

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2019, 6:00 P.M. AT 201 S. HAMILTON ST., 5TH FLOOR, DALTON, GA, 30720

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 Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to amend the agenda to remove agenda item No. 4. District Attorney – Vehicle Purchase. The motion was approved 5-0, with Chairman Laughter, and Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.

Motion was then made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the amended agenda. The motion was approved 5-0, with Chairman Laughter, and Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.

Chairman Laughter recognized Mrs. Teresa Tucker as Employee of the Month for July 2019. Mrs. Tucker works in the Buildings and Grounds Department.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Laughter called for a Public Hearing to hear any comments or concerns the public may have regarding an application for a Malt Beverage License for Bhavana Bhupender LLC located at 1729 S. Dixie Hwy, Dalton, GA. The application noted that the advertisement requirement has not been met due to the business changing designated agents prior to the meeting. The Board noted they would like for the advertisements to be posted prior to them making a decision on this request. No other comments or concerns were expressed in the Public Hearing so Chairman Laughter closed the hearing.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the August 12, 2019 regular business meeting, August 26, 2019 special called meeting and the August 26, 2019 work session minutes. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

1. **Whitfield County Merit System Personnel Board Appointment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to re-appoint Amy Anderson to fill the un-expired term of Matthew Brown to expire June 30, 2023. Ms. Anderson was an alternate member on the Board. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Jones and Crossen in agreement.

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FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. **Alcohol Beverage License – Bhavana Bhupender LLC:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to postpone this item until the October meeting. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.
2. **UGA Extension – Vehicle Surplus:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the surplus of a 2015 Ford E-350 8 passenger bus and to list it on GovDeals.com. The motion was approved, 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
3. **Resolution – Ordinance Amendment Site Design:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to adopt the resolution to amend the Whitfield County Site design ordinance. Benson noted this amendment change would allow him, at his discretion, a reduction in the right of way widths and may allow utility easements as substitution for right of ways. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Jones and Robbins in agreement.
4. **Fire Department GA Power Generator Application:** Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to authorize Chairman Laughter to sign the application for a generator at Station 12. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
5. **Grant Farm official name and logo design:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the logo design and officially name the 1000 acres of County owned property by Crow Valley Road to Rocky Face Ridge Park. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Crossen and Jones in agreement.
6. **Public Works – Bridge Maintenance Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to enter into a contract with Heath and Lineback Engineers, Inc. for professional services for \$183,750. The contract includes Inspection and Documentation of existing Conditions (\$9,150), Final Construction Plans (\$137,100) and Construction Services (Inspection) (\$37,500) to facilitate the repair of structures that have deficiencies as identified by GDOT through their biannual safety inspections. Those inspections include bridges and large culverts that span over 20 linear feet. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
7. **City of Varnell Annexation Request:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones for no land use classification objection to tax parcel number 11-263-01-176. The motion was approved 3-1, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement. Commissioner Brooker was in dissention.
8. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the recommendation of the planning commission approving the request of Greenwood Developers to rezone parcels (11-300-12-001 and 11-313-30-000) totaling 74 acres from General Agriculture (GA) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) a tract of land located along the west R/W of Cleveland Highway. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

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9. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the recommendation of the planning commission to deny the request of Diana Rico to rezone a tract of land from Low Density Residential (R-2) to General Commercial (C-2) parcels (12-103-02-011, 063, 093) totaling 1.3 acres located at 2319 Cleveland Highway. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.
10. **July 2019 Financial Statement:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the July 2019 Financial Statement as presented by Finance Director James Garvin. Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) collections: Per the IGA, the County's LOST percentage for 2019 is 61.556%. It was 62.653% in 2017 / 2018. July, 2019 collections of \$933,284 were 13.0% greater than budgeted collections of \$825,750. July, 2019 collections of \$933,284, were 1.4% greater than June, 2019 collections of \$920,276. YTD July, 2019 collections of \$6,441,596, were 8.4% greater than same-period 2018 collections of \$5,940,324. TAVT collections for July, 2019 were \$292,265, or 70.9% greater than July, 2018 collections of \$ 171,043. YTD July, 2019 collections of \$ 1,593,535, were 6.1 % greater than same-period 2018 collections of \$1,502,047. YTD July, 2019 actual revenues of \$17,549,194, exceeded projected revenues of \$ 16,085,579, by \$1,463,615, or 9.1 %. YTD July, 2019 actual expenditures of \$26,070,051, were less than projected expenditures of \$26,570,879, by \$500,828, or 1.9%. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURN Unanimous

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /