

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING

HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2011 AT 8:30 A.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Called Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Office Conference Room. The purpose of the Called Meeting was to consider entering into Executive Session in order to discuss real estate and personnel. Present at the Called Meeting were Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Carol Jackson, and County Clerk Shanda Smallwood.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order and asked EMA / E911 Director David Murphy to provide an update as to the state of the County following the storms which had affected the area during the prior evening.

Mr. Murphy indicated that White County had much less damage than many of the western counties. He stated that some storm damage had been reported in the northern most portions of the county and there had been no reports of injury due to the severe weather. Chairman Turner complimented the White County Emergency Operations Staff – E911, Sheriff’s Office, and Fire Department for their work during times of severe weather.

Commissioner Bryant said he had spoken with representatives of the White County Department of Family & Children’s Services (DFACS) yesterday regarding the notification which had been issued to them relative to the relocation of the DFACS Offices from the Mauney Building as of June 30, 2011. He stated that since the Board of Commissioners had not decided the means by which the renovations necessary to relocate the County Administrative Offices to the Mauney Building would be funded – that DFACS be allowed to remain in the current location until future notice. Commissioner Nix asked if the White County DFACS Staff had been reduced due to statewide reductions, if they needed all the space which they had currently at the Mauney Building, and if the Board of Commissioners could assist them in locating an alternative office space when the time comes for them to relocate. Chairman Turner stated that although the Board of Commissioners had not voted on the issue there was a strong possibility that the White County Health Department would be relocating to the former Neighborhood Healthcare Building, the DFACS office relocating to another office area, and the non-judicial offices moving from the White County Courthouse to the upstairs portion of the Mauney Building – however until funds were designated for the project there was no definite timeline for the office changes. Chairman Turner stated the actual amount of space needed for DFACS needed to be researched. There was a consensus that the DFACS office could remain at the current location and the County would help find alternative locations for the offices to be relocated at a later date. Chairman Turner asked Ms. Jackson to send an email to the DFACS Director to let her know that she did not need to make plans for their office relocation at this time.

Sheriff Neal Walden stated he had been informed by the county auditors that he needed to turn over telephone commissions from the inmate telephone to the county general fund. He stated that he did not have a problem submitting the funds to the general fund; however he asked these be designated for use of benefiting the inmates of the White County Detention Center. Chairman Turner stated the Board would consider this following Executive Session when discussing the preliminary FY 12 budget.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, 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-

SEALED EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES: TO BE SEALED UNTIL PROPERTY IS ACQUIRED

OR THE PROJECT IS ABANDONED

O.C.G.A 50-14-3(4)

Chairman Turner indicated the former West Family Restaurant building would be sold on the Courthouse steps on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 and he wanted to poll the Board of Commissioners to see if there would be interest in negotiating with United Community Bank if the property was acquired by United Community Bank. He stated the facility could possibly serve as a senior center in the future. There was a consensus among the Board of Commissioners that it would be appropriate to negotiate with United Community Bank if the former West Family Restaurant building was acquired by the bank.

Unsealed July 29, 2011 – Project Abandoned

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

Chairman Turner stated the Board wanted to review the issue of telephone commissions with the Sheriff. Sheriff Walden stated the current balance in the associated account was approximately \$25,259.00. Commissioner Bryant asked if the funds currently held in the account could be used to purchase a new vehicle; thereby zeroing the account out and starting anew. Sheriff Walden stated he would be in agreement with that suggested use of the current funds; however he desired for any future telephone commissions collected be used to benefit the inmates since the collection was based on calls made by the inmates. The Board of Commissioners asked that a separate fund be set up within the general fund for deposit of the telephone commission revenues and for this account to be designated for use by the Sheriff in benefit of the inmates.

