

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 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
(Absent)

Others Present:

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

A Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Waskul. Approval of the agenda was unanimous.

Ms. Nancy Casteel was presented the Employee of the Month certificate for November, 2009. Ms. Casteel is employed in the Superior Court.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Malt Beverage License - Value Fresh Market:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the Malt Beverage License for Value Fresh Market. Chairman Babb declared the board into a public hearing for the purpose to hear comments. Hearing no comments, the hearing was closed. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

CONSENT AGENDA #1:

1. **Financial Statement for November, 2009:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded Commissioner Jones to approve the Financial Statement for November 2009. During the discussion Financial Officer Ron Hale commented that the November spending was in line with previous months as expected. He added that he wanted to forewarn the board that he noted a marked increase in expenditures in December as people used year-end remaining funds, and was higher than he had expected. Chairman Babb asked if Mr. Hale thought it was due to the "use it or lose if mentality, and Mr. Hale agreed. Mr. Hale further stated that rather than seeing those remaining funds as the reason the furloughs could be postponed and the longevity pay was awarded, many saw them as available funds. The motion was approved 3-0 with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
2. **Contract for Public Defender FY2010:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the 2010 Public Defender Contract. In discussion in review of the contact from 2009 the cost is down from the 2009 contract. In addition, we will recap funds totaling around \$29,000 in February due to personnel

losses during the year. Murray County has committed to reimbursing us for 30% of the total contract, or \$215,000. The total contract is for \$717,136.61. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

3. **Contract for Superior Court Interpreter FY2010:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Waskul to approve the Superior Court Interpreter Contract with Kevin Williams in the amount of \$67,200 FY2010. This is an annual contract, expiring in December of the calendar year. The motion was approved 3-0 with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
4. **Nominations to Historic Preservation Commission:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the appointments of Dr. James Burran and Mr. Joe Sheppard to the Historical Preservation Commission to succeed Mr. Marvin Sowder and Ms. Judy Alderman, who have both completed their second term on the Commission. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
5. **Nomination for Whitfield County seat on Region 1 EMS Council:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the nomination of Mr. Rick Cobb to the Region 1 seat of the EMS Council. The seat became vacant when Mr. Matthew Crumpton resigned the seat recently due relocation to different county. Whitfield County EMS Director, Jeffrey Putnam nominated Mr. Cobb as Mr. Crumpton's replacement. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
6. **Nomination for EMS Quality Review Committee:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the appointment of Mr. Terry Craft to the EMS Quality Review Committee. Commissioner Waskul nominated Mr. Craft to serve on the committee while EMA Director, Jeffrey Putnam also recommended the appointment for a one year term. Mr. Craft an employee of Mohawk, Corporate Safety is very involved with emergency preparedness, safety and safety training. The motion was approve 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

CONSENT AGENDA #2:

1. **Candidate Filing Fees for the 2010 Elections:** Motion was made Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the Filing Fees for the 2010 Elections. As documented in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) 12-2-131, the Board of Commissioners is required to fix the qualifying fees for the 2010 elections prior to February 1st. Offices up for election in 2010 are:

Whitfield County Board of Commissioners	Qualifying Fee
• Commissioner District 1	\$270
• Commissioner District 3	\$270
Whitfield County Board of Education	
• Board of Education, District at Large	\$18

- Board of Education, District 2 \$18
- Board of Education, District 4 \$18

Fees are based on state guidelines which are 3% of the salary paid for the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Education is not paid a salary but is paid a 'per-diem' of \$50 for each meeting attended. The fee is calculated by multiplying the \$50 by 12 (one meeting per month) and then taking 3% of that total. The motion was approved 3-0 with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

2. **Mobile Command Vehicle Satellite Communications System:** Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the bid submitted by Indyne Mobile Internet of Conyers, GA totaling \$12,180.00. The VSaT Mobile Command System for Counties is an enhancement related to the communications system currently in use by the E-911 mobile command vehicle. The service assures satellite internet and phone connectivity and will replace the majority of wireless internet cards and cell phones currently being used. The first year of internet service is included and the first 3 years of VoIP phone service is included for an initial savings of \$4,017 (one year of service on 4 wireless aircards and 4 cellular lines). The project is 100% funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Mobile Command Vehicle is a service to our county while it also serves as a regional asset. Commissioner Brooker expressed concern that the vehicle is currently located at the E-911 Communications site; in the event of an explosion at the center location, both command centers would be gone. Mr. Jeffrey Putnam, EMA Director, advised that the Mobile Command Vehicle location has changed to the Dalton City Fire Station #5 off the by-pass. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

3. **Rural Transit Contracts with GDOT for 2010:** Motion was made Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to accept the contract with GDOT for the Rural Transit. This is a renewal of the standard contract making us a sub-recipient of the GDOT contract with the FTA to provide Transit services for Whitfield County. Under the program, Whitfield Transit will be reimbursed for 50% of the operating costs and up to 95% of capital costs, such as new buses. The period covered is from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. We have been operating under these conditions for over *Vi* year with no reimbursement. County attorney, Mr. Robert Smalley, reviewed the contract and agrees it is a standard contract. Financial Director, Ron Hale reminded the board that 3 buses are scheduled for purchase FY 2010 which normally requires a local 'match'. This year the local match will be funded through the Stimulus fund (ARRA) The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act requiring zero dollars from the County budget. Commissioner Waskul recognized the Director and Transportation Department for taking on the challenges in bringing the transportation service program back under County control and shared comments heard personally from riders who think the program is better with ridership up from past years. The motion passed 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement

CONSENT AGENDA # 3

- 1. Consideration of Real Estate Option # 1, 2, 3:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve action by the Board for the first 3 (Three) items listed in Consent Agenda # 3 above for "**Option to Purchase**" **1. Option # 1,** Parcel # 13-136-11-000 earnest money equaling \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars) approximately-.77 acres owned by Acree Homes & Development with an overall purchase price of \$100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars). **2. Option # 2,** Parcel # 13-137-01-000, earnest money equaling \$49,000.00 (Forty Nine Thousand Dollars) approximately 151.04 acres currently owned by Acree Enterprises, LLLP for the purchase price of \$4,750,000.00 (Four Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars). **3. Option # 3,** Parcel # 13-152-22-000, acreage approximately 10.56 acres also Parcel # 13-152-23-000, acreage approximately 5.45 acres with total earnest money for both equaling the sum of \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to Ownbey Enterprises, Inc. with an overall price of \$400,000.00 (Four Hundred Thousand Dollars). The motion passed 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.
- 2. Consider Deed of Gift # 1 & Consider Deed of Gift # 2** - Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the acceptance of Deed of Gift # 1- Lot 1 Parcel # 11-231-03-000 for 11.84 acres also Lot 2 Parcel #11-231-03-000 for 3.58 acres know to the board as a part of the "Prater's Mill" properties. The motion passed 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comments were heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by Commissioner Waskul and seconded by Commissioner Jones to enter into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition. The motion carried, 3-0 with Commissioners Brooker, Jones and Waskul in agreement.

NOTE: Commissioners Babb, Brooker, Jones, and Waskul, and Robert McLeod - County Administrator, Robert Smalley - County Attorney and Sharon Chambers - County Clerk were present.



MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN

ADJOURN: Unanimous


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DATE **3/16/10**