

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING HELD

DECEMBER 8, 2008, AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 4:30 P.M. in the Main Courtroom of the White County Courthouse, Cleveland, Georgia. Present were: Chairman Chris R. Nonnemaker, Post 1 Commissioner Joe R. Campbell, Post 2 Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Alton Brown, HR Director Shanda Smallwood, and County Clerk Jean Welborn.

Chairman Nonnemaker called the meeting to order. After the pledge to the flag, Rev. Jeff Hutcheson brought the invocation.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, the minutes from the Regular Meeting held November 3, 2008, the Called Meeting of November 10, 2008, and Public Hearing of November 20, 2008 were unanimously adopted.

The Board of Commissioners presented Proclamations to:

- 1) Helen Adams;
- 2) Sharon Lee;
- 3) Shirley McDonald;
- 4) Rita Morgan; and
- 5) Bill Kelly.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, the following Consent Agenda Items were unanimously adopted:

- 1) Joint Resolution with the City of Cleveland, The City of Helen, and White County Board of Education updating the Local Emergency Management Agency Plan;
- 2) Application for the Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant, which will require a \$5,000 local in-kind match;
- 3) Purchase of two skid units for the Fire Department from the lowest bidder, Freedom Fire Equipment, for the total sum of \$22,500.00 to be paid from the fire fund;
- 4) Purchase of a replacement North repeater from Mobile Communications of Hall for the State Contract price of \$6,018.00.

Randall Townley of Pioneer Regional Educational Services Agency recognized County agencies for support of rural initiatives.

Faith Jones of Georgia Mountains RDC discussed the Digital Aerial Photography and Lidar proposed contract. Robert Hamrick and Chris Ernst were asked to meet with Ms. Jones concerning this and report back.

The Board of Commissioners received an update on possible increase in Hotel/Motel taxes from 5% to 8% as provided by O.C.G.A. Section 48-13-51(b). It was agreed that Tom O'Bryant, Rita Morgan and Judy Walker should work on a proposed plan and give their recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners received input from the citizens on the proposed Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance. It was agreed that certain changes would be made and that a Called Meeting should be held on December 15, 2008 to further consider the adoption of the Ordinance.

Attorney Don Ferguson stated that he represented Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Crumley who owned a subdivision that was located within the proposed right-of-way of the Cleveland By-Pass and within the area of the moratorium issued by White County approximately 10 years ago. Attorney Ferguson stated that the Crumleys had a contract with D.O.T. for D.O.T. to purchase the property; that as the Crumleys were going to the closing, they received a call from D.O.T. stating that the contract was cancelled and that the closing would not be held; that the Crumleys were asking the Board of Commissioners to either lift the moratorium or proceed with purchasing the lots that were under the D.O.T. contract.

Chairman Nonnemaker stated that D.O.T. was asking the County to hold off on making any changes until the spring priority list was developed. Mr. Ferguson stated that the Crumleys could not wait; that Mr. Crumley had been in poor health. The Board of Commissioners stated that the County Manager Alton Brown would contact D.O.T. and find out if there was money in an emergency fund in which to complete the purchase.

Mr. Ray Dyer stated that Mr. Westmoreland had agreed to donate ¼ acre to the Senior Citizens program for building expansion.

Dean Dyer mentioned the safety issue of the lack of lights on the front of the courthouse. The Board of Commissioners stated that they would look into this.

It was stated that the regular work session of December 29, 2008 was cancelled due to the Christmas Holidays.

The next regular meeting was set for Monday, January 5, 2009, at 4:30 P.M.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, the meeting was adjourned.

Chris R. Nonnemaker, Chairman

Joe R. Campbell, Post 1

Craig Bryant, Post 2

Jean Welborn, County Clerk