

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION & CALLED MEETING HELD

MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017 T 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session & Called Meeting on Monday, July 31, 2017 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 Marc Turner of The Cleveland Worship Center and White County Ministerial Alliance provided the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to adopt the minutes of the June 26, 2017 Work Session & Regular Meeting and the July 18, 2017 Called Meeting (including Executive Session Minutes).

Mr. Kevin Hamby, SPLOST Manager, presented the monthly SPLOST Status Report (see attached). He cautioned the Board to continue to be aware of cash flow as they approve future allocations.

Mr. Mark Johnson, representing Friends of Hardman Farm, asked the Board consider a \$5,000.00 allocation for the promotion of the 2017 Hardman Farm Fall Celebration to be held October 14, 2017. There was discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget which had already been set and that any allocations made at this point would reduce general fund revenue. Mr. Johnson stated that the requested funds would be used to purchase a tent, banners, and advertising. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote for the Friends of Hardman Farm request for funding to be tabled for thirty (30) days and that Mr. Johnson would need to provide a copy of the budget for the event to the Board.

Ms. Cindy Bailey, President of the White County Chamber of Commerce, presented a request to the Board for \$5,000.00 in funding for the Chamber's 2017 Spirit of Appalachia Food, Wine, and Art Festival to be held September 16, 2017 at Hardman Farm. She stated that funds would be used for advertising and promotion. She indicated that admission to the event is free; however there would be a \$10.00 per car parking fee. Ms. Bailey did note that this event is a fundraiser for the Chamber of Commerce and was expected to generate approximately \$8,000.00 for the organization.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to table the White County Chamber of Commerce's request for funding for thirty (30) days and to have Ms. Bailey submitted a copy of the budget for the event.

Mr. Ken Payne, Director of Facilities Maintenance, presented bids obtained for a mower for the Parks & Recreation facility. He stated that the mower would be used to maintain ballfields and would be a 61” zero-turn style mower with a vacuum. He noted that the low bid was Swinehart’s Power Equipment (Baldwin, GA) at \$12,294.00.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve the purchase of a new mower for White County Parks & Recreation from Swinehart’s Power Equipment in the amount of \$12,294.00 – to be paid from the 2008 SPLOST.

Mr. David Murphy, Director of Public Safety, presented information to the Board concerning vehicles at White County Animal Control. He stated that the 2004 Ford Van (169,447 miles) was currently non-operational and would require repairs estimated in the amount of \$6,000.00 or a new vehicle could be purchased for \$22,000.00.

There was a consensus of the Board that a new vehicle replacement would be preferred over costly repairs and the Board directed Mr. Murphy to obtain bids for the purchase of a vehicle under state contract pricing, with bids to be brought back before the Board for award.

Mr. Melton presented information previously provided to the Board regarding options for provision of water to the Yonah Preserve site. He stated the he needed direction from the Board on which option they preferred for the inclusion in the bid documents for the project. There was a consensus that option #3 was preferable – with an 8” line. Commissioner Nix asked for verification of the line footage, the number of stream crossings, and for confirmation on the availability of the necessary easement off Mauldin Road. Mr. Melton stated that he would obtain the requested information and provide this to the Board.

Commissioner Goodger stated that he would like to see the Board move forward on the access and trailhead building for the Yonah Preserve Trail access off Albert Reid Road, since the trails would be ready for use in the fall. The discussion which followed included authorizing the demolition of the current building (which was not built to code) and authorizing the White County Road Department to proceed with graveling the access road and parking area (to be paid for with Hotel / Motel Tourism Product Development Funds). Commissioner Goodger stated that Owens Welding would be providing an estimate for the access gate – which would need to be brought back before the Board for approval. Commissioner Nix expressed his desire for the County to install a secondary gate for the dam area and fencing along the spillway for safety purposes. Commissioner Goodger stated that plans to receive bids for restroom facilities at Freedom Park were also moving forward.

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

Mr. Melton had no items for the County Manager Comments section.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for public participation.

July 31, 2017 – Work Session & Called Meeting Minutes (continued)

Sheriff Neal Walden recognized the Appalachian Regional Drug Enforcement Office (ARDEO) for the recent dismantling of a regional drug operation.

Ms. Cindy Bailey, White County Chamber of Commerce, announced the Chamber's annual luncheon, the upcoming revision of the Quality of Life Magazine, and a business retention and expansion program.

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

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

The minutes of the July 31, 2017 Work Session & Called Meeting are hereby approved as stated this 14th day of August, 2017.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSONERS

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