

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED WORK SESSION AND CALLED MEETING HELD

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a combined Work Session & Called Meeting on Monday, May 22, 2017 at 4:30 p.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, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

A proclamation of recognition and appreciation was presented to Ms. Sandra McAfee in honor of her retirement following 34 years of employment with White County.

Commissioner Goodger stated that following the county's receipt of proposals for the "Construction Manager at Risk for the Yonah Preserve Project" the evaluation committee met to review and score the proposals. He noted that only two (2) proposals were received – one was higher in cost than anticipated and the other was incomplete. Therefore, Commissioner Goodger stated that the committee's recommendation to the Board of Commissioners would be to reject the two (2) proposals received and authorize the engineering firm (Carter & Sloope) to proceed with the project design in order to the county to move forward with a design / bid / build construction method as opposed to the construction manager at risk method.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to reject the two (2) proposals received and authorize the engineering firm (Carter & Sloope) to proceed with the project design in order to the county to move forward with a design / bid / build construction method as opposed to the construction manager at risk method. Chairman Turner emphasized that the Board wanted to see construction on the project begin this fall.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to approve the scope of work and fees presented by Carter & Sloope associated with the "Yonah Preserve Phase I Site Engineering" to be paid according to the rate schedule presented but not to exceed \$224,750.00 – to be paid from the Series 2016 Bond Proceeds associated with the \$3.25 million construction project.

Commissioner Bryant asked that the Board meet and review each Commissioner's thoughts on the design of the Yonah Preserve facility prior to the design proceeding further. Chairman Turner stated that he would insure a meeting for this purpose would be organized in the near future.

Mr. Kevin Hamby, SPLOST Manager / Hamby Management, presented the monthly SPLOST Status Report (see attached).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to approve the following board appointments:

- White County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors – Mr. Chuck Edwards was reappointed to a two (2) year term to expire June 30, 2019;
- White County CVB Board of Directors – Mr. Will Wagner was appointed to a two (2) year term to expire June 30, 2019 (previously held by Mr. John Erbele);
- White County DFACS Board – Ms. Donna Nordan was reappointed to a five (5) year term to expire June 30, 2022.
- *Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities – it was noted that no applications were received for this appointment. The Board directed that this be re-advertised.*

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a vote to reappoint Commissioner Craig Bryant to the White County Water Authority for a two (2) year term to expire June 30, 2019. Chairman Turner and Commissioner Bryant voted in favor of the motion and Commissioner Nix recused himself from the vote due to his position as the Executive Director of the Water Authority. Motion passed by a 3-0 vote.

Mr. Melton presented the plans for a proposed annexation by the City of Cleveland of 4.06 acres +/- owned by Woodlands Camp and Conference Center, Inc. located in Land Lot 60 of the 2nd Land District of White County – the northerly portions of Tax Parcels 047B-013 and 047B-015. Mr. Melton stated that the portions of land noted were the only sections of Woodlands Camp which are not already within the City limits of Cleveland.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote of support for the proposed annexation by the City of Cleveland of 4.06 acres +/- owned by Woodlands Camp and Conference Center, Inc. located in Land Lot 60 of the 2nd Land District of White County – the northerly portions of Tax Parcels 047B-013 and 047B-015.

Mr. Melton reviewed with the Board that three (3) local bridges had been bid out for rehabilitation – Town Creek Road Bridge and both bridges on New Bridge Road. He stated that the bids had come in very high and after the review of the project engineer and Georgia DOT, it was determined that the best course of action would be to escrow the LMIG (Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant) funds and combine with 2018 LMIG Funds in order to fund the rehabilitation needed on Town Creek Road Bridge. Commissioner Nix expressed his concern that delaying the repairs could result in more costly work at a later date. He also asked for confirmation that postponing the repairs would not create a safety issue. Mr. Melton confirmed that there was not a safety issue with the bridge at this time – however maintenance on the bridge is needed.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to authorize the escrowing of the 2017 LMIG Funds (\$382,326.74) in order to combine the funds with 2018 LMIG for the Town Creek Road Rehab Project.

Ms. Vicki Mays presented the monthly Financial Status Report (see attached).

Mr. Melton presented a proposed, draft budget for Fiscal Year 2018 (see attached). The FY 18 budget presented included expenditures of \$16,931,763.00 for General Fund and \$21,146,433.00 for the total budget. The projected revenues for the Fiscal Year 2018 General Fund Budget were \$15,729,609.00 – thereby leaving \$1,202,154.00 needed to balance the budget through either a reduction in expenditures or an increase in revenue. Mr. Melton suggested utilizing \$818,939.00 in fund Balance which would retain 2.5 months of fund balance. With the use of the recommended fund balance the balance needed would be reduced to \$383,215.00. Mr. Melton stated that the FY 2018 budgeted expenditure reflected an increase of 3.58% from FY 2017.

Commissioner Nix and Commissioner Bryant specifically questioned the increase of the preliminary tax digest – stating they believed the digest should have increased more based on the growth of the area. Staff stated that the revenue in the draft budget was based on the preliminary tax digest provided by the Assessor’s Office which did reflect a \$6,560,592.00 increase in the net taxable digest as the increase was offset set by a \$7,784,830.00 decrease in the gross taxable digest due to the Title and Vehicle Ad Valorem Tax (TAVT). Chairman Turner stated that it would be beneficial to ask Chief Assessor Bryan Payne to present the digest information to the Board. He also reminded the Board that once the budget is adopted, it is subject to amendment once the final digest is submitted to the Board.

Chairman Turner announced that a Public Hearing on the FY 2018 Budget would be held on Monday, June 5, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. with the adoption of the budget to be considered Monday, June 12, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

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 Attached Closed Meeting Affidavit-

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

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to appoint Ms. Mary Jane Henneke as Count Attorney effective July 1, 2017 due to the retirement of Mr. Bill House.

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

The minutes of the May 22, 2017 Work Session and Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 5th day of June, 2017.

-Signatures On Following Page-

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