

## **WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **MINUTES OF THE COMBINED WORK SESSION & CALLED MEETING HELD**

**MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018 AT 4:30 P.M.**

The White County Board of Commissioners held a combined Work Session & Called Meeting on Monday, March 26, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Jodi Ligon, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Following the pledge of allegiance, Ms. Cheryl Kennedy with The Bridge Church and the White County Ministerial Alliance provided the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to adopt the minutes February 26, 2018 Work Session & Called Meeting – including Executive Session Minutes.

Mr. Ryan Foote, U.S. Forest Service District Ranger, provided an update to the Board on current and future Forest Service projects in White County. He emphasized the financial limitations for the U.S. Forest Service – but stated that current priorities were access and recreation. He also thanked the county for the emergency service resources provided on a regular basis within the forest service areas.

Mr. Kevin Hamby, SPLOST Manager, presented the monthly SPLOST status report and information on the 2020 SPLOST process (see attached presentation).

Commissioner Goodger stated the he would like to see a placeholder on the 2020 SPLOST project list for a library. Mr. Hamby stated that a library facility could go under the “administration” section. Chairman Turner spoke about the changing concept of library facilities as it relates to technology. He also stated that if an intergovernmental agreement can be reached with the county and cities, the SPLOST would be for a six (6) year term.

Mr. John Sell, Director of Community & Economic Development, presented the land use reclassification application filed by Key GA Properties, LLC to redistrict property located at 557 Hwy 356 Helen, GA from R1 (Residential Single Family) to R3 (Residential Seasonal). This application was for Tax Map and Parcel H02D-005 and H02D-005A with total acreage of 19.32. Mr. Sell stated that the applicant planned to construct 17 treehouse type structures for vacation rentals. He noted that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the request and recommended the Board of Commissioners approve the application.

Mr. Harvey Cohen of Key GA Properties, LLC represented the application. He affirmed that the combined parcels would have 17 rental properties – these would not be permanent residences.

He addressed questions regarding access, noting that the Georgia Department of Transportation would issue specifications for the access off Hwy 356 and the access throughout the property would be to county specifications. Mr. Sell stated that the project was still due to go through a full plan review in order to address any details of the project once appropriate zoning was approved.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for any comments in support of the land use reclassification application filed by Key GA Properties, LLC to redistrict property located at 557 Hwy 356 Helen, GA from R1 (Residential Single Family) to R3 (Residential Seasonal). Following three (3) calls for any comments in support, there were no comments issued, and the floor was closed.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for any comments in opposition of the land use reclassification application filed by Key GA Properties, LLC to redistrict property located at 557 Hwy 356 Helen, GA from R1 (Residential Single Family) to R3 (Residential Seasonal). Following three (3) calls for any comments in opposition, there were no comments issued, and the floor was closed.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the land use reclassification application filed by Key GA Properties, LLC to redistrict property located at 557 Hwy 356 Helen, GA from R1 (Residential Single Family) to R3 (Residential Seasonal).

Chairman Turner presented a request received from the City of Cleveland for the county's financial participation in the cost associated with replacing the existing 8" water line with a 12" water line from the water tower on Albert Reid Road, along Hulsey Road, to the intersection of Hulsey Road and Helen Hwy. He stated that this would increase capacity along the Phase 3 Appalachian Parkway, as well as provide the county's largest private employer, Freudenberg, with the water capacity they needed. Mr. Melton stated that he felt this would be a positive opportunity for the county to participate in. Mr. Tom O'Bryant, Cleveland City Administrator, stated that the total project cost was estimated to be \$540,000.00 and the City was applying for an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant to cover 50% of the project costs. He emphasized that the upgrades would be coordinated with the construction of Phase 3 of the Appalachian Parkway. Mr. O'Bryant stated the ARC assured that funds would be awarded prior to the end of 2018. Chairman Turner stated that the monetary contribution request from the City was \$100,000.00. Commissioner Nix expressed his concerns regarding the county funds previously invested in utility lines along Hulsey Road to support the White County Detention Center and additional funds (federal, state, local) being spent to upgrade and relocate utility lines again within eight (8) years. Mr. O'Bryant confirmed that all aspects of the project were being coordinated through the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to contribute up to \$100,000.00 to the City of Cleveland for the Hulsey Road (Phase 3) water line upgrade – with funding to come from excess funds in the SPLOST Debt Service Account.

Mr. O'Bryant expressed the Cleveland City Council's appreciation for the County's participation in the project as well as the importance of this project within construction of Phase 3 of the Parkway to the City of Cleveland.

Mr. David Murphy, Director of Public Safety, asked the Board's approval to begin the selection and evaluation process for replacement of the 911 phone system – which would be a several month process. He reviewed that the current system was installed in 2007 and the company had long been out of business. He noted that a former employee of the company was maintaining the current system which is getting less and less stable. Mr. Murphy stated that \$260,000.00 has been designated in the 2014 SPLOST for this project and that all of the surrounding counties had already replaced their system. He explained that a new system would increase the technology and would be able to be well serviced under a contract, as the current server being utilized is the oldest server equipment in operation for the County.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve for the selection and review process for replacement of the 911 phone system to begin.

Mr. Murphy presented a grant award for consideration of acceptance. The grant was for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update which is required to occur every five (5) years. He explained that the grant was \$12,000.00 (federal \$9,000.00, state \$1,200.00, and local \$1,800.00).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to accept the Hazard Mitigation Grant in the amount \$12,000.00.

