

May 5, 2009

The Walton County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Walton County Government Building, 303 South Hammond Drive, Suite 330, Monroe, Georgia. Those present included Chairman Kevin Little, Commissioners Clinton Ayers, Chuck Bagley, 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.

Jimmy Parker of Precision Planning, Inc. gave a presentation on the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir Project.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Bagley opened the meeting in prayer.

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

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2009 meeting. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered the abandonment of Pope Road. Chairman Little stated that a mapping error was found after the Board initiated the abandonment process last month and that it was determined that if the road is closed, one property owner would be landlocked. Commissioner Palmer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to remove the decision to abandon Pope Road from the agenda. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a Planning Commission recommendation to approve CU09030001 - Conditional Use for a Religious Organization (Place of Worship) for Crossroads Church of Walton County. The affected property is located at 301 H.D. Atha Road & Sardis Church Road and is further identified on WC Tax Map C 75, Parcel 8 Split. Chairman Little opened the public hearing on the matter. Rodney McCart, a member of the Church, came before the Board in support of the Conditional Use. There was no one present in opposition. Planning Director Mike Martin stated that all right of way issues have been addressed. Chairman Little closed the public hearing on the matter. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the

Conditional Use. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Neal Jackson of WARJAC, LLC requested that the Board table a decision on the request he made for the County to accept Shockley Springs Drive as a County Road. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to table a decision on the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Associate Planning Director Charna Parker presented revisions in the Planning & Development Office Fee Schedule for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Bagley made a motion to adopt the fee revisions as presented. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Finance Director Linda Hanna presented an FY 2009 Departmental Budget Transfer for the Coroner's Office in the amount of \$20,000.00 to be transferred from regular employees to contract labor. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve the budget transfer as presented. Commissioner Bagley seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Ms. Hanna presented an FY 2009 Departmental Budget Transfer for the Public Defender's Office in the amount of \$6,812.00 to be transferred from overtime to temporary employees. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the budget transfer as presented. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Ms. Hanna presented an FY 2009 Departmental Budget Transfer for the Fire Department in the amount of \$4,500.00 to be transferred from Firefighting - Temporary Employees to Fire Administration - Temporary Employees to cover overages. Commissioner Palmer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve the budget transfer as presented. All voted in favor.

Ms. Hanna presented an FY 2009 Departmental Budget Transfer for the Jail in the amount of \$23,029.00 to be transferred from Commissary to Equipment for the purchase of a new dishwasher. Commissioner Ayers made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bagley, to approve the budget transfer as presented. All voted in favor.

The Board considered contracts and budgeted purchases of \$2,500.00 or greater. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve contracts and purchases as presented. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion to adopt resolutions authorizing 2007 SPLOST funds and Impact Fees to be invested through the local government

investment pool (Georgia Fund 1). Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to table a decision on changes to the holiday pay process. Commissioner Bagley seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Public Works Department submitted a list of equipment collected from various departments to be declared surplus. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to declare the property surplus. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor. *(A list of the equipment declared surplus is on file in the auxiliary file under this meeting date.)*

Commissioner Bagley made a motion to authorize Facilities Manager Joyce Chambers to pursue using the Govdeals.com Program to dispose of surplus property. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Finance Director Linda Hanna presented an amendment to the Health Care and Employee Benefits Trust Agreement with the National Bank of Walton County. She explained that currently, disbursement of funds can only be disbursed upon written direction of the Chairman and the County Clerk. Ms. Hanna requested the amendment to include “or upon written direction of the Finance Director or other designee. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve a request from the Sheriff’s Office to apply for renewal of the HEAT grant. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve a request from the Sheriff’s Office to apply for renewal of the SCAPP Grant. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to authorize the Sheriff’s Office to apply for a Recovery Act ICAC Task Force Training & Technical Assistance Grant. All voted in favor.

Finance Director Linda Hanna presented a proposed payroll deduction for employee health insurance premiums. Ms. Hanna proposed that employees pay \$40.00 per pay period. She stated that the proposed deduction would result in savings of approximately \$500,000.00 per year. Commissioner Bagley made a motion to approve the proposal. Commissioner Ayers seconded the motion. Commissioner Palmer stated that the only way he

could support the proposal is that when the economy picks back up that the Board will reconsider the deduction. All voted in favor of the proposal, including Chairman Little.

Chairman Little and the Budget Committee presented the proposed FY 2010 budget for the Board's review. Finance Director Linda Hanna stated that a public hearing on the proposed FY 2010 budget will be held on May 26, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

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

The Board considered a request from the Sheriff's Office for approval to advertise for the School Resource Officer position for the new Walnut Grove High School. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve advertising the position. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Personnel Director Karen Fraser presented an amendment to the Group Health Insurance Plan to reflect certain provisions of the children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (SCHIP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gasaway, to approve the amendment as presented. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve an amendment to the employee bereavement policy to include stepmother, stepfather and step or half brother or sister. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion to remove VSP as the county's vision care vendor and provide vision care benefits under the medical benefit plan. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Ayers made a motion to ratify actions taken by the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority at its meeting on 4/28/2009. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Jimmy Parker of Precision Planning, Inc. presented a proposal for a revision of water rates and fees. Commissioner Bagley made a motion to accept the water rate revisions as presented. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Mr. Parker presented bids received for the Youth Monroe Road Transmission Main Project. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to award the low bid from Gary's Grading & Pipeline Company in the amount of \$1,050,470.00. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. Commissioners Bagley, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha & Dixon voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Ayers opposed the motion. The motion carried 5-1.

The Board considered an Engineering Design Services Proposals from Precision Planning, Inc. for the Nicholasville Road and Glass Road Water System Expansion in the amount of \$38,800.00 and the Between II Tank and LHS Control Valve Water System Improvements in the amount of \$48,700.00. County Attorney Kirby Atkinson recommended revisions to the proposals. Commissioner Bagley made a motion to approve the proposals subject to revisions recommended by the County Attorney. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

County Attorney Kirby Atkinson presented a resolution and order consenting to the condemnation of real property by the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority for the Hard Labor Creek Reservoir. Mr. Atkinson stated that all associated documents are available for review by the public. Commissioner Bagley made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a request from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division for the County to act as a pass through for hatchery improvement funds. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, to approve the request. All voted in favor.

The Board considered a contract with Correct Health for Inmate Medical Services. County Attorney Kirby Atkinson recommended corrections to the contract. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the contract subject to corrections recommended by the County Attorney. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

The Board considered participation in the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Inmate Medical Savings Program. Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve the County's participation in the program. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve a Juvenile Court Community Service Supervisor Contract with Jeff Bray. Commissioner Gasaway seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Board considered proposals from Precision Planning, Inc. for land surveying and engineering design services for intersection improvements at U.S. 278 & East Hightower Trail and East Hightower Trail & Willow Springs Church Road. Jimmy Parker of Precision Planning stated that both projects are associated with Project Southeast and that both projects will need to roll forward as soon as possible after the Memorandum of Understanding for Project Southeast has been approved. Commissioner Ayers made a motion to approve the proposals and to give the Chairman the authority to execute the necessary documents after the Memorandum of Understanding for the project has been approved. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion; voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gasaway made a motion to approve, for the record, an agreement between the Walton County Water & Sewerage Authority, Walton County and the City of Loganville for removal of a pavilion located at 474 Social Circle Fairplay Road, formerly known as the Hennessy property. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

At 7:58 p.m., Commissioner Palmer made a motion to enter into executive session. Commissioner Bagley seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Bagley, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha and Dixon voted in favor.

At 8:30 p.m., Commissioner Ayers made a motion to return to regular session. Commissioner Bagley seconded the motion. Commissioners Ayers, Bagley, Gasaway, Palmer, Atha and Dixon voted in favor. Chairman Little stated that no decisions were made while in executive session.

At 8:31 p.m., Commissioner Ayers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bagley seconded the motion. 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.

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KEVIN W. LITTLE, CHAIRMAN

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LETA P. TALBIRD, CLERK

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CLINTON AYERS, DISTRICT 1

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CHUCK BAGLEY, DISTRICT 2

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VICKIE M. GASAWAY, DIST. 3      LAMAR PALMER, DISTRICT 4

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GERALD ATHA, DISTRICT 5      KIRKLYN DIXON, DISTRICT 6