

**MINUTES**  
**ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

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

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

**Adoption of agenda.** Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. At this point, Chairman Lyon called for a motion to amend the agenda by adding under 6A) Adoption of Title VI Plan for Elbert County Transit set forth by the GA DOT. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Adoption of minutes of monthly meeting December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014.** Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Commissioner Vaughn abstained from voting due to not being in office in December. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

**Election of a Vice-Chairman for the Board of Commissioners.** This position is a two year term , with Commissioner Harper as the current Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to re-elect Commissioner Harper for another term. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Jack Schatz- Report on "Keep Elbert County Beautiful".** Mr. Schatz stressed his appreciation to the board for all of their help. He attended the "Keep Georgia Beautiful" conference in Atlanta in December and said how empowering it was to be there with those who shared the same passions and concerns as Elbert County. Georgia is the first state to have an affiliate with the "Keep America Beautiful" campaign. They toured the Atlanta Beltway which is featured in the December 2014 edition of Georgia Trend magazine. Those attending were: Todd Edwards -ACCG, Bryan Johnson-DCA, Jeff Cowen- GDNR, Kathryn Flynn-GMA, Joan Scales -Ga. Forestry Commission, Delores Smith, EPA and Jennifer Ginn - Executive Director of "Keep America Beautiful". Mr. Schatz stated that Mr. Thomas had asked if he would speak to faculty and students in schools about "KEB". He stated that he gladly would .

**Adoption of Title VI Plan for Elbert County Transit.** This is necessary to stay in compliance with the GA DOT to continue service the the citizens of Elbert County. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the plan. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion of Closure of Sweet City Bridge.** Will cost \$125,000 to \$150,000 to repair. Only one residence is on this road and they are ok with it closing. School bus doesn't use this bridge. EMS can cross in ambulance but not fire trucks. For light traffic only. There will have to be a public hearing to start the process of closing. Also, more study will be done.

**Discussion of Lease Agreement for Bobby Brown State Park.** Have dropped the \$3500 per year to 3% of gross per year. Revenues last year were between \$25,000 and \$30,000 by the state. There is more to look into and more answers to get. Would like to take over by March 1<sup>st</sup> since that is the beginning of the camping season.

**Approval of the 2015 LMIG Program.** The approved roads for resurfacing are: Deep Creek Road, Hudson Road, Rousey Road, Miller Drive and Harmony Road; at a cost of \$489,486.52. County will match 30%. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the 2015 LMIG Program. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of re-appointment of Horace Baker to Tax Assessor Board.** This will be a three year term for the years 2015,2016 and 2017. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve Mr. Baker to the Tax Assessor Board. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of the renewal of Resolutions for E-911 Fees and Charges.** 1) Resolution imposing a 9-1-1- charge on voice over internet protocol connections within Elbert County. 2) Resolution for Emergency 911 fees. 3) Resolution for 911 "Emergency Telephone Fund" surcharge. Annual renewals are mandatory. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the renewal of Resolutions for E-911 Fees and Charges. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Finance Report given by Phil Pitts.** December was not a good month as far as budgetary. Percentages are off due to some large expenditures paid in December; such as Health Insurance and \$70,000 to Fire Department from the Fire Insurance Fund. Some departments are over budget. Phil will get with Bob to go over these. Property taxes collected amount to \$4,360,661.86. Still collecting from previous years. SPLOST 10.8% below the projections at this point.

**Public comments on agenda items.** None

**Executive Session.** Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Harper made a motion to enter back into general session. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

No action taken.

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