

**Minutes of Called Meeting  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
Thursday, August 23, 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, County Clerk Tamara Butler, CFO Phil Pitts.

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

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

Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add 6A) A Class Action Lawsuit regarding the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act. Commissioner Alexander made the motion. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of a Resolution updating and authorizing 9-1-1 charges on prepaid wireless services.** General Law regarding 911 charges has been substantially modernized and revised by HB 751 passed this year. Beginning January 1, 2019, a \$1.50 per retail transaction will be imposed on prepaid wireless services and shall be remitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue. All proceeds received by Elbert County from 911 charges imposed by this resolution will be deposited in the Emergency Telephone System Fund maintained by the county and kept separate from general revenue and used exclusively for the statutorily authorized purposes. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the updated resolution of 9-1-1 charges. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of a Resolution updating and authorizing 9-1-1 charges on telephone services and wireless enhanced 9-1-1 charges other than prepaid wireless services.** Beginning January 1, 2019, there will be imposed a charge of \$1.50 per month on each telephone service and wireless communication other than a connection for prepaid wireless service. These proceeds will also be deposited in the Emergency Telephone System Fund maintained by the county and kept separate from general revenue and used exclusively for the statutorily authorized purposes. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the updated resolution of 9-1-1 charges. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of a Building and Funding Solution for certain governmental buildings. Program improvements must meet county cash flow solutions for energy consumption. The county desires a proactive approach to infrastructure improvements to ensure the buildings will serve the county for years to come.** Mr. Rick Higginbotham with ABM Solutions gave the presentation. Mr. Thomas stated that we have had many discussions about this project that started almost a year ago. Mr. Higginbotham stated at the beginning of his presentation this is not just a facility solution but a financial solution and gives a way to cash flow needed infrastructure improvements. ABM's audit of the facilities found HVAC equipment at the Government Complex and 4-H building past their useful life and very inefficient along with other outdated equipment at most of the facilities. One of the pros of this program is that it provides full funding through guaranteed savings and future capital avoidance. The estimated cost of the project will be \$3.1 million dollars. Commissioner Vaughn stated at this point there are more questions than answers. After some discussion, Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to table this until the mileage rate is set, possibly in September. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Alexander voting against.

**Discussion and approval of a Class Action Lawsuit regarding the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act.**

Mr. Daughtry stated there is currently pending a class action lawsuit against the U. S. Government. The government owns the Richard Russell Dam facility and the Corp line around Richard Russell Lake. This lawsuit seeks to recover monies that the Court has determined that the federal government owes for the underpayment of its PILT (Payments in Lieu of Taxes) for the fiscal years 2015,2016, and 2017. The vote is for approval to opt in to the class action lawsuit. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve to opt into the class action lawsuit. Commissioner Alexander 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 Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.