

**MINUTES FOR THE WORK SESSION OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD MONDAY AUGUST 28, 2017, AT 5:10 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #1, 301 W.
CRAWFORD STREET**

WORK SESSION

The Chairman called the work session to order.

The following members were present:

R. Lynette Laughter, Chairman
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman
Barry W. Robbins, Member
Roger Crossen, Member
Greg Jones, Member

Others Present:

Robert Smalley, County Attorney
Department Heads
Citizens
Press

Work Session:

Chairman Laughter called the work session to order.

Randy Russel from VALIC presented the Board with information about their 457 plan services. Whitfield County currently has ACCG's GEBCorp for their retirement services. Russel asked the Board to consider the possibility of putting these services out for an RFP. Chairman Laughter noted that they will look into it sometime in the future.

EMA Director Claude Craig presented the Board with a resolution for the FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan. Craig noted that this plan needs to be updated and approved every five years. Craig will present the resolution at the September regular business meeting.

Chairman Laughter introduced interim Animal Shelter Director Dianne Franklin. Franklin presented the Board with the proposed fees for animal bite cases and owner reclaim fees. Franklin noted that the fees for a bite case will be \$10 a day. Per state law these animals need to be held for ten days. Franklin proposed the owner reclaim fee to be set at \$25.00.

Interim Animal Shelter Director Dianne Franklin noted that they have a 1991 Ford Truck that they would like to declare surplus and to be auctioned on Govdeals.com.

Information Technology Director Rick Lovelady informed the Board that the IT department has set up a website for the Animal Shelter.

Public Work Director Dewayne Hunt informed the Board that they have eight items to be declared surplus and to be auctioned on Govdeals.com.

Parks and Recreation Director Brian Chastain presented the Board with proposed room rental agreements for the Edwards Park Community Center.

Buildings and Grounds Director Gary Brown informed the Board that an air unit handler has gone out in the old section of the Courthouse. Brown noted that the unit was installed in 1986 and has to be replaced. Brown noted that it may be around \$80,000 to replace and install the unit.

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Engineering Director Kent Benson informed the Board that he has put out a request for qualifications (RFQ) for Right of Way Acquisition Services. Benson noted that Moreland Altobelli has done these services for the County since 2008.

GIS Coordinator Jess Hansen presented that Board with the 2018 Aerial Photography project. Hansen noted that the Georgia Mountain Regional Commission (GMRC) is collaborating with several counties on the 2018 aerial photography with Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR). Hansen further noted that the cost for the aerial photography with LiDAR including administration fees for GMRC will be around \$34,000 however, Dalton utilities and the City of Dalton could decide to partner with Whitfield County and the cost could be less. Hansen also spoke about the LiDAR part of the project, GMRC is applying for a grant funding with the USGS for LiDAR acquisition which could help offset the cost of the LiDAR. Hansen will present a commitment letter at the September regular business meeting.

Fire Chief Edward O'Brien updated the Board about Station 11. O'Brien noted that the bids for construction of the building will be going out on Friday, September 1, and a contract will hopefully be presented to the Board at the October regular meeting.

The work session was adjourned.

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /