

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018, AT 5:15 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

Chairman Laughter called the meeting to order at 5: 15 P.M.

Executive Session – Personnel & Potential Litigation: Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to go into executive session to discuss Personnel and Potential Litigation. 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, and County Attorney Robert Smalley. County Administrator Mark Gibson and Human Resources Director Jackie Carlo attended the second part of the meeting.

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

The regular business meeting was reconvened at 6:00 P.M.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to amend the agenda. The Resolution for Jerry Albertson was moved to after the Employee of the Month presentation. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

Chairman Laughter recognized Mr. Ronnie Burns as Employee of the Month for August 2018. Mr. Burns works at the Sheriff's Office in Court Services.

RESOLUTION

1. **Jerry Albertson Day of Memory:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the resolution proclaiming October 8th, 2018 as "Jerry Albertson Day of Memory" in Whitfield County, Georgia. Several members of Mr. Albertson's family were present to receive the Proclamation. The motion was approved 5-0, with Chairman Laughter and Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Jones and Robbins in agreement.

Proclamation

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Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to proclaim October 7-13, 2018 as National 4-H Week in Whitfield County. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Robbins and Brooker in agreement.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the September 10, 2018 regular business meeting, and the September 24, 2018 work session minutes. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

1. **Re-appointment to the Whitfield Historic Preservation Commission:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to re-appoint Kathryn Sellers, Robert Jenkins, Janet Cochran, Robert McLeod, Judy Alderman, John Hutcheson, and Marvin Sowder to the Whitfield Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
2. **Re-appointment for Region 1 EMS Council:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to reappoint Edward O'Brien to the Northwest Georgia Region 1 of the EMS Council. The seat is for a two-year term ending January 2021. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.

FOR CONSIDERATION

1. **Dept. of Community Affairs Service Delivery Agreement Form 5:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the extension of the Service Delivery Strategy between Whitfield County and the Cities of Dalton, Varnell, Tunnel Hill and the Town of Cohutta until October 31, 2019. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins Crossen and Jones in agreement
2. **Moreland Altobelli On-Call Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to enter into a contract with Moreland Altobelli for on-call services. Services could include highway and road design, transportation planning and traffic engineering, and surveying. The motion carried, 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
3. **Resolution – Solid Waste Authority Plan 2018-2028:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the Solid Waste Authority Plan for 2018- 2028. The plan addresses waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, public involvement and implementation. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
4. **Animal Shelter Grant Award:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the grant award of \$3,000.00 from the GA Department of Agriculture for spay and neuter cost assistance to citizens of Whitfield County. The grant is issued through the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program which is funded by the purchase of Dog

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and Cat Sterilization Auto Tags. The motion was approved 4-0 with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

5. **County Administrator Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Jones to extend County Administrator Mark Gibson's employee contract with Whitfield County through December 31, 2020. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
6. **Intergovernmental Agreement with Dalton Utilities for Utility Patching:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Dalton Utilities and Whitfield County for Utility Patching. This agreement is contingent upon Dalton Utilities signing the agreement and states that Dalton Utilities can request Whitfield County Public Works to provide work for utility patch completion, emergency repair and shoulder work. Both parties agree that all work including labor, materials and equipment performed at the request of Dalton Utilities shall be the sole financial responsibility of Dalton Utilities. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
7. **Public Works – Asphalt Paver Lease:** No action was taken on this item
8. **Public Works – Surplus Equipment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the equipment surplus and to list the items on GovDeals.com. The motion was approved, 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
9. **Public Works – “No Thru Truck Traffic” Pleasant Grove Drive:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve Pleasant Grove Drive as a “No Thru Truck Traffic” Route. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Crossen and Jones in agreement.
10. **No Pet Policy – Whitfield County Facilities:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve amending Article 1 of Chapter 7.5 of the Code of Ordinances of Whitfield County by creating a new section 7.5-1 entitled “no animals in County Facilities” and creating a new section 7.5-2 entitled “Penalties”. The Whitfield County Animal Shelter is exempt from this policy and does not apply to service animals. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Crossen and Jones in agreement.
11. **City of Tunnel Hill Annexation Request – 12-038-03-025:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Robbins for no land use classification objection to tax parcel number 12-038-03-025. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
12. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Mary Stoker to rezone 0.67 acres from General Commercial (GC) to Rural Residential (R-5); the subject property is located at 102 Foster Road, parcel number 12-296-02-024. The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board

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approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.

13. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Sharon Wilson to rezone from Low Density Single Family Residential (R-2) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 0.47 acres located at 427 Westbrook Drive (Parcel 12-104-20-000). The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
14. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of PBR Group Properties, LLC to rezone from Rural Residential (R-5) to High Density Residential (R-7), a tract of land totaling 1.32 acres located along the south R/W of Foster Road (Parcel 12-313-25-000). The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
15. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Hollis Holdings, LLC to rezone from General Agriculture (GA) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 77 acres located along the west R/W of Oscar Nance Road (Parcel 11-285-01-000). The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
16. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Doris Crowe to rezone from General Agriculture (GA) to Low Density Single Family Residential (R-2) a tract of land totaling 1.92 acres located at 374 Broadacre Road (Parcel 11-314-14-000). The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
17. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the request of Roger Farmer to rezone from General Agriculture (GA) to Rural Residential (R-5) a tract of land totaling 5.4 acres located at 110 Classic Lane (Parcel 12-065-51-000). The Planning Commission has recommended that the Board approve the rezoning. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
18. **Finance – 2018 Budget Amendment #3:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the 2018 budget amendment #3 as presented by Interim Finance Director, Melva Andrews. Budget amendment #3 for 2018 uses \$192,183 of contingency funds from the general fund. After this budget amendment, there will be a balance of \$444,319 left in contingency. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Jones and Robbins in agreement.
19. **August 2018 Financial Statement:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the August 2018 Financial Statement as presented by Interim Finance Director, Melva Andrews. In discussion, Ms. Andrews reported

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that LOST for August 2018 is \$871,831 – LOST percentage 2018 = 62.653% August 2018 collections are up 0.5% compared to July 2018 collections. August 2018 collections show an increase of 8.1% compared to August 2017 collections. Year to date LOST collections through August 2018 are \$6,528,667 and show only a slight increase over year to date 2017 collections. Year to date actual revenues of \$17,337,244 through August 2018 exceed the projected revenues of \$16,577,752 by 4.6%. Year to date actual expenditures of \$30,026,847 for August 2018 are under year to date anticipated expenditures of \$30,740,289 by 2.3%. TAVT collections for August 2018 were \$158,982, year to date collections through August 2018 are \$1,661,029 which exceeds our year to date projection by 23%. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

20. **Fire Department Hurst Hydraulic Extrication Equipment Purchase:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the purchase of Hurst Hydraulic Extrication equipment from MES Inc. for \$27,806.38. MES Inc. is the sole dealer for the State of Georgia for this product. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
21. **Fire Department – Station 12 Construction Bid:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to enter in contract with Felker Construction Co., Inc., to construct Fire Station 12 for \$1,765,276. Felker Construction Co. Inc., was the lowest bid received. The RFP committee recommended Tyson & Associates to be awarded the construction bid, however the Board decided to award it to Felker Construction as they had the lower bid. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker, and Robbins in agreement.
22. **Fire Department – Miscellaneous Surplus Items:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the miscellaneous surplus items from the Fire Department and to list the items on GovDeals.com. The motion was approved, 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
23. **Parks & Recreation – Ratify Barge Master Plan Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to ratify the contract with Barge Design Solutions in the amount of \$29,850.00. Barge Design Solutions, will complete the design for Westside Park and the master park plan for the future Riverbend Park. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker, and Robbins in agreement.
24. **Parks & Recreation Golf Cart Purchase:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the purchase of a refurbished golf cart for \$4,700.00. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
25. Jennifer Shearin, Director of the Dalton-Whitfield Community Development Corporation presented the Board with information regarding the services offered to Whitfield County Citizens. Shearin noted that they provide housing counseling services, foreclosure prevention and homeless housing programs

PUBLIC COMMENT

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ADJOURN Unanimous

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /