

March 4, 2008

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2008 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 Kirklyn Dixon, County Clerk Leta Talbird, County Attorney Kirby Atkinson, Personnel Director Karen Fraser, Finance Director Linda Hanna 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.

Recreation Director Jody Johnson presented the Walton County Girls 9-10 Basketball Team, who recently won the State Championship.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Dixon opened the meeting in prayer.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2008 and February 5, 2008 meetings. All voted in favor.

Kenny Adkins, representing residents of Rivermist Subdivision, came before the Board to express opposition to a large storage building built by resident Greg Becker on a residential lot within Rivermist Subdivision. The group also expressed opposition to Mr. Becker landing and taking off in his helicopter from the subdivision. All those present at the meeting who oppose this issue stood up to be recognized. Planning Director Mike Martin stated that the subdivision is in an A-1 district and there are no limitations on the size of auxiliary structures that can be built. He stated that Mr. Becker has been issued a citation for operating the helicopter in the subdivision.

Chris Taylor, representing residents in the Roscoe Davis Road area, came before the Board in opposition to the Sheriff's Department firing range approved by the Board to be built on the old Roscoe Davis Road landfill site. Chief Deputy Bruce Wright stated that the Sheriff's Department would not pursue building the firing range if there is opposition from the public. He stated that they would just stay where there are now.

Gary Werneke, Les Russell and John Brennen also spoke during the public comment segment of the meeting.

The Board considered an annexation request from city of Monroe - .73 acres – 513 Great Oaks Drive – Stephen Baynham. Commissioner Atha made a motion to approve the annexation. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Duane Schlereth of Bates Carter & Company presented the Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to accept the FY 2007 audit. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Finance Director Linda Hanna presented contracts and purchases of \$2,500.00 or greater for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve contracts and purchases as presented. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered an FY 2008 budget amendment for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$2,701,661.77 to fund capital road improvement projects approved by the Board in June 2007. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to approve the budget amendment as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board considered an FY 2008 budget amendment for the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$7,350.00 to be paid from forfeited drug monies for a capital equipment purchase for the drug task force. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the budget amendment as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board considered an FY 2008 budget amendment for the Finance Department in the amount of \$230,000.00 for accounting and consulting services. Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered an FY 2008 budget amendment for the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority in the amount of \$502,719.00 for SPLOST projects, to be paid out of SPLOST Bond proceeds. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, to approve the budget amendment as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board considered an FY 2008 budget amendment for The Partnership for Families, Children & Youth in the amount of \$5,568.00. The funds are to be transferred from salaries to contract labor for a Mentoring Coordinator.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Chairman Little read the following resolutions into the record: Authorizing Electronic Transfer of Funds, Authorizing Investment of 2007 SPLOST General Funds, Authorizing Investment of 2007 SPLOST Bond Proceeds and Authorizing Investment of Impact Fees. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon, to adopt the aforementioned resolutions. All voted in favor.

The Board considered bids received for equipment for patrol cars. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to accept the low bid from La Prade Government Sales in the amount of \$86,972.95. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Financial Consultant Chris Edwards stated for the record that both Audit Opinions were unqualified.

Personnel Director Karen Fraser presented employee new hires, transfers and promotions for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Turner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to approve new hires, transfers and promotions as presented, for the record. All voted in favor.

The Board considered ratification of actions taken by the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority at its meeting held on February 26, 2008. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to ratify the actions taken by the Authority with the exception of the City of Walnut Grove Sewer System Proposal. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Todd Jones, District Environmental Health Director, presented proposed increases in Environmental Health Fees, which were approved by the Walton County Board of Health, for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the fee increase. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to table a decision on a State Cable and Video Service Franchise Fee Resolution in order for the County Attorney to look into the legality of including performance standards and a method of recourse for the County. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to adopt a resolution to approve certain elected officials of Walton County to be covered under the current

Workers Compensation system and provider as selected by The Board of Commissioners and in the same manner as all other employees of Walton County for Worker's Compensation. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve Agreements with Walton EMC for Underground Electric Service for tower sites located at 1621 Piney Grove Road and 2171 Georgia Highway 81. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered an Alcoholic Beverage License application for Gora Mukhopadhyay – OMH & R, Inc. – d/b/a Unity Store – 1808 U.S. Highway 278. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the license. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Palmer, Atha and Dixon voted in favor of the motion with Commissioner Gasaway abstaining. The motion carried.

The Board considered an Alcoholic Beverage License application for Faisal Pothiawala – SKF Enterprises, Inc. – d/b/a Shell Food mart – 5141 Georgia Highway 81. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the license. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Palmer, Atha and Dixon voted in favor of the motion with Commissioner Gasaway abstaining. The motion carried.

City of Walnut Grove Mayor Don Cannon presented a proposal for Walton County to become a partner in Walnut Grove's Sewer System development. After discussion, Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to ratify the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority's action to continue to pursue the Walnut Grove proposal. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the County's participation in the construction of a roundabout at the entrance to South Walton High School, to be located at the intersection of Guthrie Cemetery Road, Park Street and Emmett Still Road. Jimmy Parker of Precision Planning presented a proposal for land surveying and engineering design services for the project. The Board discussed cost saving options to include deletion of curb and gutter. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to accept the proposal from Precision Planning, Inc., with adjustments in design as discussed, in the amount of \$28,250.00. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Purchasing Manager Rhonda Hawk introduced Gloria Boatwright and Teri Long of Facilities Program Management, who presented proposals received for construction of two gymnasiums. Commissioner Atha made a motion to accept the proposal from Sunbelt Builders in the amount not to exceed

\$6,500,000.00 for both gymnasiums and to authorize the Chairman to execute all necessary documents after review by the County Attorney. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Facilities Manager Joyce Chambers requested the Board authorize the Purchasing Manager and the Chairman to approve expenditures greater than \$2,500.00 on SPLOST projects previously approved by the Board within the approved project budgets. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to authorize the expenditures as requested and to have the expenditures placed on the agenda for the record as the projects progress. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Ms. Chambers stated that as part of Animal Control Facility SPLOST project, a portion of the Vehicle Maintenance building must be torn down. She explained that the cost of demolition can be paid for with SPLOST funds, but the rebuild would have to be funded from the General Fund. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to move forward with the project and authorized the preparation of a Request for Proposals for a pre-engineered metal building for Vehicle Maintenance. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a cost estimate prepared by the Public Works Department to pave Pratt Road. County Clerk Leta Talbird stated that Attorney Chris Atkinson has prepared right of way quitclaim deeds for each property owner on Pratt Road. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to authorize the County Clerk to prepare letters to the property owners on Pratt Road soliciting the necessary right of way and to bring the resulting information back to the Board for further action. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

At 8:27 p.m., Commissioner Atha made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ayers, to enter into executive session to discuss real estate and personnel matters. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha and Dixon voted in favor.

At 10:00 p.m., Commissioner Dixon made a motion to return to regular session. Commissioner Atha seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Turner, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha and Dixon voted in favor. Chairman Little stated that no decisions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

At 10:01 p.m., Commissioner Gasaway made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Atha, 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, DIST. 3 LAMAR PALMER, DISTRICT 4

GERALD ATHA, DISTRICT 5 KIRKLYN DIXON, DISTRICT 6