

June 2, 2005

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Walton County Government Building, 303 South Hammond Drive, Suite 330, Monroe, Ga. Those present included Chairman Kevin Little, Commissioners Clinton Ayers, Michael Turner, Vickie Gasaway, Lamar Palmer, Gerald Atha and John Robinson, County Clerk Leta Talbird, County Attorney Ken Lander, Associate County Attorney Bill Childers, Personnel Director Janice Holland, Financial Officer Christie Pickens, Recreation Director Jody Johnson, Sheriff Joe Chapman, District Attorney Ken Wynne, Judge John Ott, Fire Chief Steve Couch and Planning Director Mike Martin. A list of citizens and other employees in attendance at this meeting is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.

Superior Court Judge John Ott announced that the Georgia Supreme Court has offered a feasibility study for determination of need for a new judgeship or splitting the Alcovy Judicial Circuit. He stated that splitting the Circuit would provide better, more efficient service for both Walton and Newton Counties.

Wayne Tamplin of Treadwell, Tamplin & Company presented the Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Gasaway opened the meeting in prayer.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, with requested additions. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2005 Board Meeting. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

At 6:45 p.m., Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha and Robinson voted in favor.

At 7:10 p.m., Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to return to regular session. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha and Robinson voted in favor. No votes were taken while in executive session.

Associate County Attorney and John Snyder of Habitat for Humanity of Walton County, Inc. presented an agreement with Habitat for Humanity of Walton County relating to the Community Home Investment Program grant. Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the agreement. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a contract addendum with Allen Smith Consulting, Inc. for services

related to the Community Development Block Grant for the Walton County Senior Citizens Center project. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve the addendum. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Joe Watkins of Carter Watkins Associates presented a contract addendum for re-design fees for the detention pond at G. Stephen Felker Park. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the addendum. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway, Palmer and Atha voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Robinson opposed the motion. The motion carried 5-1.

Personnel Director Janice Holland presented an amendment to the Employee Group Health Plan, increasing the Calendar Year Maximum for Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics from \$1,000.00 to \$5,000.00 and to include as a covered procedure treatment of ingrown toenails. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the amendment, retroactive to January 1, 2005. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve employee new hires and promotions as presented, for the record. All voted in favor.

Sheriff Chapman requested that a Corporal position in the jail be reclassified to a Non-Certified Jailer. He stated that the position is currently vacant and that he is eliminating the use of the rank of Corporal in the jail. He stated the reclassification will result in a savings in his budget. Sheriff Chapman also requested that the budget be amended to reflect a transfer of one Lieutenant position from Uniform Patrol to the jail, stating that he needs to have a Lieutenant for each shift in the jail. He stated that there is no cost to making this change. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the requests. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

District Attorney Ken Wynne requested approval to purchase two vehicles utilizing victim surcharge monies. The bids for the vehicles, a 2005 Ford Taurus and a 2005 Ford Crown Victoria are both State Contract. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the purchase. All voted in favor.

Facilities Manager Joyce Chambers requested approval to purchase playground equipment for Hammond Park in the amount of \$7,109.60. Commissioner Robinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the purchase. All voted in favor

Financial Officer Christi Pickens presented contracts and budgeted purchases of \$2,500.00 or greater for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve purchases and contracts as presented. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a request from George Walton Academy for the County's

participation in the Michael Etchison Road widening project. After discussion, Commissioner Ayers made a motion to table a decision on the matter in order to get a cost estimate from the Roads & Bridges Department. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

County Attorney Ken Lander presented a billing statement from Attorney Ed Tolley for legal services related to the Federal lawsuit regarding the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to approve payment of the statement. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a budget amendment and transfer from the County Clerk's budget to Chairman Little's budget for the purchase of a 2002 Chevrolet Suburban forfeited in a drug arrest. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the budget amendment and to give the car currently used by Chairman Little to the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Sheriff Chapman requested approval to transfer three surplus vehicles to the City of Social Circle for use by its Public Safety Department. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve the transfer. All voted in favor.

The Board considered bids received for laser grading and grassing at G. Stephen Felker Park. Commissioner Turner made a motion to accept the low bid from LMA, Inc. and to authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contract. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

At 8:25 p.m., the Board briefly recessed.

At 8:40 p.m., Chairman Little called the meeting back to order.

