

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION HELD

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2013 AT 4:30 P.M.

The purpose of the work session is to discuss agenda items for the Regular Meeting to held Monday, April 8, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session on Monday, March 25, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the Grand Jury Room of the White County Courthouse. Present at the meeting were: Vice-Chairman Craig Bryant, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy. Chairman Travis Turner was not in attendance due to illness and Vice- Chairman Craig Bryant presided over the meeting.

- DISCUSS WHITE COUNTY FIRE SERVICES OPERATIONS:
 - INCLEMENT WEATHER CALL-IN PROCEDURE;
 - FLEET REPLACEMENT; AND
 - STAFFING & EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS.

Mr. David Murphy, Director of Public Safety made a presentation to the Board regarding recommendations for staffing and equipment replacement. In summary Mr. Murphy recommended hiring four (4) additional paid firefighters (in addition to the existing paid firefighter position) and changing the classification of the current administrative position to a firefighter position – for a total of six (6) paid firefighters. He proposed that the six (6) firefighters would work ten (10) hour shifts in the southern area of the County (2), central area of the County (2), and northern area of the County (2). Due to recent reorganization within the Fire Department, Mr. Murphy indicated that this staffing level could be met with additional funding of \$44,951.00 above the FY 13 budget.

He indicated that the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission (GMRC) was compiling a study showing the fire protection needs in the County and he believed the study would show that fire protection (including insurance ratings) could be most improved by increasing staffing at peak times (during day time hours when volunteer response is limited) as opposed to constructing additional fire stations at this time; thereby the County getting the best return on investment.

Mr. Murphy stated there were immediate equipment needs for replacement of Tanker 2 @ Station #2 (1991 Ford F800) and Engine 3 @ Station #3 (1991 Ford F-800). He made recommendations for replacement including a Peterbilt 340 or Freightliner (similar to current Tanker 7) / 3000 gallon tank / 750 GPM @ \$185,000.00 and an Engine (similar to current Engine 4) with 1000 gallon tank / 1500 GPM @ \$225,000.00 - \$325,000.00 depending on cab style.

Mr. Murphy also outlined 2014 apparatus needs included replacement of Rescue 2, Engine 6, and an admin truck in a total amount of \$392,000.00.

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There was a consensus of the Board that this item would be placed on the voting agenda for the April 8, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Murphy also briefed the Board on the revised inclement weather call in policy which allowed for station coverage on a per shift basis during periods of inclement weather.

- DISCUSS THE FY 2014 LOCAL SHARE (\$8,450.00) FOR THE LEGACY LINK, INC. CONTRACT FUNDING OF \$156,169.00 FOR MEALS ON WHEELS, CONGREGATE MEALS, TRANSPORTATION, ETC. AT THE WHITE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER.

Ms. Shanda Murphy, County Clerk stated that funding and the County match for the Legacy Link subcontracting of state and federal funds was remaining at the same level for FY 2014 as it was for FY 2013, with the local share match commitment letter being due to Legacy Link by May 1, 2013.

There was a consensus of the Board that this item would be placed on the consent agenda for the April 8, 2013 Regular Meeting.

- DISCUSS A FEDERAL GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT JAG PROGRAM FROM THE WHITE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR UPDATES TO THE WHITE COUNTY COURTHOUSE SECURITY SYSTEM.

Sheriff Neal Walden stated that his staff was asking for approval of a grant application for federal funding in order to make needed upgrades to the security system at the White County Courthouse.

There as a consensus of the Board that this item would be placed on the consent agenda for the April 8, 2013 Regular Meeting.

- DISCUSS MID-YEAR BOARD APPOINTMENTS.

Ms. Shanda Murphy, County Clerk, brief the Board of Commissioners on upcoming Board appointments – these included the White County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, White County DFACS Board, White County Development Authority, AVITA Community Partners Board, Helen / White County CVB Board of Directors, White County Planning Commission, White County YMCA Advisory Board, and the White County Industrial Building Authority. She indicated these opportunities would be published, with applicants and any requests for re-appointments to be brought back to the Board in May.

- DISCUSS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE WHITE COUNTY ALCOHOL BEVERAGE ORDINANCE – WHITE COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 6.

Mr. Tom O'Bryant, Director of Community and Economic Development, presented proposed amendments to the White County Alcohol Ordinance. These amendments were associated with developing a new license category for brewpubs, developing a new license category for caterers,

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developing a new license category for manufacturers, broadening the temporary special event permit to allow any person, firm, or corporation (not exclusively non-profits) to serve alcohol at special events, and permitting the on premise sale of alcoholic beverages at golf courses.

Sheriff Neal Walden stated he was concerned about the broadening the accessibility of special event permits. There was discussion about strengthening the requirement of his department's approval on all special events.

Mr. O'Bryant stated that he felt the proposed amendments enhanced White County's position as a tourist destination.

There was a consensus of the Board that a first reading of these proposed amendments would be placed on the voting agenda at the April 8, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Erford Harrison, who is a member of the Alcohol Beverage Commission, asked that the Board consider allowing the sale of distilled spirits in the County. Commissioner Bryant advised him that the sale of distilled spirits would have to be put on a referendum.

- MR. KEVIN HAMBY, SPLOST MANAGER TO PRESENT THE MONTHLY SPLOST STATUS REPORT.

The presentation of the monthly SPLOST report was postponed until the April 8, 2013 Regular Meeting.

- REVIEW THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 8, 2013 REGULAR MEETING.

The agenda of the April 8, 2013 Regular Meeting was reviewed and approved.

The minutes of the March 25, 2013 Work Session were approved by the White County Board of Commissioners.

April 8, 2013

s/Shanda Murphy
Shanda Murphy, County Clerk