WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2010 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing on Monday, June 21, 2010 at 4:30 P.M. in the Grand Jury Room of the White County Courthouse Cleveland, GA. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive public comment on the proposed budgets for White County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010. Present at the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Post 1 Commissioner Joe Campbell, Post 2 Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Carol Jackson, Interim Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Smallwood.

Chairman Turner called the Public Hearing to order.

Carol Jackson, County Manager, presented the proposed budget. The proposed budget was balanced with a \$13,513,319.00 General Fund, \$5,016,683.02 other funds – for a total balance budget of \$18,530,002.02.

Chris Nonnemaker asked for clarification regarding the \$29,300.00 revenue projection for Animal Control. Ms. Jackson explained this revenue was derived from adoption fees and donations.

Mr. Nonnemaker asked if, in the contracts with the Georgia Mountains YMCA which were effective July 1, 2010, the revenues collected for program participation went to the County or to the YMCA. Ms. Jackson explained the revenues collected went to the YMCA to offset the expense of program participation.

Mr. Nonnemaker asked if the \$70,000.00 expense listed in the Road Department's Budget for the purchase of a new tractor was all inclusive or if there would need to be additional parts purchased in order to utilize the tractor for mowing. Ms. Jackson stated this cost was all inclusive.

Ms. Jackson stated she had researched Mr. Nonnemaker's question regarding the purpose of the Jail Fund listed in the proposed budget. She stated this included the revenue and expense associated with fines and fees received and restricted for jail operation costs.

Mr. Nonnemaker asked if the Board of Commissioners had considered disbanding the Planning Commission in light of the reduced number of variances requested each month during the current economic downturn – which would result in savings to the \$5,000.00 per year expense for the stipend paid to the Planning Commission.

Chairman Turner stated he would not consider this, as the Board of Commissioners wants to make an expedient response available to citizens requesting a variance.

Commissioner Bryant stated if the Planning Commission did not have items for their agenda – they did not convene, therefore there was not an expense unless it was necessary for the Planning Commission to

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meet. Commissioner Campbell stated he agreed and did not see any benefit in disbanding the Planning Commission.

John Jordan asked for explanation as to the reason mobile home taxes collected year to date were at \$239,066.99 and the proposed budget reflected \$80,000.00 in projected revenue for 2010-2011. The Board of Commissioners asked Cindy Cannon, Tax Commissioner, to address the question. Ms. Cannon stated the \$239,066.99 was incorrect and due to a keypunch error – that this had been corrected by moving the excess funds to the correct revenue item of current year property tax.

John Jordan stated that in the Board of Commissioners Office budget – the travel expense had increased from \$37,000.00 to \$55,000.00. Ms. Jackson stated with two additional commission seats being added in January there was a need to budget for additional travel expenses including training required for new commissioners. Chairman Turner stated the current Board had not done a great deal of travel and attending continuing education classes due to the Board's desire to be frugal with funds; however the Board wanted to insure the funds were available if needed.

Mr. Jordan asked what the total increase in health insurance premiums was in the proposed budget. Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk / Director of Human Resources stated the County's portion of the increase was approximately \$50,000.00.

Mr. Jordan asked for further explanation in the increase of recording fees in the Clerk of Court's budget. Ms. Jackson stated this was due to increase filings from repossessions, refinances, and foreclosures; as well as state legislation recently passed which increased filing fees.

With no further public comment and upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the Public Hearing and enter into a Called Meeting.

The minutes of the June 21, 2010 Public Hearing are hereby approved as stated this the 2nd day of August, 2010.

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

s/Shanda Smallwood Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk