

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 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 (Absent)
Barry W. Robbins, Member

Others Present:

Mark Gibson, County Administrator
Citizens
Department Heads
Press

Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to amend the agenda. The motion was approved 3-0.

1 item was added from potential additional items; (1. MOU between NW GA SORBA (Northwest Georgia Southern Off-road Biking Association) and Whitfield County)

Motion was then made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the amended agenda. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Laughter and Brooker in agreement. Approval of the agenda was unanimous.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

1. **Re-Appointment to the Whitfield County Merit System Personnel Board:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to re-appoint Amy Anderson to the Whitfield County Merit System Personnel Board for another five year term to expire on June 30, 2020. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter and Robbins in agreement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to approve the Regular Business Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2015. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, and Robbins in agreement.

FOR CONSIDERATION

1. **August 2015 Financial Statements:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the August 2015 Financial Statements as presented by Finance Director, Alicia Vaughn. In discussion, Mrs. Vaughn reported that Local Option Sales Tax for August 2015 is \$869,111. The Local Option Sales Tax percentage for 2015 will be 63.752%. The Local Option Sales Tax for August 2015 show a decrease of 5.4% compared to Local Option Sales Tax Collections for August 2014; Local Option Sales Tax collections for August 2015 show a 2.0% decrease from July 2015. Year to date Local Option Sales Tax collections of \$6,886,635 through August 2015 are down 4.0% compare to

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Year to Date 2014 collections of \$7,174,901 Year to date actual revenues of \$15,766,053 for August 2015 are over year to date projected revenue \$14,870,182 by 6%. Year to date actual expenditures of \$26,110,174 for August 2015 are less than year to date projected of \$26,940,447 by less than 3%. TAVT collections for August 2015 were \$138,067. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, and Robbins in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "A")**

2. **Finance – Credit Card Services agreement with Government Window:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the agreement with Government Window for Credit Card services. Government Window is a company that offers credit card payment solutions to local governments. There is no cost to the County but there is a 5% charge added to any payment made by a citizen to have the ability to pay with a credit card. This fee covers the cost of the administrative burden of processing the card and the discount rate charge by the credit card process to Government Window. There have been many citizen requests to have the ability to pay with credit cards. The departments will make the citizens aware of the 5% charge to use a credit card and the citizens will still be able to pay with cash and checks. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Brooker and Laughter in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT "B")**
3. **C.E.R.T. Grant:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the C.E.R.T. Grant in the amount of \$4,525 from GEMA. The C.E.R.T grant is designed to enhance Whitfield County's preparedness for disasters or emergencies by funding the C.E.R.T team training. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, and Robbins in agreement.
4. **Homeland Security Grant:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to approve and accept the FY 2015 Homeland Security Grant from GEMA in the amount of \$90,000. The agreement governs the use of the funding provided by Department of Homeland Security Grant to help build and enhance capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from a Hazardous Material Incident, Major disasters and other emergencies in accordance with the goals and objectives of the State Strategic Plan. These funds will be used to replace the Satellite System and other electronics on the County's Mobile Command Vehicle. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, and Robbins in agreement.
5. **EMA – Operations Center Computers:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the purchase of Computers for the Operations Center from CDW – Government under contract # GS-35-0195J at a project cost of \$23,700.00. This purchase is to replace existing computers in the Operations Center as part of the SPLOST project. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Laughter, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.
6. **Public Works – Purchase of Rental:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to approve the purchase on a rental vehicle from Global Rental Co. in the amount of \$77,675. The Public Works department has been renting a bucket truck since July 29, 2015 from Global Rental Co at \$2,150 per month. The rental payment will apply 100% to the purchase of the vehicle for three months, the fourth month will drop to 60% and 20% for each month not purchased. The total cost of the vehicle is \$77,675 if purchased before the next month's rental payment. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins and Laughter in agreement.

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7. **MOU – NW GA SORBA and Whitfield County:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Northwest Georgia Southern Off-road Biking Association and Whitfield County to partner in the planning, design and development of mountain biking and hiking multi-use trails on Whitfield County owned property. The property known as “Buzzard’s Roost” is owned by the County for the purpose of providing green space and preserving irreplaceable natural, cultural, historic Civil War entrenchments, and recreational resources for the benefit and use of the public. The motion was approved 3-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins and Laughter in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “C”)**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURN Unanimous

MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /