

# WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING HELD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020 AT 8:00 A.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Called Meeting on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. 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 (entered after the start of the meeting as noted below), County Manager Jason Cobb, Finance Director Jodi Ligon, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Mr. Cobb presented information to the Board related to the \$1,364,861.00 Phase I allocation of CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act Funds which White County is eligible to receive. He noted that in order to receive funds, the expenditures had to be final or in significant progress by September 1, 2020. Due to that constraint the reasonable submission for the County to make would be for public safety employee payroll expended from March 1, 2020 to present – of which the total amount would exceed the amount allocated.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote (4-0) to approve staff submitting public safety employee payroll expended from March 1, 2020 to present for the Phase I allocation of CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act Funds which White County is eligible to receive – being \$1,364,861.00 to reimburse General Fund.

Commissioner Bryant entered the meeting.

Mr. Cobb presented a proposed resolution (County Resolution 2020-10) for the authorization of hazard pay supplements for designated county employees impacted by the continuing COVID pandemic by their work potentially exposing them to the coronavirus. He referenced a list provided to the Board of 152 county employees including the Detention Center, E/911, Fire Department, Maintenance, and the Sheriff's Office. He proposed a \$750.00 hazard pay supplement for full-time front line public safety employees and a \$500.00 hazard pay supplement for full-time non-front line designated employees – with the associated amount being prorated for part-time employees. The estimated cost of this expenditure was \$110,687.50.

Commissioner Goodger stated that he would like to see the \$750.00 amount increased to \$1,000.00 – which would increase the total expenditure by approximately \$25,000.00.

Commissioner Goodger made a motion to approve the \$750.00 / \$500.00 hazard pay supplement as detailed in County Resolution 2020-10. Commissioner Holcomb seconded the motion. The Clerk asked for confirmation of the motion made and seconded. Commissioner Goodger stated that his motion was to approve a \$1,000.00 / \$500.00 hazard pay supplement structure. Commissioner Holcomb stated that he was not in support of that motion. Commissioner Holcomb rescinded his second and Commissioner Goodger rescinded his motion,

Sheriff Walden and Chief Deputy Bob Ingram made comments in support of the hazard pay supplement.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a motion to approve a \$1,000.00 / \$500.00 hazard pay supplement, according to the guidelines of the resolution. Commissioner Holcomb, Commissioner Nix, and Chairman Turner opposed the motion. The motion failed by a 2-3 vote.

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The Board discussed the possibility of providing an across the board 2.5% cost of living increase to all county employees in the coming months. There was a consensus that the Board wanted to make sure that any decisions made at this time – did not interfere with a future across the board increase.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a motion made to approve the \$750.00 / \$500.00 hazard pay supplement as detailed in County Resolution 2020-10. Commissioner Goodger voted in favor of the motion (he stated he preferred his previous motion of \$1,000.00 / \$500.00), Commissioner Nix voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Bryant opposed the motion (he stated he supported the previous motion of \$1,000.00 / \$500.00). The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

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

-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.

Mr. Cobb presented information to the Board about a request made for the County to bond the utility construction for Mt. Yonah Lakes Subdivision. He stated that this would be a performance bond in the amount of \$325,000.00 - \$350,000.00 for TPK Construction. There was brief discussion about the Board possibility considering this.

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

The minutes of the August 20, 2020 Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020

**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