

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2015

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

After the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of agenda. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Chairman Lyon then requested a motion to amend the agenda by adding the following items that were inadvertently left off the original agenda. 17) Finance Report given by Phil Pitts. 18) Public comments on agenda items. 19) Executive Session. 20) Adjournment. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of minutes for Monthly Meeting on March 9th, 2015. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Recognition of Kiley Love, winner of the National Miss Forestry Beauty Pageant. Kiley was not present at the meeting to be recognized for her prestigious accomplishment.

Discussion of an "Annual Day of Pride" proposed by former Commissioner Harold Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds was not present for the meeting; but in a letter sent to the commissioners he stated that he would like for a day to be set aside for all citizens of Elbert County to work together in cleaning trash and litter from our roadsides. A tentative date of May 23rd was discussed; although more planning needs to be done and will be brought before the next regular meeting in May.

Discussion and approval of a request from Main Street Elberton for funds to assist in the Summer Concert Series on the downtown Square. Tiffany Mercer from Mainstreet Elberton came before the board to ask for \$2500 to help with expenses for the Summer Concert Series that will bring 2 bands to the downtown square. This money will come from the hotel/motel tax fund. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to grant this request of \$2500. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of the reappointment of Mae Davis to the Advantage Behavioral Health Systems Community Service Board which will expire on April 30, 2015. Ms. Davis has indicated that she will be willing to serve another term which is for three years. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the reappointment of Mae Davis. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried. 5-0.

Discussion and approval to purchase firefighters gear. This purchase is for twelve pants and four jackets of Globe turn-out gear from Bennett Fire Products Co., Inc. the sole distributor for the state

of Georgia. Total cost of the turn-out gear is approximately \$10,016. \$5,000 will come from a grant of the Georgia Forestry Commission that was approved at the February meeting. The remaining balance will come from the fire insurance fund of the Fire Department. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to purchase the turn-out gear. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and acceptance of a grant awarded by the Georgia County Internship Program of the ACCG Civic Affairs Foundation. This grant is awarded for the 2015 summer program in the amount of \$1674 for the Road Designation intern project. This grant will be used to help fund the costs associated with the intern's salary, FICA and worker's compensation as specified in the grant contract. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to accept this grant. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of the application to the 2015 Community Block Grant Program. This grant in the amount of \$302,480 is for housing rehab in the Porter Drive neighborhood. This is a 100% grant funded through the Department of Community Affairs. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the application for this grant. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of bids for a new well at the airport. Three bids were submitted – Gunter Well Drilling, Fortson Well Drilling and Southern Well Drilling. Southern Well Drilling was the lowest bidder with an estimate of \$12 per foot with a 200 foot minimum. Total estimate of \$5000 to \$6000. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to accept the bid from Southern Well Drilling. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of the extension and continuation of the agreement with Pinnacle Bank for the Tax Anticipation Note for 2015. This is a one year extension of the same agreement as in 2014. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve this extension. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a resolution and agreement with Mollertech South, LLC. This resolution clarifies the terms of their payments for ad valorem taxes according to the agreement with the Development Authority. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Declare as surplus property: 1993 Ford 250 pickup truck (VIN# 1FTHX26G6PKA47871) and a Caterpillar Dirt Pan 621E- (SERIAL # 70V30269) approximately 13,271 hours. The pickup truck has mechanical problems. The dirt pan is one that is seldom used. These will be put on the govdeals.com website. Commissioner Jones made a motion to declare these items as surplus property. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a request from the Chamber of Commerce for \$2500 to help fund the July 4th fireworks show. Phyllis Brooks with the Chamber of Commerce asked the board for funds to help with the expense of the fireworks show which will be held on June 26th at Richard Russell State Park. These funds will come from the hotel/motel tax fund. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report. CFO Phil Pitts stated at this time that the General Fund account is at break-even. Property Tax revenues have been coming in quicker helping with cash flow. SPLOST was not good in March- being the lowest that it has been in several years. The Solid Waste department is also not doing well; but E911 is doing well.

Public Comments. Administrator Bob Thomas stated that the Corp of Engineers has sent all paper work to the state and is slated to be on the Georgia DNR agenda for April 22nd. If approved, the county could possibly take over Bobby Brown Park by May 1st.

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

Chairman Lyon announced that no action was taken during Executive Session. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to come out of Executive Session and enter into General Session. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

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