

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES FROM CALLED MEETING OF JUNE 30, 2008, AT 9:45 A.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners met in a Called session at 9:45 A.M. in the Grand Jury Room 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, Chief Financial Officer Vickie Neikirk, and County Clerk Jean Welborn.

Chairman Nonnemaker called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Bryant stated that none of the Board of Commissioners was in favor of a tax increase; that they did not have a lot of choices. Commissioner Bryant asked Chairman Nonnemaker what his suggestion would be to avoid a tax increase. Chairman Nonnemaker stated that they had had a balanced budget; however, they had cut the departments to bare bones. Vickie Neikirk stated that in that particular proposed budget, all reserves had been used and the contingency had been cut down to \$200,000. Chairman Nonnemaker stated that they could bring the contingency back up from \$200,000 to \$500,000 by cutting all capital expenses (\$150,000), giving 2% raises instead of 3% raises (a savings of \$80,000), and looking at fee structures for building inspections and park and recreation fees (estimated at about \$80,000 more). Chairman Nonnemaker stated that it was such a hard time and that none of the Board of Commissioners wanted to raise taxes. Commissioner Bryant stated that if they could find a way without cutting the Sheriff's budget, he would be for it; that he did not want the Sheriff's fleet of vehicles to be depleted like it had been in the past; that he felt like they would be backing up if they took it away.

Commissioner Campbell stated that he felt that an increase in fees at the Park and Recreation Department would be like another tax increase for the citizens; that he felt that recreation for the kids was one of the best investments that the county had. Commissioner Campbell stated that it was the same with the building fees; that they could increase the fees for permits; however, he felt that it would hurt the economy in our county and that it would be an additional tax. Commissioner Campbell stated that they had cut as much of the budget that they could without cutting positions; that they would have to cut over 20 full-time employees at an average of \$22,000 per year to balance the budget without a tax increase.

Sheriff Walden stated that a lot of the increase in the budget was for inmate costs; that he had to enforce the law in the county; that crime would go up in difficult economic times; that he could not operate if he did not have money to operate with.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, the following Resolution adopting budgets for White County for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 was adopted, with Commissioner Bryant and Commissioner Campbell voting for the budget and Chairman Nonnemaker voting against:

“WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-19

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Budgets for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009 have been prepared and submitted to the Governing Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of White County has studied and revised the proposed budgets; and it is considered in the best interest of White County to adopt them;

Minutes from Called Meeting held June 30, 2008, Continued

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of White County that the budgets attached hereto for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009 are approved.

This 30th day of June, 2008.

s/Chris R. Nonnemaker

Chris R. Nonnemaker, Chairman

s/Joe R. Campbell

Joe R. Campbell, Post 1

s/Craig Bryant

Craig Bryant, Post 2

ATTEST:

s/Jean Welborn

Jean Welborn, County Clerk

Minutes from Called Meeting held June 30, 2008, Continued

Upon motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, the meeting was adjourned to a work session.

Chris R. Nonnemaker, Chairman

Joe R. Campbell, Post 1

Craig Bryant, Post 2

Jean Welborn, County Clerk