Commissioner Atha made a motion to appoint Howard Green to the Walton County Board of Appeals representing Commission District 5. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to appoint Dr. Bettye Ray to the Governing Board of the Partnership for Families, Children and Youth, representing Commission District 3. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to appoint Chairman Kevin Little to the Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to table decisions on service agreements with Milner Voice & Data and Motorola, Inc. for Central Communications in order that Director Wendra Williams can be present to provide information on the agreements. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Social Circle for enforcement of Construction Code, plan review, and inspections. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Social Circle for repairs on Roy Malcom Road. Commissioner Palmer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve the agreement. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a contract with Georgia Correctional Health, LLC for Walton County Jail inmate medical, mental and dental care. County Attorney Ken Lander presented corrective language to be included in Section 1.2 of the contract regarding the scope of services. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the contract, pursuant to changes suggested by the County Attorney. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered a contract with Pay Tel Communications, Inc. for Walton County Jail inmate telephones. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the contract. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a contract with Walton Regional Medical Center for medical services for Walton County Jail inmates. Commissioner Atha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the contract. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a resolution authorizing the County to enter into a First Amendatory Intergovernmental Contract with the Joint Development Authority of Jasper, County, Morgan County, Newton County and Walton County regarding an interest rate swap from the variable interest rate on the Joint Development Authority Adjustable Mode Revenue Bonds, Series 1999 to a fixed rate. Commissioner Turner made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Assistant EMA Director Melanie Byer requested approval to apply for a Traffic Safety Grant for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the application. All voted in favor.

Ms. Byer presented a request to apply for a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant for the Fire Department. Ms. Byer asked the Board to table a decision on the matter until she could provide more accurate cost projections. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to table a decision on the matter. All voted in favor.

County Attorney Ken Lander presented actions taken by the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority at its 5/31/05 meeting for ratification by the Board.

Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to ratify allocation to Greenridge Subdivision, 44 lots, Bullock Bridge Road and to approve allocation of water on the James Owens Development, 42 lots, Fannie Thompson Road by requiring the developer to run line from the Carl Davis Road line, according to existing Authority policy on line extensions. The Authority will participate in material cost according to Authority policy and fund availability. Authority Director Wendell Geiger is authorized to proceed with this part of the project. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion not to accept the recommendation of the WCWSA to not proceed with the intergovernmental agreement and meetings with partners in the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir Project, and that the attorney for the WCWSA and the County proceed with the intergovernmental agreements and meeting with the partners in the reservoir project and include an invitation to the City of Loganville and the City of Social Circle. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to ratify the decision to award the contract for Hwy. 81 Water Main Installation to J.L. Walker Construction, the low bidder, in the amount of \$250,000.03 for improvements at the intersection of Tom Brewer/Claude Brewer Road and Hwy. 81 South. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to ratify the decision to allow Mr. Duane Schlereth to hold off until June 30, 2005 to do a full audit to coincide with the County's fiscal year end and complete the report on the numbers they have gathered thus far through April 15, 2005. Commissioner Robinson further moved to ratify the decision to adopt the April Report prepared by Auditor Wayne Tamplin as presented. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to ratify the decision to allow the quarterly GEFA payment to be drafted from the appropriate bank account. He further moved to ratify the decision to give Director Wendell Geiger the authority to get information from Hightower Engineering as needed for the audit at rates quoted in the engagement letter. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Attorney Ken Lander stated that upon ratifying the Authority's decision to purchase the Hennessy Property, which is 420.6 acres, and to approve short-term financing, the motion should include authorizing the County to be jointly involved with the Authority in guaranteeing the loan to back up the debt. Associate County Attorney Bill Childers stated that the motion should authorize the Chairman and Clerk to coordinate with the lender as to the structuring of the debt service. Commissioner Robinson made a motion to ratify the decision to purchase the Hennessy Property and to approve short-term financing, pursuant to the advice of the County Attorneys. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion to ratify the Authority's decision to execute a

contract with Tommy Young, Jr. for the purchase of property. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Jimmy Parker of Precision Planning, Inc. gave the Board information on the history of the McGill-Schnabel study on reservoir site selection. Commissioner Turner made a motion not to accept the recommendation of the WCWSA to proceed with a meeting with Dan McGill on June 28, 2005 to review alternative options to the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir. He stated that the Board finds that the issue of alternatives to the Hard Labor Creek Project has been resolved by McGill-Schnabel, the Corps of Engineers, the EPD and the EPA. He stated that the Board desires to meet with the WCWSA on June 28, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss proceeding forward with the Hard Labor Creek Project. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Associate County Attorney Bill Childers requested authorization to act as agent in the acquisition of property associated with a DOT project to realign the intersection of Bay Creek Road @ Hwy. 81. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to authorize Attorney Childers to act as agent. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Merridy McDaniel spoke during the public comment segment of the meeting.

At 9:40 p.m., Commissioner Gasaway made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

All documents of record for this meeting are on file in either the addendum book or auxiliary file under this meeting date.

KEVIN W. LITTLE, CHAIRMAN

LETA P. TALBIRD, CLERK

CLINTON AYERS, DISTRICT 1

MICHAEL TURNER, DISTRICT 2

VICKIE M. GASAWAY, DISTRICT 3

LAMAR PALMER, DISTRICT 4

GERALD ATHA, DISTRICT 5

JOHN ROBINSON, DISTRICT 6