

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY JANUARY 27, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING #2, 214 W. KING STREET**

**SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION**

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 (Absent)  
Lynn Laughter, Member  
Barry W. Robbins, Member  
Roger Crossen, Member

**Others Present:**

Mark Gibson, County Administrator  
Robert Smalley, County Attorney  
Department Heads  
Press

**Special Called Work Session:**

The work session was called to order by Chairman Babb.

Chairman Babb noted that the work session will be a discussion among the Board, County Administrator, Finance Director and department heads to gather information regarding the closing of the Whitfield County Defined Benefit Plan and adopting a 401(a) Defined Contribution and a 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan. Whitfield County is proposing that GEBCorp an ACCG company administer the plans for the County. Kale Hodges, Retirement Services Director and Paul Bates Regional Client Manager from GEBCorp went over the advantages of GEBCorp's plan administration services. Mr. Hodges noted that GEBCorp is exclusive to Georgia local governments and authorities and over 75% of the Counties in Georgia partner with GEBCorp for retirement services. Mr. Hodges noted that the proposed Defined Benefit plan changes for the County would be to close the Defined Benefit Plan to employees hired or rehired on and after February 1, 2016, allow active Full-time employees on January 31, 2016, who have not met the three year eligibility period to remain eligible to participate upon meeting those requirements, and to allow certain Employees working under the SPCR contract as of December 31, 2015 who transfer employment to the County from the Public Defender's and District Attorney's Office on or before December 31, 2017 to be eligible to participate in the Plan and to receive credit for service with the State of Georgia in certain circumstances. Mr. Hodges further explained the Proposed Defined Contribution Plan will allow new hires to be eligible for Base and Match on the employee's commencement date with the 457(b) immediately vested, the employee will be 100% vested for the 401(a) after the employee's fifth year.

Commissioner Laughter asked the Department Heads if the proposed Defined Contribution plan would make it difficult to hire new employees. Public Works Director Dewayne Hunt, Fire Chief Edward O'Brien and 911/EMA Director Claude Craig all replied that they don't see the Plan as having any effect on gaining future employees.

The work session was adjourned.

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MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN  
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /