

**WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING**

**HELD THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010 AT 8:30 A.M.**

The White County Board of Commissioners met for a Called Meeting on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 8:30 A.M. in the Board of Commissioners Office Conference Room at the White County Courthouse Cleveland, GA. Present at the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Joe Campbell, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Carol Jackson, Interim Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Smallwood.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to unseal the following Executive Session Meeting Minutes relative to land acquisition: June 16, 2009 (Project Abandoned), July 2, 2009 (Project Abandoned), January 19, 2010 (Project Abandoned), February 22, 2010 (Project Complete), March 9, 2010 (A Portion Unsealed - Project Complete), and March 29, 2010 (A Portion Unsealed – Project Complete).

The Board of Commissioners considered the appeal filed by Mr. Sherwin Loudermilk (current property owner) and Mr. Robert Troendly (buyer) regarding property located on lot 8 of Howell Mill Road in Misty Ridge Subdivision. The appeal was in reference to the fifteen (15) foot setback required in the White County Code – Appendix A (Subdivisions), Article 8 (Design Requirements for Blocks and Lots), Section 804 (Building Lines). Chief Building Inspector, Ringo McCollum, stated the site plan for the location which accompanied the Building Permit Application showed the proposed structure would meet the require fifteen (15) foot setback. However, he indicated that at some point during the construction the structure encroached on the required setback. Mr. Troendly was now trying to purchase the property, had a survey done of the property, and the setback violation was discovered. The property now contains a structure which is approximately 40% complete and needs to be completed to prevent disrepair. Chairman Turner noted the next door neighbor, Mr. Derek Smith, had written a letter to the Board of Commissioners stating he had no objection to the structure’s location and the appeal being granted. Mr. McCollum stated the main concern with most setback issues is potential fire hazard; however given the distance between the two (2) structures this did not present this type of hazard. Commissioner Campbell asked Mr. Troendly if he intended to complete the structure. Mr. Troendly stated this was definitely his intention. Commissioner Bryant asked if the erosion issues on the property had been addressed. Mr. McCollum stated he had met with Mr. Troendly and there was a plan in place to immediately address these issues. Commissioner Bryant stated he wanted to see these issues addressed and corrected immediately.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to grant the appeal to the White County Code Appendix A (Subdivisions), Article 8 (Design Requirements for Blocks and Lots), Section 804 (Building Lines) filed by Mr. Sherwin Loudermilk and Mr. Robert Troendly for lot 8 of Howell Mill Road in Misty Ridge Subdivision.

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Rich Gallagher, White County Recreation Department / YMCA Director, presented a to request to install a new heating and air conditioning system at the White County Recreation Department / YMCA gym. He stated the gym portion of the building had never been air conditioned and there were some serious issues with the heating system as well. Mr. Gallagher stated that revenues for summer programs would be down if air conditioning was not installed.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the White County Recreation Department / YMCA bid out the heating and air conditioning system for the entire Community Building (including the gym section) at the Asbestos Road Park, with this expense to be paid from Lodging Tax Revenues.

David Murphy, White County EMA / 911 Director, presented options for a tornado siren / warning system installation at the White County Recreation Department / YMCA Asbestos Road Park. He stated that he had evaluated a system which would include a tornado siren which would cover the surrounding community, as well as the addition of a directional signal device which would provide public announcement capabilities for the immediate park area. He further stated that a matching FEMA grant up to \$8,000.00 was available for the project. Mr. Murphy requested authorization to put this project out for bid and stated he would need to have the project details to the State by June 30, 2010. Carol Jackson stated the funds for the project could be taken from the Lodging Tax Revenues.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the bidding of the project as well as the fifty percent (50%) county match not to exceed of the total project cost.

White County Benefits Broker, Matt Bidwell with MSI Benefits Group, presented the Board of Commissioners with renewal options for the Employee Benefits Package for FY 11 – to be effective July 1, 2010. He stated that with White County's last annual renewal (October 2009) there was no increase due to plan changes which were made – taking the initial increase from six percent (6%) to zero percent (0%). Mr. Bidwell review the bids received on the plan (see meeting file) as well as three (3) possible options with Blue Cross Blue Shield. The options with Blue Cross Blue Shield included the 9.47% increase on the current plan (option #1), a 4.08% increase (option #2 which would share the cost increase between the County portion and employee premiums, while adding a \$1,000.00 HMO deductible plan holding current premiums), and a 0% increase of the County (option #3 which would pass along the entire increase in employee premiums being adjusted). Commissioner Campbell asked Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk / Director of Human Resources, for her recommendation. Ms. Smallwood stated that option #1 would be ideal if the FY 11 budget could support the increase to the County – however during the current economic times the best compromise would be option #2 which would share the cost increase between the employees and the county while providing an option for employees to maintain current premiums with the implementation of the HMO \$1,000.00 deductible plan. When asked, Matt Bidwell stated that a decision on the renewal would be needed by June 1, 2010 in order to conduct the open enrollment. Chairman Turner stated the issue would be addressed in an upcoming budget meetings once the Board of Commissioners had a chance to review the information presented.

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In presenting a status update on the FY 11 budget, Carol Jackson distributed a year to date revenue and expense report through May 12, 2010. In summary the general fund revenues were at 94.63% collected and expenditures were at 81.43% through May 12, 2010.

Ms. Jackson presented an overview of the general fund budget with revenues and expenditures balancing at \$13,594,456.00 – which included \$296,000.00 coming from the current unrestricted fund balance of \$3.5 million. However, she stated that she believed that once the Board of Commissioners provided some additional guidance the amount being used from fund balance could be decreased.

Chairman Turner stated the Board of Commissioners could not increase the millage rate for FY 11 and any necessary changes to the budget in order to achieve this would have to be made.

Ms. Jackson expressed her appreciation to the Elected Officials and Department Heads for their diligence in managing their departments' budgets. Chairman Turner stated the FY 11 budget would not include pay increases, although the Board of Commissioners would like to be able to present a pay increase for the employees outside of the current difficult economic times.

Ms. Jackson presented a history of the digest and millage, as well as a preliminary estimate for the FY 11 digest and a millage rate calculation based on the preliminary digest figures.

Commissioner Campbell suggested funds be earmarked for building maintenance and repairs – as current unexpected repairs are being paid out of contingency.

Chairman Turner suggested that once the Mauney Property was paid off in FY 11, he would like to see the funds previously paid toward that debt set aside in a facilities maintenance and repairs accounts. Commissioner Campbell stated that another source of revenue for unexpected expenses would be the Beer and Wine Tax.

Ms. Jackson stated the FY 11 contained the purchase of two (2) additional vehicles for the Sheriff's Office.

Chairman Turner suggested having the next meeting regarding the FY 11 budget status on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 8:30 A.M.

Commissioner Bryant and Commissioner Campbell agreed with the meeting date and time.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss personnel issues.

-See the Following Closed Meeting Affidavit-

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

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Following the Executive Session, with no additional business to discuss and upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the Called Meeting of May 13, 2010.

The minutes of the May 13, 2010 Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010.

**WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

s/Travis C. Turner

Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Joe R. Campbell

Joe R. Campbell, Post 1 Commissioner

s/Craig Bryant

Craig Bryant, Post 2 Commissioner

s/Shanda Smallwood

Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk