WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 at 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, September 14, 2009 at 4:30 P.M. in the Grand Jury Room of the White County Courthouse, Cleveland, Georgia. Present at the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Post 1 Commissioner Joe Campbell, Post 2 Commissioner Craig Bryant, Interim County Manager Jean Welborn, and Chief Financial Officer Vickie Neikirk.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order. Following the pledge of allegiance, Pastor Patrick Ballington of The Bridge Church brought the invocation.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell the minutes of the Public Hearing held on August 3, 2009, the Regular Meeting held August 3, 2009, the Called Meeting held August 14, 2009, the Called Meeting Held August 25, 2009, the Called Meeting held August 31, 2009, and the Called Meeting held September 3, 2009 were unanimously adopted.

Upon presentation of proclamation, The White County Board of Commissioners declared Saturday, September 19, 2009 “Freedom Day in White County” in honor of the Sons of the American Revolution and of the grave marking ceremony in honor of Mr. William Ferguson scheduled for this date at Mossy Creek Methodist Church.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant the consent agenda was unanimously approved, containing the following items:

- Granting final road acceptance for Spring Crest Subdivision Phase I and Phase II, including Spring Crest Road, Meadow Crest Drive, and Ridge Crest Court; and
- Approving the purchase of a replacement lawn mower for the White County Parks and Recreation Department, with the purchase to be made from the Building and Grounds Maintenance Account and not to exceed the sum of $8,181.00; and
- Adopting of a Resolution approving the year-end budget adjustments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 (see the attached resolution); and
- Authorizing the purchase of a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria by the White County Sheriff’s Office, with funds for this purchase to come from the White County Budget Contingency Fund and not to exceed the sum of $25,819.00; and
- Authorizing the issuance of one (1) county Wal-mart procurement card with a $3,000.00 credit limit; and
- Awarding the contract for renovations of Fire Station #2 to the low bidder, RDP Construction, in the amount of $79,944.00; and
- Adopting a resolution authorizing the White County Fire Department’s surplus vehicle replacement (swap) of a 1991 F450 cab and chassis (VIN 2FDLF47M5MCA31959) and a 1991 F450 cab and chassis (VIN 2FDLF47M1MCA31960) for a 2004 Chevy 3500 (see the attached resolution); and
- Approval to accept bids for the White County Transfer Station Contract in January 2010, with this bidding not serving as a sixty (6) day notice to Waste Management; and
- Approval of the Legacy Link Nutritional Program Contract for FY 2010.

-End of Consent Agenda-
Commissioner Bryant questioned the procedures for the proposed White County Parks and Recreation Facilities Improvement Project By-Laws, by asking if the Board of Commissioners would continue to approve projects which would be funded by the Fundraising Account and the standard requirements for these projects (i.e. bidding of projects, licensing required for contractor, etc.). Chairman Turner responded that the same requirements would apply to the projects funded by the Fundraising Account as would any other County project.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell the proposed Facilities Improvement Project Fund By-Laws, which would apply to funds deposited into the Fundraising Account – and will be created by merging the current Memorial Account and the current Fundraising Account – were unanimously adopted.

Tom O’Bryant, Director of Community and Economic Development presented the first reading of the adoption of revisions to the White County Sign Ordinance. Mr. O’Bryant summarized that Chapter 58, Section 2 of the Sign Ordinance was being amended to expanded the current definitions to include illumination, Chapter 58, Section 16 was being amended to delete the exemption of window signs and all signs sixteen (16) square feet or less from requiring a sign permit, and Chapter 58, Section 23 was being amended to delete the exception of temporary signs from the current sign setback of fifteen (15) feet from a city, county, state, or federal right of way. The first reading of the following resolution regarding amendments to the White County Sign Ordinance was completed:

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-

REVISING CHAPTER 58 (SIGN REGULATIONS)
OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF WHITE COUNTY

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the White County Board of Commissioners wishes to amend Chapter 58 of the Official Code of White County;

NOW, THEREFORE, the White County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes the following amendments to the Official Code of White County:

Chapter 58 – Signs, Section 2 (Definitions) is hereby amended by adding the following definitions:

Multiple message sign: A sign, display, or device which changes the message or copy on the sign electronically by movement or illumination or rotation of panels or slats; and

Chapter 58 – Signs, Section 16 (Exemptions from Sign Permits) and Section 23 (Sign Setback) is hereby amended by the following deletions:

Sec. 58-16. Exemptions from Sign Permit.

Any sign which is specifically exempted from the requirements of this Article shall be exempt from the requirement to obtain a sign permit. In addition, window signs and all signs sixteen (16) square feet or less in area shall be exempt from a sign permit. Exemption from the requirement of a sign permit shall not be construed to exempt such sign from compliance with other applicable provisions of this Article.

Sec. 58-23. Sign Setback.

There is no established minimum required setback for signs, other than outside any city, county, state, or federal road right-of-way, except that temporary signs shall be erected no closer than fifteen (15) feet from a city, county, state, or federal road right-of-way.

All other rules, regulations, definitions, etc. contained in said Official Code of White County, not herein amended or deleted, shall remain in full force and effect.
Vickie Neikirk, Chief Financial Officer presented the Monthly Financial Report for the month of July (see attached).

Interim County Manager, Jean Welborn provided an update on the status of the Animal Shelter Construction project. Ms. Welborn detailed that a survey had been completed on the property and soil samples had been taken – with the soil samples being satisfactory. She explained that Harry Barton, Planning Director, is working with Sean Sullivan, of the White County Environmental Health Department, regarding the State acreage requirements for a septic system for the Animal Shelter in order to determine if the site would provide the acreage required. Chairman Turner indicated that he had spoken with the City of Cleveland regarding the possibility of accessing the City sewer system and it was recommended that the County install a septic system.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Campbell there was a unanimous vote to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing potential litigation and personnel issues.

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

With no decisions being made during Executive Session and upon a motion made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Bryant there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of the September 14, 2009 regular meeting are hereby approved as stated this the 5th day of October, 2009.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

s/Joe Campbell
Joe Campbell, Post 1 Commissioner

s/Craig Bryant
Craig Bryant, Post 2 Commissioner

s/Shanda Smallwood
Shanda Smallwood, County Clerk