Mr. Melton advised the Board that all easements had been obtained on Shepherd Drive other than one from a vacant property owner who declined to provide an easement. He stated that the one (1) easement not provided could be worked around. Chairman Turner explained that Shepherd Drive is a private road that now connects Phase 2 of the Appalachian Parkway to Claude Sims Road. He noted that the GDOT contractor utilized the road extensively during construction of the Parkway, now the road is in disrepair and the road is also being used as a connector. Commissioner Nix expressed his concern related to having to relocate power poles and the cost associated with that (\$48,000.00).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to table the consideration of accepting Shepherd Drive into the county road inventory.

Mr. Dave Cangemi, Director of Public Works, presented a surplus resolution to the Board for an asphalt distributor truck which was no longer in use. He stated that Stephens County Board of Commissioners had offered to purchase the truck and associated equipment for \$70,000.00 – and he would like to use those funds to purchase other needed equipment. He proposed EMA's 2016 F150 being re-assigned to the Road Department, the purchase of a 2018 4x4 Chevrolet Tahoe in exchange to EMA in the amount of \$36,013 and the purchase of a 2019 4x4 F250 in the amount of \$27,095.84 for the Road Department. The Board expressed that it was difficult to consider the vehicle purchases as that information was not included in their agenda package.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to approve the following resolution (County Resolution No. 2018-08) and table the consideration of the vehicle purchases:

**WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-08**

**TO DECLARE CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNED BY WHITE COUNTY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF SAID PROPERTY BY SALE TO THE STEPHENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; AND TO AUTHORIZE A REPRESENTATIVE OF WHITE COUNTY TO EXECUTE ANY TITLE TRANSFERS AND BILLS OF SALE ON THE PROPERTY.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of White County have determined that certain County-owned property is surplus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of White County desires to dispose of said property through the direct sale to the Stephens County Board of Commissioners and to give public notice of said disposition;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of White County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same as follows:

-1-

The Board of Commissioners of White County hereby declares that the property described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference is surplus and shall be disposed of by the county through direct sale to the Stephens County Board of Commissioners. All surplus personal property will be sold "as is" and must be removed from county property by the purchaser within thirty (30) days from the adoption of this resolution.

-2-

The County Manager is hereby authorized to execute any title transfers and bills of sale to the successful bidders on the personal property.

**ADOPTED**, this 26th day of March, 2018.

**WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

s/Travis C. Turner

Travis C. Turner, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

s/Shanda Murphy

Shanda Murphy, County Clerk

**WHITE COUNTY - SURPLUS PROPERTY**

**TO BE SOLD "AS IS/WHERE IS"**

**-Exhibit A-**

**2007 Asphalt Distributor Truck  
(2007 International Truck – VIN 3HTWAAAN67N452742  
with 1900 Gallon LeeBoy Rosco Max II Distributor Body - S/N 49487)**

March 26, 2017 – Work Session & Called Meeting Minutes (continued)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve the White County Superior Court Misdemeanor Probation Contract with Northeast Georgia Services, Inc. for the 2018 calendar year.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a vote to re-appoint Mr. David Sills and Mr. Michael Mays to the White County Water Authority for a two-year term to expire June 30, 2020. Commissioner Nix recused himself from the vote due to his employment with the White County Water Authority. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote.

There was a consensus that the remainder of Board appointments due at or before mid-year would be advertised.

Chairman Turner expressed interest in bringing the White County Development Authority on board with some new projects – which he would be prepared to discuss in the near future.

Ms. Jodi Ligon, Finance Director, presented the monthly financial status report (see attached).

Mr. Melton informed that Board that he had received notice from the White County Sheriff's Office on 29 various fi fa's that had or would be going dominant – in the total amount of \$41,863.00. He asked for the Board's guidance on whether to renew these or not.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to renew the 29 various fi fa's as presented in the amount of \$41,863.00.

Mr. Melton presented information to the Board on the status of various 2018 SPLOST road projects. He stated that there had been issues on acquiring the necessary easements on Joe Franklin Road and Dandy Lane. He asked for direction on the projects for paving gravel roads (Henry Nix Road, Asa Dorsey Road, F.M. Road, and Dandy Lane) and resurfacing (Bonnie Peal Lane, Hawthorne Drive, Cedar Hollow Road, Sautee Woods Trail) designated by the Board at the October 30, 2017 meeting – which had not been approved by contract award. Mr. Melton also presented a recommendation on revised plans for the expenditure of the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) since the State had indicated (no documentation received as of yet) they would repair Town Creek Road Bridge through their bridge repair program.

There was a consensus that these projects would be discussed at the next meeting.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for public participation.

There were no comments submitted.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss real estate and personnel.

-See The Following Closed Meeting Affidavit-

March 26, 2017 – Work Session & Called Meeting Minutes (continued)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to exit Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of the March 26, 2018 Work Session & Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 30th day of April, 2018.

**WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

s/Travis C. Turner  
Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Terry D. Goodger  
Terry D. Goodger, District 1

s/Lyn Holcomb  
Lyn Holcomb, District 2

s/Edwin Nix  
Edwin Nix, District 3

s/Craig Bryant  
Craig Bryant, District 4

s/Shanda Murphy  
Shanda Murphy, County Clerk