

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020, 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 Jones to amend the agenda to include the potential additional items. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Crossen, Brooker and Robbins in agreement

Chairman Laughter recognized Mr. Shawn Giles as Employee of the Month for November 2019. Mr. Giles works at the Sheriff's Office.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Brooker and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the December 9, 2019 regular business meeting, Special Called Meeting December 10, 2019, Budget Workshop December 11, 2019, Budget Public Hearing December 13, 2019, Budget Workshop December 17, 2019, Public Hearing and Special Called Meeting December 20, 2019 The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Brooker, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.

Chairman Laughter - Appointment of Commissioners to Commissions, Organizations, and Commissions:

Chairman Laughter appointed the Commissioners to the following:

Roger Crossen – N. GA Community Action Group Inc., Whitfield County Board of Health

Harold Brooker – Dalton-Whitfield Solid Waste Authority and the Dalton-Whitfield Land Bank Authority

Greg Jones – Correctional Task Force and the Dalton-Whitfield Land Bank Authority,

Chairman Laughter – Dalton-Whitfield Solid Waste Authority, Greater Dalton MPO, Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, and the Council of Chief Elected Officials, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center

Barry W. Robbins – Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center

Mike Babb – Northwest Georgia Regional Commission.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1. **Appointment to the Dalton-Whitfield Planning Commission:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to appoint Mr. David Pennington IV to fill the unexpired term of Tom Minor on the Dalton-Whitfield Planning Commission to expire July 10, 2020. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Robbins and Jones in agreement.

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2. **Appointment for Whitfield County Board of Health:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Jones to appoint Bucky Broadrick to the Whitfield County Board of Health. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
3. **Re-Appointment to the Dalton/Whitfield Joint Development Authority:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to re-appoint Mr. Frank Robertson to a one-year term to the Dalton/Whitfield Joint Development Authority as the City/County appointee. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
4. **Re-Appointment to the Dalton/Whitfield Joint Development Authority:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to re-appoint Mr. David Jolly to a one-year term to the Dalton/Whitfield Joint Development Authority. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Robbins, Crossen and Brooker in agreement.

FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. **Resolution Setting Qualifying Fees – 2020 Election:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to adopt a Resolution of the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners Fixing Qualifying Fees for Public Offices for the 2020 general primary, non-partisan, and general elections. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins, and Crossen in agreement.
2. **Board of Commissioners Vice-Chairman Election:** Commissioner Robbins nominated Commissioner Brooker for Vice-Chairman of the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners for 2020, Commissioner Crossen seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. A vote was taken and Commissioner Brooker was re-elected 4-0, to be the Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2020.
3. **Juvenile Court Guardian ad Litem Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Contract of Employment between Whitfield County and Matthew Thames for Juvenile Court Guardian ad Litem services. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Crossen and Robbins in agreement.
4. **Juvenile Court – Court Attorney Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Independent Contractor's Agreement between Whitfield County Juvenile Court and Bart Barnwell. Mr. Barnwell will provide legal representation in all indigent cases as determined by the Whitfield County Juvenile Court. The motion carried, 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Jones, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
5. **Juvenile Court – Court Attorney Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Independent Contractor's Agreement between Whitfield County Juvenile Court and Joshua Smith. Mr. Smith will provide legal representation in all indigent cases as determined by the Whitfield County Juvenile Court. The motion carried, 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Brooker, Robbins and Crossen in agreement.
6. **Juvenile Court – Court Attorney Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Independent Contractor's Agreement between Whitfield County Juvenile Court and Bryan Rayburn. Mr. Rayburn will provide legal

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representation in all indigent cases as determined by the Whitfield County Juvenile Court. The motion carried, 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Jones and Crossen in agreement.

7. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the recommendation of the planning commission to approve the request of April Ogle to rezone a tract of land (parcel 12-004-01-000) containing a total 1.0 acre located at 2800 Dutch Lane, Tunnel Hill, Georgia, from General Agriculture (GA) to Low-Density Single-Family Residential (R-2). The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones and Robbins in agreement.
8. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the recommendation of the planning commission to approve the request of Bart Rich to rezone a tract of land (parcel 12-313-06-002) totaling .34 acres located on Francis Drive, Dalton, GA from Rural Residential (R-5) to High Density Residential (R-7). The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement in agreement.
9. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the recommendation of the planning commission to approve the request of T. Mark Barnwell to rezone a tract of land (parcel 13-209-10-055) totaling 5.00 acres located at 516 Brandon Drive, Resaca, Georgia, from Rural Residential (R-5) to General Agriculture (GA). The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement in agreement.
10. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the recommendation of the planning commission to approve the request of Crow Road Holdings to rezone from General Agriculture (GA) to Low-Density Single Family Residential(R-2) a tract of land totaling 61.77 acres located on Crow Road, Dalton, Georgia (parcel 11-232-01-000). The Board approved the rezoning with the condition that no more than 16 access points to Crow Road be permitted. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
11. **Rezoning Recommendation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Robbins to approve the recommendation of the planning commission to approve the request of Brookeside Holdings to rezone from General Agriculture (GA) to Low-Density Single Family Residential(R-2) a tract of land totaling 38.83 acres located on Crow Road Dalton, Georgia (parcel 11-232-01-000). The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Crossen, Jones, and Robbins in agreement.
12. **November 2019 Financial Statement:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the November 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. November 2019 collections of \$912,770, were 10.5% greater than budgeted collections of \$825,750. This was 2.2% less than October 2019 collections of \$932,969. YTD November 2019 collections of \$10,131,452, were 6.4% greater than same-period 2018 collections of \$9,521,449. TAVT collections for November 2019 were \$307,647, or 75.5% greater than November 2018 collections of \$175,254. YTD November, 2019 collections of \$3,014,408, were 37.4% greater than same-period 2018 collections of \$2,193,622. Year to date November 2019 actual revenues of \$29,165,585, exceeded projected revenues of \$27,146,790, by \$2,018,795, or 7.4%. Year to

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date November 2019 actual expenditures of \$41,452,751, were less than projected expenditures of \$41,531,924, by \$79,173, or 0.2%. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Crossen, Jones, Brooker and Robbins in agreement.

13. **Superior Court – 2020 Interpreter Contract:** Motion was made by Commissioner Crossen and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the annual contract with KRNW Inc., for court interpreter services for Superior Court. The contract is for \$83,700.00 per year, and the end date is December 31, 2020. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Jones, Robbins, Brooker and Crossen in agreement.
14. **Sheriff's Office – RFP Jail Security Renovation:** Motion was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crossen to approve the Security Replacement Request for Proposal (RFP) from Odin Technologies. Captain Lynch noted in April of 2018 the Board accepted the Sheriff's request to issue RFPs for repairs and renovations to the Detention Center. Lynch noted the RFP from Odin Technologies was reviewed by both the IT department and the Sheriff's Office. Out of the four RFPs received, Odin Technology was the lowest bidder at \$544,322. Lynch further noted this updated system would increase the safety of the facility. Commissioner Jones amended his motion to include if the SPLOST referendum is approved in May 2020 this amount will be reimbursed back to the general fund account. The motion was then seconded by Commissioner Crossen. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Robbins, Brooker, Jones and Crossen in agreement.
15. **Fire Dept. Station 12 – Change Order #4:** Motion was made by Commissioner Robbins and seconded by Commissioner Brooker to approve the change order #4 for Station #12. This change order #4 is a credit of \$785.73 for the water bill and diesel fuel Felker Construction utilized during construction of Station #12. The amount of \$55,712.33 will be reduced from the final contract price. The motion was approved 4-0, with Commissioners Brooker, Robbins, Jones and Crossen in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Margaret Thigpen Director of Tourism of the Dalton CVB and Dalton Convention Center presented the Board with a report of the tourism economic impact of Northwest Georgia.

ADJOURN Unanimous

R. LYNETTE LAUGHTER, CHAIRMAN
WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK

DATE: / /