

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, JULY 9, 2018, 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:

R. Lynette Laughter, Chairman
Harold Brooker, Vice Chairman
Barry W. Robbins, Member
Roger Crossen, Member
Greg Jones, Member

Others Present:

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to amend the agenda, adding the Potential Additional Items (1. Public Road Dedication – Nexus Drive, 2. Quit Claim Deed – DW Joint Development Authority, and 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION, Personnel). The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

Chairman Laughter noted Judy Castaneda was Employee of the Month for May 2018. Ms. Castaneda works in Magistrate Court.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the June 11, 2018 regular business meeting and the June 25, 2018 work session minutes. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

1. **Whitfield County Board of Elections-Reappointments:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to re-appoint Carol L. Byers, Robert A. Cowan and L. Stephen Kelehear to the Board of Elections. Their re-appointments will be for five-year terms to expire on June 30, 2022. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.
2. **Board of Tax Assessors Re-Appointments:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the re-appointments of Michael Brumlow and Jerry Gibson to the Whitfield County Board of Tax Assessors. Their re-appointments will be for a six-year term to expire on June 30, 2024. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Robbins, and Jones in agreement.
3. **Re-appointment to the Board of Directors of the Conasauga River Alliance:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to re-appoint Mr. Chad Mulkey to the Conasauga River Alliance for a term of two-years which will expire on June 1, 2020. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.

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4. **Whitfield County Merit System Personnel Board Re-Appointment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to re-appoint Matthew Brown to a five-year term to expire June 30, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Jones and Crossen in agreement.

FOR CONSIDERATION

1. **Grant Farm – Hay Bid:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to enter into a hay lease agreement from Josh Land to maintain the Hay Fields on approximately 70 acres of the Grant Farm. The hay will be cut, baled and removed. Josh Land was the only bid received and will pay an annual amount of \$350.00 to Whitfield County. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
2. **Sheriff's Office – Commercial Dishwasher Purchase:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the low bid of \$54,544.52 from Douglas Equipment for purchase and installation of a replacement commercial dishwasher at the detention center. The Sheriff's Office had budgeted \$45,000 in capital for this purchase but is requesting \$9,544.52 from contingency funds to complete this purchase. The current dishwasher is over sixteen years old and requires constant repair. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Brooker, Crossen and Jones in agreement.
3. **Fire Department – Fire Apparatus Purchase:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the lowest compliant bidder for apparatus that meet the specifications. The department placed the items out for competitive bids to include hose, air packs, nozzles, AED, fittings and adapters to outfit the new fire engines. The purchase of the apparatus equipment will come from the 2018 Fire Bond. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Robbins, Jones and Robbins in agreement.
4. **Fire Department Personal Protective Clothing Purchase:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the low bid for turn out gear from NAFECO for \$82,412.10. The fire department will purchase a total of 45 sets of gear, 27 will be purchased with capital budget funds and 18 sets of gear will be purchased using funds from the 2018 Fire Bond. The sets are \$1,831.38 each from the NAFECO. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
5. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to deny the request of Jose Diaz to rezone a tract of land (parcel 12-251-03-026) totaling 0.71 acres from Rural Residential (R-5) to General Commercial (C-2). The subject property is located at 141 Butterfield Drive. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board deny the rezoning. The motion to approve the denial was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.
6. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Kim Morgan to rezone a tract of land (parcel 12-142-02-090) totaling 0.84 acres from Heavy Manufacturing (M-2) to General Commercial (G-2). The subject property is located at 514 Fleming Street. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.

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7. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Tanya Vasbinder to rezone a tract of land (parcel 11-015-11-000) totaling 9.02 acres from General Agriculture (GA) to Low Density Single Family Residential (R-2). The subject property is located along the east R/W of Blair Road. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.
8. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Michael Davis to rezone a tract of land (parcel 27-241-19-000) totaling 4.00 acres from Low Density Single Family Residential (R-2) to Rural Residential (R-5). The subject property is located at 1616 Lafayette Road. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.
9. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Raymond Morrison to rezone a tract of land (parcel 12-154-27-000) totaling 0.65 acres from Low Density Single Family Residential (R-2) to Rural Residential (R-5). The subject property is located along the east R/W of Mill Creek Road. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.
10. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Faye Stafford to rezone a tract of land (parcel 27-340-04-000) totaling 2.91 acres from General Commercial (C-2) to Rural Residential (R-5). The subject property is located at 2250 Mill Creek Road. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.
11. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of T&L Properties of Dalton, LLC to rezone a tract of land (parcel 12-293-65-000) totaling 12.01 acres from Rural Residential (R-5) to Heavy Manufacturing (M-2). The subject property is located along the east R/W of Antioch Road. The Planning Commission has recommended the Board approve the rezoning with the condition to preserve the vegetative buffer along the southern portion of Ledbetter Drive. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen, and Robbins in agreement.
12. **City of Varnell Annexation Request – 11-263-01-203:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen for no land use classification objection to tax parcel number 11-263-01-203. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
13. **Town of Cohutta Annexation Requests – 11-119-01-146 & 11-119-01-019:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen for no land use classification objection to tax parcel numbers 11-119-01-146 & 11-119-01-019. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
14. **May 2018 Financial Statement:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the May 2018 Financial Statement as presented by Finance Director, Alicia Vaughn. In discussion, Mrs. Vaughn reported that Local Option Sales Tax for May 2018 is \$883,170 – LOST percentage 2018 = 62.653% May 2018 collections are

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up 7.1 % compared to April 2018 Collections. May 2018 collections show an increase of 6.3% compared to May 2017 collections. Year to Date Local Option Sales Tax collections through May 2018 are \$4,161,873 and show an increase of 4.2% compared to Year to Date 2017 collections. Year to date actual Revenues of \$11,993,340 for May 2018 are over year to date projected revenues of \$11,536,808 by 3%. Year to date actual Expenditures of \$17,402,298 for May 2018 are under Year to date projected expenditures of \$17,912,058 by 2%. TAVT collections for May 2018 equal \$227,651 and are over budgeted TAVT Revenues of \$162,500 by 40%. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

15. **Finance – 2018 Budget Amendment #2:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the 2018 budget amendment #2 as presented by Finance Director, Alicia Vaughn. This amendment affects the General Fund, the Capital Projects Fund, and the E-911 fund. Budget amendment #2 for 2018 uses \$136,150 of contingency funds from the general fund. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
16. **Resolution – Health Insurance:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the resolution ratifying eligibility to purchase medical, dental, vision insurance coverage and related insurance benefits through Whitfield County's providers. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
17. **Public Road Dedication – Nexus Drive:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to dedicate Nexus Drive as a public road and part of the public road system of Whitfield County, forming a roadway through Carbondale Business Park. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
18. **Quit Claim Deed – Dalton-Whitfield Joint Development Authority:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to convey to DW Joint Development Authority the north line of the tract of land being conveyed is the north line of Land Lot 137 of the 13th District and 3rd Section of Whitfield County, which also constitutes the north line of the north leg of the road. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Executive Session – Personnel: Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to go into executive session to discuss Personnel. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Robbins and Jones in agreement. Present for the meeting were Chairman Lynn Laughter, Commissioners Robbins, Brooker, Crossen and Jones, County Attorney Robert Smalley, County Administrator Mark Gibson, and Human Resources Director Jackie Carlo. Finance Director Alicia Vaughn attended the first part of the meeting.

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

ADJOURN Unanimous

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /