WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2009 at 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 4:30 P.M. in the Main Courtroom of the White County Courthouse, Cleveland, Georgia. Present at the meeting were: Post 1 Commissioner Joe Campbell, Post 2 Commissioner Craig Bryant, Interim County Manager Jean Welborn, Chief Financial Officer Vickie Neikirk and County Clerk Shanda Smallwood. Chairman Travis Turner was not in attendance, and Commissioner Campbell, being Vice Chairman of the White County Board of Commissioners, presided over the meeting

Commissioner Campbell called the meeting to order. Following the pledge of allegiance, Pastor David Wright of the Cleveland Seventh Day Adventist Church & the White County Ministerial Alliance brought the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded Commissioner Campbell the minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 5, 2009, the called Meeting held October 15, 2009, the Called Meeting held October 22, 2009, the Called Meeting held October 26, 2009, and the Called Meeting held October 27, 2009 were unanimously adopted.

Upon presentation of proclamation November 19-25, 2009 was declared Farm City Week in White County, Sunday, November 1, 2009 was declared Retired Educators Day in White County, Tyler Dorsey was recognized for his achievement in being awarded Most Valuable Volunteer of the Year by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Downtown Association, a flag was presented to the White County Courthouse by Ms. Shirley McDonald on behalf of the Woodmen of the World, and White County was recognized for meeting the criteria to be designated as a Storm Ready County on behalf of the Georgia Emergency Management Association (GEMA) and the National Weather Service.

Commissioner Campbell explained that within the past several months there had been some problems with the operations of the White County Parks and Recreation Department and as the Board of Commissioners was evaluating the options for the management of the Recreation Department it had been communicated to the Board of Commissioners that the YMCA was looking to begin programs in the White County area. Commissioner Campbell further explained with White County needing a solution for the interim management of the Recreation Department and with the YMCA's expertise in managing such programs, the option of a ninety (90) day consulting agreement with the Georgia Mountain YMCA presented the Board of Commissioners the most desirable option in allowing them the opportunity to evaluate the management of this county department without making a hasty decision.

Commissioner Campbell stated the Board of Commissioners had received many calls from concerned citizens regarding this matter and there had been hysteria over this decision to enter into a ninety (90) day consulting agreement with the YMCA for interim management of the White County Parks and Recreation Department. Commissioner Campbell expressed the Board of Commissioners desire to do what would make White County proud, to not diminish the parks and recreation programs – however to enhance the current program. He stated on behalf of the Board of Commissioners they felt this could be accomplished by the joint efforts of White County and the Georgia Mountains YMCA; however this would be evaluated during this ninety (90) day interim time period.

Mr. Mike Brown, CEO of the Georgia Mountains YMCA, was introduced as the current Interim Manager of the White County Recreation Department.

Mr. Brown stated he had been contacted by many concerned citizens through calls, mails, and letters; therefore he wanted to take this opportunity to emphasize that the YMCA was not seeking to purchase land, acquire facilities, reduce staff, change names, or cancel programs. However, Mr. Brown explained the YMCA had been exploring opportunities in the White County Community during the last year and saw the interim management of the White County Recreation Department as a great opportunity to get involved in the community to see where

their resources could be used to enhance the programs already offered in White County. He explained this would be done by utilizing surveys, community meetings, and examining possible grant opportunities. Mr. Brown stated the YMCA was a sports and wellness based organization with a board range of offerings – which would include pricing and programs centered on the White County Community. At this time, Commissioner Campbell asked Mr. Brown to take any questions from the audience.

<u>Pam Knepp (Cleveland, GA)-</u> Ms. Knepp asked Mr. Brown if he had previous experience with taking over parks and recreation programs, if there would continue to be opportunities for community coaches, and if there would be additional opportunities for community input.

Mr. Brown replied he had been involved in similar transitions in other states. He explained that the Georgia Mountains YMCA has current partnership agreements with the City of Oakwood, Northeast Georgia Medical Center, and Gainesville Parks and Recreation. He explained in Hall County the YMCA filled a much different role due to the involvement of booster clubs and there being no competitive need within the county. However, he further explained he had experience in baseball, football, soccer, etc. with the YMCA. He again emphasized the YMCA was not looking to cancel existing programs, however to enhance current programs through providing needed equipment, training for coaches, additional space, and affordability. Mr. Brown said he would like to see a committee developed for each sport, which would help determine the needs of that particular program. He stated the YMCA does not pay coaches and relies on community volunteers to fill those roles. Mr. Brown said there would be a community website developed as well as community meetings to allow citizens to provide their input.

<u>David Harris (Cleveland, GA)-</u> Mr. Harris asked the Board of Commissioners if anyone had been writing grants for the Recreation Department and if there was a comparison available to determine how White County was funding parks and recreation as compared to other Georgia counties.

Commissioner Campbell stated that grants had not been written since the swimming pool was constructed and the statistics regarding funding were available through ACCG, based on population and White County was close to the top and in some cases exceeded the funding of recreational activities. He stated citizens would be contacted to assist on committees and in order to provide their input. Commissioner Campbell stated he would rather spend county funds on recreational programs instead of a new jail facility; however the Board of Commissioners had to be frugal in spending county funds and make sure the citizens were getting the best bang for their buck. He explained that the Board of Commissioners did not think the recreational funds were being expended in this manner and this has resulted in the necessity of making a change in this area for the good of the White County citizens.

<u>Unnamed Citizen</u> - He stated he was concerned that the Park and Recreation Advisory Board had no knowledge of and was not consulted on the agreement with the YMCA. He also asked what will happen to the Park and Recreation Board if the YMCA does assume management of the White County Recreation Department on a permanent basis.

Commissioner Campbell explained the decision to enter into the interim agreement with the YMCA was a quick decision based on monetary and personnel factors. He further explained this Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Commissioners and the members would be asked to serve on committees and to remain involved.

Commissioner Bryant emphasized the agreement with the Georgia Mountains YMCA was an interim agreement and the final decision regarding whether to pursue this further would have to be determined at the end of this ninety (90) day period. He stated it would have to be proven to him that this was the best option available before he would support it. He said he would like to have a public input session before this was determined.

Commissioner Campbell closed the discussions regarding the details of the three (3) month consulting agreement with the Georgia Mountains YMCA for interim management of the White County Parks and Recreation Department.

Commissioner Campbell presented the consent agenda. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell the consent agenda was unanimously approved containing the following items:

- Adopting a resolution (County Resolution Number 2009-34) approving a County Cell Phone Policy and the subsequent amendment to the White County Personnel Policy;
- Approved submitting a request for proposals (RFP) for banking services;
- Approving the Georgia Indigent Defense Services (Public Defender) Agreement, as approved on the FY 10 budget:
- Adopting a resolution (County Resolution Number 2009-30) revising the requirements for the renewal of the alcohol beverage license;
- Adopting a resolution (County Resolution Number 2009-31) approving a budget amendment for the FY 10 budget relative to the CHAMPS program administered by the White County Sheriff's Office; and
- Adopting a resolution (County Resolution Number 2009-32 & 2009-33) changing the signatories of White County accounts at the banking institutions.

-End of Consent Agenda-

Commissioner Bryant asked that considering the scheduling of interviews for upcoming board appointments for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Planning Commission, the Board of Health, and the Board of Assessors be postponed until the Thursday, November 5, 2009 Called Meeting.

Vickie Neikirk, Chief Financial Officer, presented the monthly financial report for the month of September 2009 (see attached report).

Beverly Long, Purchasing Manager, presented quotes for roof repairs at the Cleveland Library. She stated the roof was leaking as a result of hail damage and the property insurance was going to pay for these repairs. She stated the lowest estimate received for the roof repairs was \$22,800 and the gutters needed to be replaced as well – which would not be covered by insurance – and the lowest estimate for gutters was \$11,000, including the repair of gables. Ms. Long stated Chairman Turner indicated this could be handled as an emergency repair, which would not require the sealed bid process, therefore allowing the repairs to be done quickly since the roof is currently leaking profusely. Ms. Long stated she had received two (2) estimates for these repairs.

Commissioner Campbell and Commissioner Bryant agreed to table the issue of library roof repairs until the November 5, 2009 Called Meeting and for Ms. Long to continue to obtain additional estimates for the repairs.

During the citizen participation portion of the meeting the following comments were presented to the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Davis, with the White County Senior Center, announced the annual arts and crafts show at the Senior Center on November 21, 2009.

Mr. David Harris, of Blackstock Winery, asked the Board of Commissioners if the November 15, 2009 renewal date for the Alcohol License would be extended. Commissioner Campbell stated the ordinance which was adopted earlier in the meeting address the license holders' concern and the applications packet were ready for distribution – with the requirement of having a background check done being eliminated.

Ms. Diane West asked the Board of Commissioners if they had received any update from the EDP on the Mote's land application permit. She stated she had spoken with Dominic Weatherhill of the EPD and he stated that a decision would possibly be made within the next two weeks. Ms. West further explained, based on her conversation with Mr. Weatherhill that notices would be mailed to those who have sent in written comments to the EPD, as well as those who had participated in the public hearing.

Ms. West also asked for an update on the plans to construct a White County Animal Control Facility. Commissioner Campbell informed the land had been graded in preparation for construction and the County was working to get the actual building plans for the facility.

Sheriff Neal Walden commended the Board of Commissioner for their frugality with the county funds, however asked the reinstatement of the employee retirement contribution be considered. Both Commissioner Campbell and Commissioner Bryant stated this would be reviewed in December.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of the November 2, 2009 regular meeting are hereby approved as stated this the 7^{th} day of December, 2009.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

<u>s/Travis C. Turner</u> Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Joe Campbell
Joe Campbell, Post 1 Commissioner

s/Craig Bryant Craig Bryant, Post 2 Commissioner

<u>s/Shanda Smallwood</u> Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk

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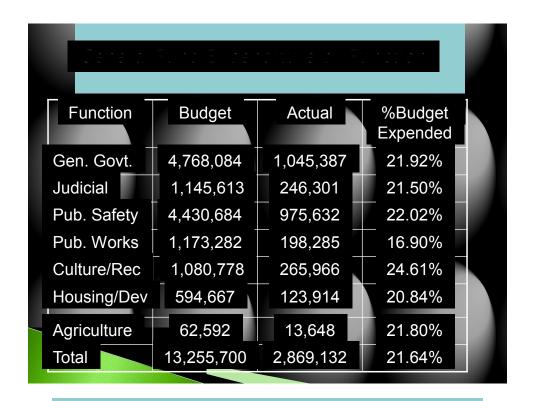
Financial Status Report September 2009

General Fund Revenues

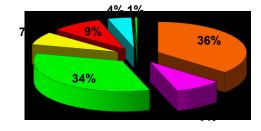
- ▶ Budgeted Revenues \$13,255,700
- Actual YTD \$ 1,518,006
- This is 11.455% of Budgeted Revenues for FY 2010

ALCOHOL RELATED FEES/TAXES

▶ Beer Tax (YTD) \$32,245.06



Use of Funds by Function







Hotel/Motel Tax

• September 2009 \$ 63,538.33

September 2008 \$ 38,564.48

S.P.L.O.S.T. Update

September receipt = \$411,972.85(record)

Distributed to Cities = \$189,507.52

County SPLOST Projects = \$222,465.33

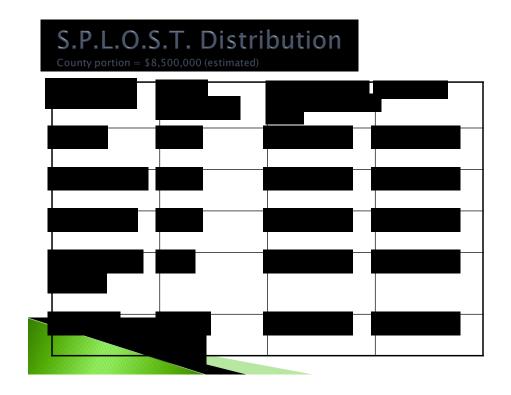
September 2008 receipt = \$372,456.38

New SPLOST COLLECTIONS Since Dec. 2004 \$15,297,059.71

• County portion =\$8,260,412.17 (54%)

▶ Distributed to cities =\$7,036,647.54 (23% each) September 2009 was the 58th. month of the 60 months of current SPLOST

Estimate to receive Approx \$15.8 million in total



Other Funds Budget to Actual

