

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION & CALLED MEETING HELD

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2014 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session and Called Meeting on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present at the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Chief Deputy Bob Ingram made a presentation to the Board regarding the proposed purchase of 22 mobile laptop or tablet units for patrol vehicles. He stated that this would allow for the complete integration between 911, the jail management systems, and the records management system. He explained that having the mobile technology in the patrol cars would keep officers out in the field and from having them come into the office to complete reports. He provided several other benefits of this technology upgrade and stated that this expense could be absorbed through funds remaining in the Fiscal Year 2014 budget.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve the Sheriff's Office purchase of mobile tablet units in an amount not to exceed \$61,157.36 – to be paid through line item transfers in the Sheriff's Office Fiscal Year 2014 Budget.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to approve addendum #3 to the Fiscal Year 2014 contract with Legacy Link, Inc. for the provision of meals and transportation at the White County Senior Center – thereby restoring a portion of the funding previously reduced by the federal government for these programs.

Mr. Ken Payne, Maintenance Supervisor, presented several quotes received for zero turn mowers.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the purchase of a SCAG Zero Turn Mower with a Kawasaki engine from Swinehart's Power Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$7,502.00 – to be paid from Fiscal Year 2014 budgeted funds.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to authorize the filling of the part time (25 hours per week) administration assistant position for the Finance Department.

Commissioner Goodger stated that on Monday, May 12th the Cleveland City Council voted, following their regular meeting and executive session, to not allow Quillian's Street (running between Freedom Park and the United Methodist Church) to be converted to a one-way street. Commissioner Goodger stated this decision was made based on a recommendation of the City Police Chief due to concerns about the change causing an increase of traffic on the other surrounding streets. Commissioner Goodger explained that the one-way street was on the plans presented to the City of Cleveland over two (2) years ago and with paving to be done within the next week this was an issue the Board needed to address. He indicated that changing the angled parking to accommodate the two-way street would reduce the number of parking spaces by six (6) and he had asked the City Council to reconsider their decision. Commissioner Goodger stated that the conversion of this street to a one-way was approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Board of Education, the United Methodist Church, and the Postal Service. Mr. Melton indicated the funds had been expended on both signage and striping for the one-way conversion.

Mr. Dean Dyer, WRWH Radio, asked how long the City of Cleveland had known about the conversion of Quillian's Street to a one way. Commissioner Goodger stated the original plans (as well as all versions since) indicated this and were presented to the Cleveland City Council at least two (2) years ago – with no objections by the City Council until last week as well as the City of Cleveland had recently contributed \$145,744.00 in funding to the project which signified their support for the project as it had been presented to them.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a vote to refund the City of Cleveland's contribution to Freedom Park in the amount of \$145,744.00 – from SPLOST Funds. Commissioner Goodger opposed the motion. The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

Chairman Turner commended Commissioner Goodgers' efforts in working with the City of Cleveland on the Freedom Park Project.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the dedication plaque for White County Freedom Park as presented – with it being mounted on a rock base in keeping with the rockwork used in the park.

Commissioner Goodger presented an estimate from Charles Black Construction, Inc. for the relocation of the military monument from the front area of the Courthouse to Freedom Park. He stated that the monument would be relocated to the Brook Street side of the stage area, with the paver area increasing from 800 sq. ft. to 1,000 sq. ft. and pavers would be replaced in the current family groupings. The cost associated with this would be \$36,935.00. Commissioner Holcomb asked if any other estimates had been obtained to do the work. Commissioner Goodger stated that he was looking to add this to Charles Black Construction's current contract on the project, because otherwise there would have to be a formal bidding process which would take several weeks.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a vote to approve an amount not to exceed \$36,935.00 to Charles Black Construction, Inc. for the

May 19, 2014 – Work Session & Called Meeting Minutes (continued)

relocation of the military monument from the Courthouse area to Freedom Park – to be paid from project fund contingency (SPLOST). Commissioner Holcomb, Commissioner Nix, and Chairman Turner opposed the motion. The motion failed by a 2-3 vote. Staff was authorized to formally bid the project.

Commissioner Bryant asked about restroom facilities for Freedom Park. There was a consensus that the Board would need to address the need in the near future in converting a portion of the back office space at the Courthouse to restroom facilities.

Commissioner Nix exited the meeting due to family obligations.

Mr. Melton presented the Board with a proposed budget calendar for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget and draft budget information. He stated that operational expenses had been cut below the current year's budget in order to balance the budget and most all capital requests had been reclassified as proposed SPLOST Projects. The following schedule was set (all to be held at the White County Administration Building): Preliminary Enotah Meeting with County Chairs will be held June 2, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting will be largely devoted to budget discussions on June 2, 2014 at 4:30 p.m., the draft budget will be made available to the public on June 9, 2014, a Public Hearing will be held on June 16, 2014 at 4:30 p.m., and there will be a budget adoption meeting on June 23, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for public participation.

Ms. Debbie Gilbert, White County News, asked for clarification on the purpose of refunding the City of Cleveland's contribution to Freedom Park. Commissioner Bryant and Chairman Turner explained that this action was based on the issue raised by the City of Cleveland with Quillian's Street at this late point in the project.

Ms. Judy Lovell emphasized that the issues only concerned a portion of Quillian's Street, just as only a portion of Brook Street is currently one-way.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss personnel

-See the Following Closed Meeting Affidavit-

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

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

The minutes of the May 19, 2014 Work Session and Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 2nd day of June, 2014.

May 19, 2014 – Work Session & Called Meeting Minutes (continued)

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 Murphy
Shanda Murphy, County Clerk