, Plateau Excavation offered to lower their rates by \$10.00 an hour. This amount reduced the Contract Change Order by \$1,165.00. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "B")**
5. **Muse Road – Formal Acceptance of Right of Way:** Motion was made by Commissioner Cowan and seconded by Commissioner Brooker for formal acceptance of the Right-Of-Way Deed for Muse Road. Prior to discussion, Mr. Smalley asserted that this Deed is designed to make sure that the Right-Of-Way matches the specifics of the Road Way for Muse Road that was constructed by Whitfield County in 2002. This motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "C")**
5. **Parks & Recreation Mowing Bid/Contract for 2010-2013:** Motion was made by Commissioner Cowan and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to bring the Parks & Recreation mowing contracts in house. This will allow the Parks & Recreation Department the flexibility to adjust the scheduling of maintenance to fit any situation that may arise and will save Whitfield County money. This motion was suggested after calculating estimated yearly operational costs for the county for four years versus an estimated contracted cost for four years. The estimated in house cost was \$135,084.00 for four years, which was \$29,216.00 lower than the estimated contracted cost for four years. This motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Cowan, Jones and Waskul in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "D")**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion was made by Commissioner Cowan and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to enter into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition. The motion carried, 4-0. No action was taken in reference to the land acquisition. Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to go out of Executive Session. The motion carried, 4-0.

**ADJOURN:** Unanimous

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MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN  
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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SAMANTHA BEARDEN, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /