

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016 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 then made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the agenda. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Brooker, Laughter and Crossen in agreement.**

**Ms. Erica Salazar was named the Whitfield County Employee of the Month for May 2016. Ms. Salazar works in the District Attorney's Office.**

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

1. **Appointment to the DFCS Board:** Motion was made by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to appoint Mr. Miguel Garcia to the Whitfield County Department of Family and Children Services Board of Directors. The appointment is to a five-year term to expire June 30, 2021. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
2. **Re-appointment to the Board of Directors of the Conasauga River Alliance:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to re-appoint Mr. Chad Mulkey to the Conasauga River Alliance for a term of two-years which will expire on June 1, 2018. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
3. **Appointment to the Dalton-Whitfield Planning Commission:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to appoint Tom Minor to fill the unexpired term of Virgil Cook to expire July 10, 2018. The motion was approved 3-1, with Commissioners Crossen, Laughter and Robbins in agreement. Commissioner Brooker was in dissent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Regular Business Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2016 and the June 27, 2016 Work Session Minutes. The motion was approved 3-1, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker and Robbins in agreement. Commissioner Laughter voted in dissent due to her not being present during the regular meeting or the work session.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

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1. **Kronos – Timekeeper Support Services Upgrade:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to ratify the Kronos Timekeeping System Upgrade from Kronos Support Services in the amount of \$50,135. The system upgrade will upgrade the current software and will also configure integration with the new accounting software SmartFusion. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Laughter, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “A”)**
2. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the request of Jennifer S. Ford to rezone 10.4 acres from General Commercial (G-2) to General Agriculture (GA); the subject property is addressed as 154 Green Lake Road, Rocky Face, GA. The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Laughter and Crossen in agreement.
3. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the request of Southern Unity Investing, LLC to rezone 1.43 acres from Low Density Single Family Residential (R-2) to General Commercial (G-2); the subject property is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of North Thornton Ave with the Dalton North Bypass. The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
4. **City of Varnell Annexation Request –11-264-07-040:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins for no land use classification objection to tax parcel number 11-264-07-040. For this parcel the City of Varnell proposed a zoning change from County R-6 to Varnell R-6. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
5. **City of Varnell Annexation Request –11-263-01-196:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins for no land use classification objection to tax parcel 11-263-01-196. For this parcel the City of Varnell proposed a zoning change from County R-6 to Varnell R-6. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Laughter, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
6. **May 2016 Financial Statements:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to approve the May 2016 Financial Statements as presented by Finance Director, Alicia Vaughn. In discussion, Mrs. Vaughn reported that Local Option Sales Tax for May 2016 is \$801,758, the LOST percentage for 2016 is 63.752%. Local Option Sales Tax for May 2016 show a decrease of 6.7% compared to Local Option Sales Tax Collections for May 2015; Local Option Sales Tax collections for May 2016 show 1.6% increase from April 2016. Year to date 2016 Local Option Sales Tax collections of \$4,114,656 are down 3.7% compared to year to date 2015 collections. Year to date actual revenues of \$10,291,174 for May 2016 are under year to date projected revenue \$10,332,399 by less than 1%. Year to date actual expenditures of \$15,379,389 for May 2016 are under year to date projected of \$15,940,474 by 3%. TAVT collections for May 2016 were \$131,413. Based on the year 2012 Collections on the old system the collections for TAVT through May 2016 are 8% higher under the new system. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Laughter and Robbins in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “B”)**
7. **Finance – 2016 Budget Amendments #3 & #4:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to approve the 2016 budget amendments #3 & #4 as

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presented by the Finance Department. Budget amendment #3 increases the SPLOST budget for approved equipment items for paving in 2016. Budget amendment #4 reduces the contingency line item by \$69,800 for several items including the Kronos Software upgrade, ACCG conference and training line expense, and highway impact fees. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Laughter and Robbins in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “C”)**

8. **Public Works – Contract with Southeastern Engineering, Inc.:** Motion was approved by Commissioner Laughter and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to ratify the professional services agreement with SEI in the amount of \$67,029 for engineering, contract management support and construction engineering and inspection for Scott Road, East Nance Springs Road and Lake Francis Road. This project will be for drainage improvements and culvert replacements with a modular bridge system. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Laughter, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “D”)**
  
9. **Agreement and Easement with Acree Timber, LLC/E.M. Acree II, LLLP:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Laughter to ratify the agreement with Acree Timber, LLC/E.M. Acree II, LLLP for \$39,000. The purchase is being funded by the 2015 SPLOST that was approved by voters March 2015 and is for a permanent non-exclusive easement for ingress/egress to one of the towers for the communications project. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Laughter, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement. **(SEE EXHIBIT “E”)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURN** Unanimous

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MIKE BABB, CHAIRMAN  
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /