

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

HELD MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners met for their regular meeting on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in the Grand Jury Room of the White County Courthouse. Present at the meeting were Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Michael Melton, County Attorney Bill House, Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Smallwood.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mr. Dean Dyer provided the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held May 7, 2012 (including sealed executive session minutes), the called meeting held May 11, 2012 (including sealed executive session minutes), and the called meeting held May 29, 2012 (including sealed executive session minutes).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve the following items included on the consent agenda:

Adoption of a Resolution (County Resolution No. 2012-14 issuing a call for referendum for Level 1 Freeport Exemption;

Approval a Grant Policy (County Resolution No. 2012-13);

Approval of a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Policy as required by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) grant process for the Appalachian Drug Task Force (ADTF);

Approval of the FY 13 local share commitment with Legacy Link related to the County's receipt of federal and state monies for the White County Senior Center; and

Approval of the following board appointments:

- **White County Water Authority** – 1 appointment (**Mr. Edwin Nix, reappointment**) representing the Upper Chattahoochee River & Soil Water Conservation District and 1 appointment (**Mr. Chad Knott, reappointment**) representing the general public – with both appointments to serve a two (2) year term (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014);
- **White County Department of Family & Children Services Board** – 1 appointment (**Ms. Barbara Head, reappointment**) to serve a five (5) year term (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2017);

June 4, 2012 – Regular Meeting Minutes (continued)

- **Alpine Helen / White County Convention & Visitors Bureau Board of Directors** – 1 appointment (**Mr. Scott Hudgins**) to serve a three (3) year term (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015);
- **AVITA Community Partners Board** – 1 appointment (**Ms. Carol Jackson, reappointment**) to serve a three (3) term (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015).

-End of Consent Agenda-

Chairman Turner reviewed the issue regarding the employee benefits program renewal, stating continued coverage with Alliant was being presented at the 17% rate cap agreed upon during last year's renewal process; with this increase being approximately half of the increase of other carrier options. He noted that had the rate cap not been in place the county would be facing a 30%+ renewal.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to approve the renewal contract with Alliant at a 17% increase in cost for Fiscal Year 2013.

Mr. Melton asked that the Board postpone action on the Fiscal Year 2013 lease agreement for the White County Department of Family & Children's Services (DFACS) as he was working to obtain a lease agreement which would contain a ninety (90) day opt out in the event that the County and / or DFACS located alternate office space.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote that consideration of the FY 2013 lease for White County Department of Family & Children's Services be tabled until Mr. Melton was able to obtain the revised lease agreement.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to reappoint Mr. Tom O'Bryant and Mr. Bob Oliver to the White County Development Authority for a six (6) year term beginning July 1, 2012 and expiring June 30, 2018.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to appoint Dr. John Crumpton to the Joint Development Authority to fill the remainder of an unexpired four (4) year term ending December 31, 2014 (previously held by Ms. Judy Walker).

Mr. Kevin Hamby, CHA / SPLOST Manager, stated there were no updates to report on the 2008 SPLOST.

Ms. Vicki Mays, Finance Director, presented the monthly financial status report (see attached presentation).

Mr. Melton presented the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2013 (see attached presentation). The draft budget as presented reflected a reduction in revenue from property taxes of approximately \$875,000.00 due to declining property values, a 17% increase in health insurance premiums, approval of two additional personnel (1 Road Department Heavy Equipment Operator and 1

June 4, 2012 – Regular Meeting Minutes (continued)

E911 Communications Officer), capital equipment requests, and a 3.5% cost of living allowance for county employees. Mr. Melton presented a balanced budget for general fund of \$13,168,303.40 and a total budget of \$18,457,490.00. He noted this budget was based on utilizing individual funds' – fund balance in an effort to decrease the burden on general fund. He indicated the YMCA's budget had been reduced by \$55,000.00 – which was \$20,000.00 less than the scheduled reduction of \$75,000.00 per year. Mr. Rich Gallagher, CEO of Georgia Mountains YMCA, stated this would put their budget \$9,000.00 in the black and would give them some flexibility. Ms. Mays noted the DARE account fund balance would be covering the contribution for Drug Court, Family Drug Court, and the Meth Task Force. Commissioner Holcomb asked the Board to consider increasing the funding for the White County Health Department from \$125,000.00 to \$140,000.00 for the 2013 Fiscal Year.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for citizen participation.

Ms. Shirley McDonald asked that when the Board is considering funding for the White County Ambulance Service that they remember that since White County does not have a hospital that having good ambulance service is very important.

Sheriff Neal Walden encouraged the Board to keep the proposed 3.5% cost of living increase in the budget.

Mr. Melton acknowledged a letter received by the Board of Commissioners from Mr. Ronald Chastain expressing his appreciation for Mr. Doug Dockery, Ms. Sherrill Dockery, and Ms. Rolann Smith in assisting him with a culvert issue.

Chairman Turner expressed his appreciation to the White County Planning Commission for their work on developing a draft land use plan for White County. He stated that the Board had asked the Planning Commission to begin this process well over one year ago and the Board of Commissioners were aware of the time and effort they had put into to draft which had been developed. He indicated that the Board of Commissioners would be assuming the responsibility of developing and presenting a draft land use ordinance; thereby seeking to develop an ordinance that would be beneficial for the community while not being so restrictive that growth would be discouraged.

Mr. Charlie Thomas, Planning Commissioner Chairman, stated there was a consensus of the Planning Commission members that the draft land use document needed to be simplified – with the Board of Commissioners considering land uses that could require a special use permit, then allowing all other issues to be addressed through setback requirements.

Commissioner Nix stated that he was in favor of simplifying the draft land use plan in order to have an understandable document to present to the citizens of White County – with the goal of the document being to protect landowner's property rights and to protect property values.

Chairman Turner asked the Planning Department to provide each Commissioner with the map of the County which details the characteristics based on current uses. He also emphasized that the

June 4, 2012 – Regular Meeting Minutes (continued)

Board of Commissioners would seek to simplify the land use ordinance while also ensuring the document was enforceable by law.

Mr. Bill House, County Attorney, stated he had reviewed the present draft land use document and he encouraged the Board of Commissioners to work to simplify the document if possible.

Commissioner Holcomb stated he wanted the draft ordinance to be understandable to everyone.

There was a consensus among all the members of the Planning Commission which were in attendance that the document needed to be understandable and that education of the public would be very important in the process.

Mr. Thomas indicated the Planning Commission had taken Lumpkin County's existing land use ordinance and modified it to fit White County; however the Planning Commission was recommending that the Board of Commissioners simplify the draft ordinance in order to include special use permits, etc.

Mr. Tom O'Bryant, Director of Community & Economic Development, commended the Planning Commission's work in developing the draft land use plan.

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

The minutes of the June 4, 2012 Regular Meeting are hereby approved as stated the 9th day of July, 2012.

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