

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD

MONDAY, JULY 9, 2012 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 9, 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, Reverend Morgan of Faith Lutheran Church provided the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 4, 2012, the Joint Meeting / Public Hearing / Called Meeting held June 18, 2012, and the Called Meeting held June 25, 2012.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bryant the following consent agenda was approved:

- Approval of the grant award for the Byrne JAG Grant for continuation of the Appalachian Drug Task Force; and
- Approval of White County EMA's application for an Emergency Management Performance Grant to cover 75% of the cost of the replacement generator / UPS unit at the Mauney Building.

Mr. Bob Oliver, on behalf of the White County Development Authority, presented the Board of Commissioners with a brochure containing recommendations regarding incentives for economic development in White County for new and existing organizations. Mr. Oliver indicated the Development Authority realized the incentive brochure needed additional work; however they were looking for direction from the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Tom O'Bryant, Director of Community & Economic Development, stated that most of the credits offered are through the State of Georgia and the County serves as a conduit. He stated that in working with the Development Authority, they were also interested in providing other tax abatements as incentives and a framework for the rules of these incentives for the Board of Commissioners to approve. Commissioner Goodger stated the brochure illustrated a composite of incentives offered in surrounding counties and was an approach to have options available in advance of meeting with prospective companies.

July 9, 2012 – Regular Meetings (continued)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to request the White County Development Authority continue their work on an economic incentive package for White County, with the proposed package to be brought back before the Board of Commissioners at a later date.

Surveyor Mark Turner presented the information to the Board of Commissioners regarding Mr. Joseph Nadeau's appeal of the County Code – Article 6 – Design Requirements for Streets, Section 601 – Access, based on the White County Planning Commission's (02/06/2012) denial of a variance for the subdividing of 23.39 acres known as Elkmont RV Resort Phase II.

Mr. Turner indicated that Mr. Nadeau purchased the property out of foreclosure and wanted to subdivide the 23.39 acres into two (2) lots - 13.39 acres and 10.00 acres – each on which a residence would be built. Mr. Turner stated that Mr. Nadeau had legal access to the properties, which would be accessed through Elkmont RV Resort Phase I.

Mr. Harry Barton, Planning Director and Mr. Tom O'Bryant, Director of Community and Economic Development stated the plat containing the 23.39 tract of land had been approved as an adjoinment to Elkmont RV Resort Phase I as an RV Park; therefore the access available to the 23.52 tract did not meet the required standard for residential access.

Fire Chief Dickie Howard confirmed that a fire truck would not have any problem accessing the property.

Mr. Mark Turner stated that two (2) residences would be less of an impact on the access than the 180 approved RV lots.

Mr. Buddy Belflower, Planning Commission member, stated that following the February meeting of the Planning Commission he received additional information which made him believe that if the Planning Commission had a better understanding of the proposed use they would have ruled in favor of Mr. Nadeau's request. He stated the majority of the Planning Commission was in favor of the Board of Commissioners allowing the subdivision of the property.

Chairman Turner stated he would be abstaining from the vote on the matter due to his ownership of property adjacent to the property being discussed.

Mr. Melton stated that if the Board approved the appeal being made by Mr. Nadeau that Mr. Mark Turner would need to provide a plat (mylar) for the Board of Commissioners to sign as approved in order for the plat to be recorded.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a vote to approve the appeal by Mr. Joseph Nadeau to the White County Code Article 6 – Design Requirements For Streets, Section 601 – Access for the subdivision of a 23.39 acre tract into two parcels – tract one 13.39 acres and tract two 10.00 acres. Commissioner Bryant, Commissioner Holcomb voted in favor of the motion - Chairman Turner abstained from the vote - the motion to grant the appeal passed by a 4-0 vote.

July 9, 2012 – Regular Meetings (continued)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to refund Mr. Joseph Nadeau the \$50.00 appeal fee.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2013 contract with Legacy Link, Inc. for funding of nutrition and transportation services for the White County Senior Center.

Mr. William Sperin, Technology Director for White County Schools, stated that with the recent installation of fiber optics within White County – the school had been looking for opportunities for students to utilize this resource. He indicated that Verizon was interested in implementing a one to one I-Pad initiative for White County Ninth Graders. Mr. Sperin stated that Race to the Top Funds were available for the purchase of I-Pads. He said Verizon was eager to install three towers within the community and upgrade all of the towers to 4G – which would allow all students to have access to internet connectivity. He was requesting that White County commit to being a partner in the grant which increased the chances of receiving the funds. Mr. Sperin stated the role of the County would be to provide oversight to Verizon for the location of the towers and to provide technical assistance with maps and data. He indicated no funds would be needed from the County for the project. Mr. Tom O’Bryant stated this was an opportunity to further improve White County’s infrastructure. Mr. David Murphy, E-911 Director, stated the County had discussed with Verizon about utilizing the proposed tower sites for emergency radio equipment at no charge.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to approve the memorandum of understanding with the White County Board of Education for partnership in applying for Race to the Top funds for the purchase of I-Pads for White County Ninth Graders in partnership with Verizon’s technology initiative in White County.

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

Mr. Melton stated that he and Mr. Keith Canup, with the Road Department, had attended a pre-construction meeting with the Georgia Department of Transportation in reference to Phase I of the Cleveland By-Pass. He stated there were two issues noted that effected White County – the use of County Roads as haul roads, for which they would request that any damage to these roads be repaired at no cost to White County and the issue of the stop sign at the end of Phase I on Hwy 115 West, which they felt should be replaced by a traffic signal (as scheduled for Phase II) due to the volume of traffic which would be filtered onto Hwy 115 West.

There was a consensus among the Board of Commissioners that these two issues needed to be addressed with the Georgia Department of Transportation. Mr. Melton was to draft a letter with the County’s concerns and the Commissioners would be contacting the State Legislators as well.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for citizen participation – there were no comments.

July 9, 2012 – Regular Meetings (continued)

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

The minutes of the July 9, 2012 Regular Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 6th day of August, 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