Shanda Smallwood provided a brief update on additional information gathered on the County's employee benefit renewal options. She stated following a review of the provider networks for both Alliant and CIGNA it was determined that very few employees would most likely be effected by any differences in the provider networks compared to Blue Cross Blue Shield's network. Ms. Smallwood said she had received information from the City of Toccoa and Hart County – the only two government entities currently covered by Alliant – and both were pleased

with the coverage and service provided by Alliant. She further stated that Matt Bidwell, with MSI, had confirmed with CIGNA that the renewal rate quoted would be decreased by at least 8% if White County made the biometric and health risk assessments mandatory and if the claims for February and March 2011 were favorable – with the wellness requirements being made mandatory by establishing a wellness rate and a non-wellness rate (+ 20%) for the employee premiums. Ms. Smallwood and Ms. Jackson asked the Board of Commissioners to consider an option for employee premiums which would not include an increase since the employees had not received a pay increase in the past several years and had shared in the insurance cost increase last year. Chairman Turner asked Ms. Smallwood to provide calculations for the CIGNA Option #2 (\$1,000 Deductible / 80% Co-insurance) with the County assuming the total increase as well as a calculation with the County assuming 50% of the increase.

Carol Jackson presented the preliminary Fiscal Year 2012 budget to the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Jackson presented the Board of Commissioners with two preliminary options – both having general fund revenues at \$13,022,672.00. Option #1 listed expenses at \$12,858,246.30 and option #2 reduced expenses to \$12,681,551.63 by reducing two additional positions and reducing contingency from \$500,000 to \$400,000. Ms. Jackson emphasized that neither option included increases to the health insurance. The Board of Commissioners asked that only one additional position (\$40,000.00) be considered for reduction plus the DFACS rental income (\$29,000.00) be added back to option #1 – this would adjust to expenses to \$12,818,246.6 and revenues to \$13,051,672 for a surplus in revenues of \$233,425.40. Ms. Jackson stated that no portion of fund balance was being used to balance the preliminary budget being presented. Ms. Jackson stated the other items which had not been completely finalized were the District Attorney & Public Defender portions of the Enotah Judicial Circuit Budget and Emergency Medical Services Contract with Northeast Georgia Medical Center. She also cautioned that the projected tax revenue was an estimate and could actually be lower; however it would definitely not be any higher.

Chairman Turner stated he wanted to see the first budget hearing held the first week of June and the second hearing to be held the second week of June.

Shanda Smallwood stated that the preliminary budget being presented (\$12,818,246.60) compared to the FY 11 budget of \$13,513,319.00 – a preliminary reduction of approximately \$695,000.

Chairman Turner asked the Finance Department to review the amount submitted for intangible tax-financial institution with the Clerk of Superior Court.

Chairman Turner expressed the Board of Commissioners appreciation to the County Staff for the hard work put forth in developing the preliminary budget. Ms. Jackson expressed her appreciation to the County Department Heads and Elected Officials for their cooperation during the process.

Ms. Jackson reviewed the general fund budget by department with the Board of Commissioners –highlighting specific areas of reduction and / or increase. A copy of the preliminary budget as presented was entered into the meeting file. The major reductions in the preliminary budget

being presented included: discontinuing county contributions to employee retirement, one position being reduced from Building Inspections, one position being reduced from Planning, one position being reduced from Administration, one part-time position being reduced from Soil & Erosion, one part time position being reduced from Probate Court, one part time position being reduced from the Clerk of Court, the combining of the Planning and Building Departments, the moving of administrative salaries from E-911 to the Fire Fund, and various other line item reductions by department.

Chairman Turner asked that the Board of Commissioners evaluate adopting a policy to pay for required training only during the upcoming fiscal year.

Following the presentation of the preliminary Fiscal Year 2012 Budget and review of each department's associated revenues and expenditures Ms. Jackson presented the Georgia Department of Transportation final closing documents associated with right of way acquisition for phase one of the Cleveland By-pass for the Board of Commissioners' signatures. She reviewed the vote made by the Board of Commissioners at the August 2, 2010 Regular Meeting to accept the Georgia Department of Transportation offer on five parcels (17,46, 47, 118, 119) of land at a total amount of \$303,800.00.

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

The minutes of the April 28, 2011 Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 5th day of May, 2011.

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 Smallwood

Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk