

## **WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **MINUTES OF THE COMBINED WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING**

**HELD MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016 AT 4:30 P.M.**

On Monday, June 6, 2016 the White County Board of Commissioners held a combined Work Session and Regular Meeting in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present for 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.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Pastor Tim Morgan of Faith Lutheran Church provided the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commission Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to adopt the minutes of the May 2, 2016 Regular Meeting and the May 26, 2016 Called Meeting.

Mr. Tim Fortner was recognized for his dedicated service to White County upon the occasion of his retirement from the White County Convenience Center.

The White County Finance Department was recognized for their receipt of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2015 from the Government Financial Officers Association.

Mr. Melton presented the Fiscal Year 2016 Audit Engagement Letter with Rushton & Company, LLC for general County audit services. He stated that the recommendation was for the Board to approve the engagement letter for expenses not to exceed \$52,625.00 for the financial statement audit and \$3,500.00 for the single audit if required as Rushton & Company would be beginning the work on the audit within the next few weeks.

Chairman Turner asked for the minutes to reflect the Board's request that bidding auditing services for the Fiscal Year 2017 be discussed in December 2016.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2016 Audit Engagement Letter with Rushton & Company, LLC for general County audit services in an amount not to exceed \$52,625.00 for the financial statement audit and \$3,500.00 for the single audit if required.

Mr. Melton presented to the Board for consideration a Fiscal Year 2016 audit engagement letter with Rushton & Company, LLC for Hotel / Motel Tax Compliance whereby the White County Convention & Visitors Bureau and the White County Chamber of Commerce would be audited to insure compliance with state law for expenditure of Hotel / Motel Tax Funds.

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Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to table the consideration of a Fiscal Year 2016 audit engagement letter with Rushton & Company, LLC for Hotel / Motel Tax Compliance.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the 2016 agreement with the U.S. Forest Service for county patrol of designated areas on designated dates as identified within the agreement for \$4,400.00.

Ms. Shanda Murphy presented the Fiscal Year 2017 Liability Insurance renewal with ACCG-IRMA (Association County Commissioners of Georgia-Inter Local Risk Management Agency) in the amount of \$182,518.00 – this was an increase of \$6,404.00 from Fiscal Year 2016.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 Liability Insurance renewal with ACCG-IRMA in the amount of \$182,518.00.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to appoint Todd Marks to the White County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for a two (2) year term expiring June 30, 2018 (formerly held by Mr. Josh Barrett).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to re-appoint Mr. R.K. Ackermann and Mr. Brad Ash to the White County Planning Commissioner for a three (3) year term expiring June 30, 2019.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to reappoint Mr. Jim Himstedt and Dr. Octavius Mulligan to the White County YMCA Board for a one (1) year term expiring June 30, 2017.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a vote to reappoint Mr. David Sills (representative of the Chestatee-Chattahoochee Watershed District and to appoint Mr. Michael Mays (representative of the general public – formerly held by Mr. Chad Knott) to the White County Water Authority Board of Directors for a two (2) year term expiring June 30, 2018. Chairman Turner and Commissioner Goodger voted in favor of the motion and Commissioner Nix abstained due to being employed by the White County Water Authority. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to re-appoint Ms. Nita Decker to the White County CVB (Convention & Visitors Bureau) Board of Directors for a three (3) year term expiring June 30, 2019.

Mr. Melton presented the current draft proposal (see attached) for the Fiscal Year 2017 budget. In summary he noted that the proposed expenses were at \$16,369,105.00 and the proposed revenues were at \$14,696,744.00 (not including the use of any fund balance – with current available fund balance being \$4,011,936 @ 3.3 months) which left \$1,672,361.00 needed to balance the budget through either increasing revenue (fund balance, fees, millage increase) or by

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cutting expenses. Staff was asked to research the current fund balance for the Health Department and how much a ½ mill and 1 mill increase would impact an average household.

Chairman Turner stated that the Board felt strongly about keeping a minimum of 3 months fund balance. There was discussion about moving funds budgeted for maintenance related expenses from General Fund to SPLOST – it was clarified that the funds budgeted for the road department did not include any capital related items and that all funds showed for materials were maintenance related. Chairman Turner talked about the lengths the board of Commissioners had gone to over the past several years to not increase the millage rate – stating the Board of Commissioners was the only elected body countywide who had not increased their millage rate during the past many years. He indicated that services are being stretched and a millage increase was going to have to be a consideration. There was discussion of funds which are currently being distributed to outside agencies from Hotel / Motel Tax which could be retained for the General Fund.

There was a consensus that the budget would be discussed further at the June 13, 2016 Called Meeting and an adoption schedule would be set at that time.

The presentation of the monthly financial status report was delayed.

Mr. Melton advised that the bridge project at Yonah Preserve and the resurfacing project on Webster Lake Road were both underway and going very well.

Ms. Laurie Lee, 1749 Glenn's Drive asked for the Board's consideration for the construction of outside pickle ball courts at the Asbestos Road Park. She stated that she felt sure the pickle ball association could repay the county's investment within a three (3) year period and discussed the economic benefits of the tournaments held.

Mr. Kent Warner, Candidate for the 8<sup>th</sup> District House Seat, introduced himself and expressed his interest in representing the portion of White County within the 8<sup>th</sup> House District.

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

The minutes of the June 6, 2016 Work Session and Regular Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016.

#### **WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

s/Travis C. Turner  
Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Terry D. Goodger  
Terry D. Goodger, District 1

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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