

Minutes of Called Meeting
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
Thursday, May 31, 2018

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 and County Clerk Tamara Butler.

After the pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Chairman Lyon.

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

Discussion and approval of the 2018-2019 Employee Health Plan. Matt Bidwell with MSI Benefits Group, presented the proposal of two companies; Blue Cross/Blue Shield who we are currently covered by and CIGNA. Blue Cross/Blue Shield increased by 6.39% with an annual premium difference of \$47,607; CIGNA gave a proposal of a 4.64% increase in premium; but they do not administer an HRA which significantly helps with employee cost. Dental coverage increased slightly by an annual premium difference of \$1,561. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to stay with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of an Unmanned Aircraft Program and equipment to be used to support public safety operation, to make accurate assessments, and to protect county resources. Mr. Thomas stated that as technology improves, that we also need to adapt with the changes. Several departments could benefit with this added technology. There will be six people trained to operate the equipment. Two bids were received, with the low bid from Carolina Drones for \$15,108. Funds will come from the SPLOST technology. Commissioner Jones made a motion approve the purchase of the drone. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a Resolution to designate the CFO as a “Political Subdivision Designee” for the purpose of Sales Tax Refund Claims of Local Significance. According to Mr. Daughtry, Georgia Legislature now requires that every county and city in the state designate a person to be notified whenever a sales tax refund exceeds 10% of that county’s total revenue. After discussion with Mr. Thomas, Chief Tax Appraiser Doug Kirkpatrick and CFO Phil Pitts, it was decided that Mr. Pitts was the most knowledgeable in the matter. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to designate the CFO as the “Political Subdivision Designee”. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a request form the Chamber of Commerce for \$1,300 to assist in the annual Fireworks display which will be held downtown on July 21, 2018 in conjunction with the annual car show. Mr. Thomas stated that the Chamber wanted to utilize the downtown area with the fireworks being discharged from the Government Complex back parking lot. We have been a sponsor of this event in the past. Also, Mr. Daughtry stated after a question from Commissioner Vaughn about liability; the Chamber will be held responsible for any liabilities incurred since we are not hosting the event, only providing the place. After asking for a motion from Chairman Lyon, Commissioner Alexander questioned the amount of \$1,300; stating that in the past we have limited the donations to \$1,000. After discussion Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to donate \$1,000. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

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