

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #2, 214 W. KING STREET**

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

The Chairman called the meeting to order.  
Pledge of allegiance to the Flag  
Roll call to determine quorum

**The following members were present:**

Mike Babb, Chairman  
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman  
Lynn Laughter, Member  
Roger Crossen, Member  
Barry W. Robbins, Member

**Others Present:**

Mark Gibson, County Administrator (Absent)  
Citizens  
Department Heads  
Press

**Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to amend the agenda. The motion was approved 4-0.**

**3 items were added from the potential additional items; (1. Finance – Bond Refund Resolution, 2. Engineering – Award of Grading Contract, 3. Public Works – Purchase of (2) Mowers)**

**Motion was then made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the amended agenda. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Laughter, Brooker and Crossen in agreement. Approval of the agenda was unanimous.**

**Mr. David Headrick was named the Whitfield County Employee of the Month for February 2015. Mr. Headrick works in the Sheriff's Office.**

**PROCLAMATION**

- 1. National Public Safety Telecommunications Week** – Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to proclaim April 12 - 18, 2015 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Whitfield County, Georgia. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Robbins and Laughter in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "A")**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Regular Business Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2015. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Laughter, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

- 1. Resolution – Board of Tax Assessors Appointment Jerry Gibson:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the Resolution of Appointment of Jerry Gibson to the Whitfield County Board of Tax Assessors. The appointment of Jerry Gibson to the Whitfield County Board of Assessors shall begin on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and expire as of June 30, 2018. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Robbins and Laughter in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "B")**

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**FOR CONSIDERATION**

1. **Fire Department Declaration of Surplus Vehicles & Equipment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to surplus 3 items from the Fire Department to be placed on GovDeals.com. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Robbins, and Laughter in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “C”)**
2. **Intergovernmental Agreement with Whitfield County Board of Education:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Whitfield County Board of Education for mowing and trimming of all grass lawn areas around certain Board of Education properties, the term shall become effective on May 1, 2015 for a term of five years to expire on April 30, 2020. The agreement also states that the Board of Education will pay \$2,500, to Whitfield County for the services provided. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Crossen and Laughter in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “D”)**
3. **Ratify – Consulting Services Agreement with TUSA Consulting Services LLC:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to ratify the Consulting Services Agreement with TUSA Consulting Services in the amount of \$183,000. This agreement covers the services provided by TUSA consulting in regards to the management of the 2015 SPLOST project (joining the TVRS digital communication system). Funds for the cost of contract will be paid from SPLOST 2015 bond proceeds. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Robbins and Crossen in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “E”)**
4. **February 2015 Financial Statements:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the February 2015 Financial Statements as presented by Finance Director, Alicia Vaughn. In discussion, Mrs. Vaughn reported that Local Option Sales Tax for February 2015 is \$818,915. The Local Option Sales Tax percentage for 2015 will be 63.752%. The Local Option Sales Tax for February 2015 show a decrease of 6.4% compared to Local Option Sales Tax Collections for February 2014; Local Option Sales Tax collections for February 2015 show a 3% decrease from January 2015. Year to date Local Option Sales Tax collections through February 2015 are down 2.8% compare to Year to Date 2014 collections, Year to date actual revenues of \$3,905,548 for February 2015 are less than year to date projected revenue \$4,020,745 by 3%. Year to date actual expenditures of \$6,041,982 for February 2015 are less than year to date projected of \$6,737,997 by less than 10%. TAVT collections for February 2015 were \$149,411. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Laughter, Brooker and Robbins in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “F”)**
5. **Finance – 2014 Budget Amendment #4:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the 2014 Budget Amendment #4. This budget amendment is to realign budget allocation within the attached funds to meet the projected expenditures and revenues for year ended 2014. As the audit process progresses, other amendments will likely be forthcoming. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Laughter, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “G”)**
6. **Finance – 2015 Budget Amendment #1:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to approve the 2015 Budget Amendment #1. This budget

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amendment includes a reduction in contingency to cover expenditures that were unforeseen during the budget process. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Laughter, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "H")**

7. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the rezoning request of Hibbymo Properties-Antioch, LLC to rezone 1.96 acres from Rural Residential (R-3) to General Commercial (G-2) the property is located at the northeasterly corner of the intersection of Ledbetter Drive with the easterly R/W of Antioch Road, Dalton, Georgia, with the condition that Hibbymo Properties-Antioch, LLC install only a ground sign that does not block traffic. The motion to approve the rezoning was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Crossen and Laughter in agreement.
8. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the rezoning request of Lynn Hayes to rezone 6.59 acres from Rural Residential (R-3) to General Commercial (G-2) the property is addressed at 1240 Dawnville Rd, Dalton, Georgia. The motion to approve the rezoning was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Crossen and Laughter in agreement.
9. **Whitfield Transit – Ratify Transit Provider MOA:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Carol Moree and Leigh Griggs for exclusive transportation services for their Highland Rivers program consumers who are otherwise ineligible for GA Department of Human Services coordinated transportation. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Laughter and Crossen in agreement.
10. **Recreation Department – Gym Floor Bid:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to accept the low bid of \$46,618 from Impact Sports Services LLC. The Recreation department is remodeling the recreation gym with a new floor, goals, pad, and paint. This will be a PVC floor. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Robbins and Laughter in agreement.
11. **Recreation Department – Football and Tennis Court lighting at Edwards Park:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to accept the low bid of \$242,491 from Lawson Electric. The lighting project at Edwards Park will install lighting on two football fields and four tennis courts. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Robbins and Laughter in agreement.
12. **Recreation Department – Contract with Architect:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve Architects Wright and Mitchell Associates Inc. for professional services of a New Community Center at Edwards Park. Contract will consist of all construction phases including preparing all bid documents pertaining to construction of Community Center. The motion was approved 3-1, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, and Robbins. Commissioner Laughter was in dissent. **(SEE EXHIBIT "I")**
13. **Bond Resolution – 2010B Bond:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to adopt a resolution to issue its Dalton-Whitfield County Joint Development Authority Refunding Revenue Bond (Phase IIB Project), Series 2015 (the "Series 2015 Bond") in the approximate principal amount of \$4,900,000 in order to refund and redeem

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the Series 2010B Bond on June 15, 2015. The Series 2015 Bond shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of a Bond resolution to be prepared by the Authority (the "2015 Bond Resolution"). The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Robbins and Crossen in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "J")**

14. **Engineering – Award of Grading Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to award Northwest Georgia Paving Company of Calhoun, GA the grading and installation contract for Carbondale Business Park in the amount of \$827,650. In discussion, Whitfield County Engineer Kent Benson discussed that at the Direction of the Board of Commissioners the Engineering Department sought bids to grad and install drainage piping on an approximately 40-acre site in Carbondale Business Park, known as Site 6. The grading project is based on the grading plan ratified by the BOC at the February 2015 regular business meeting. The grading plan was designed by Houston Engineering with direction from the county engineer. The project was advertised for four weeks and received four sealed bids. The lowest responsive bidder was NW Georgia Paving Co. Inc., of Calhoun GA with a bid of \$827,650. The contract will allow 90 days from Notice to proceed to have the completed building pad ready for potential building construction. It allows an additional thirty days to complete other activities off the building pad, such as sowing grass. At the direction of the BOC, this project is to be assigned to the Dalton Whitfield Joint Development Authority. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Laughter and Crossen in agreement.
  
15. **Public Works – Purchase (2) Mowers:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve a purchase of two (2) Mowers in the Public Works Department from Jerry Pate Turf and Irrigation in the amount of \$117,481.44. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Robbins, Laughter, and Brooker in agreement.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Rails Sloan came before the Board to comment on the proposed communication project. Mr. Sloan was concerned about the high frequency signals penetrating buildings.

There were no other public comments.

**Executive Session – Property Acquisition:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to go into executive session to discuss Property Acquisition. Present for the meeting were Chairman Mike Babb, Commissioners Robbins, Brooker, Crossen and Laughter, County Attorney Robert Smalley, County Engineer Kent Benson, Recreation Director Brian Chastain and County Clerk Blanca Cardona. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Robbins and Laughter in agreement.

Motion was then made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commission Crossen to come out of Executive Session. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Brooker, Laughter and Crossen in agreement.

**ADJOURN** Unanimous

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MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN

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WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /