

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, MAY 13TH, 2013

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chair Horace Harper, Commissioner Harold Reynolds, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, County CFO Phil Pitts and County Administrator Bob Thomas.

After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth.

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

Adoption of minutes for Monthly Meeting April 8th, 2013, and Called Meeting April 22nd, 2013. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Executive Session Minutes for May 13th, 2013. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Jackson McConnell, with the Development Authority, to speak to the Commission Board. Mr. McConnell came before the Board to introduce the new Development Authority Director, Beth Eavenson. Beth is really excited about this new position and indicated to the Board that she will welcome any advice, information and help they feel will be beneficial to her. She is a graduate of Lander College in 2010, and is now attending UGA to obtain her Masters. Beth reminded the Board that the Development Authority meetings are on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. in the Chamber office, and everyone is invited to attend.

Approval to re-appoint Mrs. Rudine Phelps to the Elbert County Board of Human Services, Family and Children Services through June 30th, 2018. Mrs. Phelps has agreed to continue to serve on this board. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve Mrs. Phelps re-appointment to the Human Services, Family and Children Services Board. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

First reading of an ordinance requiring all property taxes to be paid current on the location of any business before applying for an alcoholic beverage license. This change in Code Section 6-38 is to prohibit anyone owing property taxes to acquire an alcoholic beverage license. This is first reading only, and no action was taken.

Discussion and approval of an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Elberton for a period of three years beginning May, 2013, for the purchase of a GIS database system. We have had this agreement with the City of Elberton since May, 2010. This is only a renewal. This is valuable for tax assessment. The cost is \$25,000 per year, and the City of Elberton and Elbert County split the cost. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the renewal of this intergovernmental agreement with the City of Elberton. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of an Elbert County Short Term Work Program for the Department of Community Affairs. This will be for a resolution of approval for the Short Term Work Program. The program has been approved by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for 2012 thru 2016. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the STWP for Elbert County. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of tractor bids for the Road Department to be paid for with Airport Grant Funds. This has been in discussion in the past weeks. Road Superintendent Shannon Teasley is more familiar with John Deere, and the Road Department currently has an older John Deere tractor. Mr. Thomas recommends going with Blanchard Equipment and John Deere. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the purchase of a John Deere from Blanchard Equipment. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-2, with Commissioner Alexander and Commissioner Jones against.

Discussion and approval of the Elbert County Extension Department offices moving to Beaverdam School. The cost to make needed repairs and improvements to the old facility at 10 Cloverleaf Drive will cost between \$60,000 and \$70,000. The Board of Education has offered the use of Beaverdam School to the 4H department. The offices there are sufficient, along with some of the classrooms that will be used for after school programs. The gym will be accessible when needed for different events. There will be no charge to use the Beaverdam School. Elbert County BOC will only be responsible for the utilities. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the re-location of the Extension Offices to Beaverdam School. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion Carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a bid for a lawn mower for McWilliams Park to be paid for with SPLOST funds. Three bids were received on a new lawn mower that are listed below.

1) Palmer Equipment	Kubota 60" Deck, 27 HP	\$8700.00
2) P & J Engines	Bobcat 61" Deck, 29 HP	\$8329.94
3) Riverside Mowers	Torro, 60" Deck, 27 HP	\$8300.00

A fourth bid was received on Friday, May 10th, after the cutoff date for accepting bids. This last bid was not considered. After looking over the bids, County Administrator Bob Thomas recommended the bid of \$8,319.00 submitted by P & J Engines of Elberton. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to approve the bid from P & J. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of the FY 2014 Budget. At this time, we still do not have a balanced budget. We are off \$235,699. There will be a meeting in the morning, Tuesday, 14th, with all Department Heads and Elected Officials. We will discuss more possible areas where cuts can be made.

Financial Report given by CFO Phil Pitts. For the E-911 fund, we received a "Prepaid Wireless" check for the first time. This puts that account in the black. At Solid Waste, the reduction in hours at the Recycling Centers has brought operating costs down. Property tax collection is \$73,691 over what had been collected at this time last year.

Public comments on agenda items. There were no comments.

Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Horace Harper made a motion to come out of Executive Session and enter into General Session. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

No action was taken while in Executive Session.

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