

**Public Hearing
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
Monday, October 19, 2015**

5:00 A public hearing was held to hear information on the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for Elbert County. Jordan Shumaker with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission presented the video presentation.

5:15 A public hearing was held to hear changes to the Subdivision Ordinance (Chapter 66, Section 66-07). There were no public comments on the issue.

**Minutes
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
Monday, October 19, 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 Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler and CFO Phil Pitts.

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

Adoption of the Agenda. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Chairman Lyon then made a request to amend the agenda by adding 6A) Amendment to Chapter 18 of the Elbert County Code of Ordinances and 6B) Approval of a grant application by the Elbert County Senior Center. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes of Called Meeting of September 3, 2015 and the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2015. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a request from Mrs. Mary Clark of the Martin Luther King Jr. committee for funding of the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend event in January 2016. Mrs. Clark came before the board to ask for funds to help with expenses for various activities of the weekend event. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve \$1,000 from the Hotel/Motel tax. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of the proposed changes to Chapter 66-07 of the Elbert County Subdivision Regulations that clarify the County as the Platting Authority. This is the second reading; the first reading was at the Regular meeting in September. The proposed changes to this ordinance is basically to streamline the process between the Code Enforcement officer and the surveyor. It allows surveyors to certify their work online and then submit to the county online. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the proposed changes. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

6A) To amend Chapter 18 by adding 18-2 (State License Required for Electrical Contractors, Master Plumbers, Journeyman Plumbers and Conditioned Air Contractors). This amendment will allow the Code Enforcement officer to respond to complaints of non-licensed contractors and to issue citations. This is the first reading only. No action necessary.

6B) Discussion and approval of the 2017 grant application to the DOT for the transit program. The grant amount is \$268,458.00. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the grant application. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a request from Rick Mewborn of the Elbert County Fire Department to solicit bids for a new fire truck for the Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Mewborn was not in attendance, but did make the request to the Commissioners at the work session. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval to recommend the Regional Commission as Administrator for the Community Development Block Grant Project on Porter Drive. The grant amount is \$302,480.00 for housing rehabilitation of the Porter Drive neighborhood. Mr. Thomas stated that the Regional Commission is better equipped to oversee the administration of the grant. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Regional Commission as Administrator for the CDBG project. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval to amend the fee schedule for Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) of the Code of Ordinances. This amendment would increase the annual license fee for beer/wine sales from \$500.00 to \$750.00. This is a first reading only; no action required.

Discussion and approval to sell a parcel of property to CSX Railroad for economic development. This small parcel (100' x 50') is needed to complete the CSX interchange project. The purchase price is \$1000.00. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the sale of property. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. After the vote Mr. Thomas asked the Board to amend the purchase price to \$10.00 and use the remainder of the money on the project. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to amend the purchase price to \$10.00. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of the reappointment of Larry Smith for another term on the Development Authority Board for a 6 year term. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the reappointment of Larry Smith to the Development Authority Board. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Recognition of the Elbert County Parks and Recreation Department as the "Georgia Recreation and Parks Association District 7 Agency of the Year". This award will be presented later in October 2015, in Gainesville, Georgia. This is the first ever recognition of the Parks and Recreation Department and is quite an honor. At this time Mr. Thomas gave an update on Bobby Brown Park and the renovations to the group shelter. After some work the shelter will be available for rent. Also, the park is expecting a large crowd on Halloween weekend with many activities planned.

Discussion regarding local news stations (Georgia News) on Cable TV systems. Mr. Daughtry stated that to receive local news; a petition would have to be made to the FCC and that he would be talking with attorneys' from Hart, Stephens and Franklin counties to best see how to approach this

Financial Report. Mr. Pitts (CFO) informed the board that the first quarter of the fiscal year is looking very good in regards to expenditures to the budget. Also, we received \$772,000 from the insurance premium tax which was very good news. The Solid Waste department is showing a little gain through the first quarter, also.

Public Comments. Chuck Almond, EMS Director asked that when talking to the FCC to take into consideration the GA EMS weather alerts and how it will affect weather alerts to the county.

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

Commissioner Alexander made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon stated the purpose for Executive Session was for land acquisition; the purchase of property on Taggart Street adjacent to the EMS building. The property will be used for the Fire Departments modified water trucks to be parked there to help with our fire rating. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve purchase of said property. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

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