

**Minutes**  
**Elbert County Board of Commissioners**  
**Monday, May 8, 2017**

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Lyon, Vice Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Lee Vaughn , Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler, CFO Phil Pitts.

After the pledge to the United States flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Ashworth.

**Adoption of Agenda.** Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add (11a)- Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Ashworth made the motion. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Adoption of the Minutes of the Called Meeting on April 6, 2017 and the Regular Meeting on April 10, 2017.** Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Jason Ray, representing the Downtown Development Authority to come before the Board to request funds to help assist in expenses for the Summer Concert Weekend on the downtown square.** Mr. Ray stated this would be a 2 night event on Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He expressed his appreciation for past support and hopes we can help again this year. Chairman Lyon stated that funds were low in the Hotel/Motel tax fund and whereas in the past we have donated \$2,500 we will now only be able to donate \$1,000. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to donate \$1,000. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Second Reading and Approval of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of Elbert County to create a new Section 2-6, amending the Records Management Program.** According to Mr. Daughtry having a records retention schedule is required by state law. This amended ordinance will make us compliant with state standards. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the amendment. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of a Beer and Wine License application for the Food Store, 2379 Calhoun Falls Hwy (formerly the Quik Stop).** Mr. Thomas stated that all requirements have been met and property taxes have been paid. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the application. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of a request from the Planning Commission for a Conditional Use permit and height variance for a radio tower for AT&T to construct a 255 foot tower at 1011 Lincolnton Hwy.** The recommendation from the Planning Commission is to approve the request with the following conditions.

- A) To approve as long as they have FAA approval.
- B) Tower needs to be at least 255 feet from the State Highway 79 R/W.

Mr. Thomas stated that a letter was received from the FAA indicating the height would not be an issue. Also, there is enough property to place the tower at the required distance from the highway. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the Conditional Use permit and Height variance. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Matt Bidwell of MSI Benefits Group to discuss the Employee Health Benefits program for FY2018.** Mr. Bidwell discussed the upcoming renewal of the health insurance plan. The current annual premium to the County is \$1,076,926. The proposed renewal is \$1,171,163. There are several options to consider to help reduce the premium and all of these will be looked at during the next couple of weeks as open enrollment for employees is in June.

**Financial Report.** According to Mr. Pitts, the General Fund is 2.4% under budget through April. Total General Fund revenues are \$250,000 less than they were this time last year.

**Public Comments.** There were no public comments.

**Executive Session.** Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Ashworth made the motion. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Ashworth made the motion. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon stated there was no action taken during Executive Session.

**Adjournment.** Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.