

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2012

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

After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Chairman Lyon.

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

Adoption of minutes for Monthly Meeting September 10th, 2012. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Willie Almond of 1377 Lena Drive to discuss a drainage problem across his front yard. Mr. Almond stated that he has been promised for years that the drainage problem would be fixed, but nothing has been done. There are places where water runs along the road and culminates in his yard. There has been considerable washing away of part of his property. Shannon Teasley, Road Superintendent, has looked at the problem and thinks we can go into the ditches, dig some more and add gravel. This will possibly slow the water down. We have to have a "drainage easement" to go onto private property. Mr. Thomas will check to see if there is a "drainage easement" on this plat.

Pete Gibbons, Bowman Councilman, to come before the Commission Board to express appreciation for Elbert County's assistance with Bowman's Fall Festival. Councilman Gibbons called Chairman Lyon and advised that the City of Bowman was having a Called Meeting on this date, and he cannot be here. He asked that Chairman Lyon forward his "thanks" to the Commission for their monetary donation to the Fall Festival in Bowman.

Richard Dobbs and Sean Reed, ABM Building Solutions, to discuss energy solutions and savings for the Government Complex, Detention Center and Courthouse. Mr. Dobbs and Mr. Reed attended our Work Session this past Thursday night. They had previously come in and researched the energy usage on the Government Complex, Detention Center and Courthouse. They did a preliminary survey on our lighting system and heat/air units. There are sixty-five (65) or more units in the Complex alone. Most of them are fifteen to twenty years old and no longer efficient. Federal regulations are mandating that we change to the newer light bulbs, which will allow us to use less lights. The request tonight is for Mr. Thomas to be given permission to send out an RFQ to see if someone else wants to come in on this project. We will then do a "Memorandum of Understanding" with the company chosen. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to allow Mr. Thomas to send out an RFQ to see if any other company is interested in this project. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Ashworth against.

Review environmental asbestos survey report for the old Stevens School located at 230 Tate Street. At this time, Stevens School is vacant. We have been dealing with vandalism and trespassing on this property. The report shows that there is asbestos in the walls, wallboards, insulation, ceilings, plaster, glue on top of roof in some parts and shingles. All asbestos has to be removed before we can take down

the building. Mr. Thomas has talked to a vendor interested in taking down the building, and he estimates the cost to be around \$30,000. The building is now an eyesore and a hazard and is in a residential area. The City of Elberton is using one corner lot as a playground. Mr. Thomas is requesting permission to seek bids on removing the asbestos. The County employees can tear down the building. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve seeking bids for asbestos removal. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Before voting, Commissioner Eaves asked where the funds will come from for this project. Mr. Thomas informed the Board that there are funds in SPLOST to be used on buildings and some in maintenance. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Acceptance of a \$28,500 grant program from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for the Elbert County Sheriff Department. These funds will be used for equipment and training for highway safety programs in Elbert County. This is a one hundred per cent (100%) grant with no match. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to accept this grant. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review of LMIG Program for the Georgia Department of Transportation. This program used to be called the LARP Program. There used to be a 0% match, but we had to prepare the roads for re-surfacing. This has changed to more of a grant program, but is still based on a formula. We have to present to G-DOT the roads in need of repair. Once the roads are approved, a check will be sent to the County. We have three years to use this money as we decide. Since Elbert County voters did not pass the T-SPLOST, we now have to match this thirty per cent (30%). This can be with in-kind services. Elbert County's portion of the 2013 program is \$456,593.53, which will have to be matched with 30% local funds, or in-kind services, in the amount of \$136,978.06, for a total project of \$593,571.59. Projects have to be submitted by January 1st, 2013. Each commissioner needs to give two roads in need of repair to Mr. Thomas in the next week. Bridge work can be included.

Discussion and approval to move forward with ambulance bid requests. At this time, EMS Director Chuck Almond, is only asking for approval to get bid specs ready. He will come back to the December meeting with bids. It takes ninety to one hundred-twenty days to build an ambulance. Delivery will be around April, 2013. Chassis prices are going up after January 1st, 2013. We will save money if we order in December, 2012. Commissioner Harper made a motion to allow Mr. Almond to move forward in requesting bids. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review of Elbert County Planning Commission's recommendations for the following Special Use Permits:

- A) **A&D Cycle request for a MMA Event in the parking lot at 918 Elbert Street for October 20th, 2012.**
- B) **Troy Fleming request for a Haunted Trail and Hay Ride to raise funds at 1921 Hewell Road for October 19th thru 27th and 31st from 8:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.**

These permits are for a one time use. They can be compared to an entertainment venue. For A&D Cycle this will be a "martial arts event" for the entire family. It will be in the evening, and they do expect a big crowd. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to approve the permit for A&D Cycles. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

The Haunted Trail and Hay Ride is all on private property, a five acre tract. It is to be held three weekends. They were asked to end the event at 12:00 midnight. Proceeds from this event are for the Fleming family. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to approve the permit for the Haunted Trail. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report given by CFO Phil Pitts. Expenditures through September are looking good. Each department is within their budget at this time. We received a Fire Insurance check for \$654,000 for this year. This will be deposited into General Fund less \$75,000 that will go into the Fire Insurance Fund.

Public comments on agenda items. No comments.

Executive Session for personnel and litigation. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to come out of Executive Session and return to General Session. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

There was no action taken in Executive Session.

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