

MINUTES

Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

JUNE 2, 2009 REGULAR MEETING CHEROKEE HALL 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIRMAN AHRENS

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:07 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2009. Those in attendance were Commissioner Harry B. Johnston; Commissioner Jim Hubbard; Commissioner Karen Bosch; Vice Chair/Commissioner Derek V. Good; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Angie Davis; County Clerk Sheila R. Corbin; Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media and the public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIRMAN AHRENS

APPEARANCE

Captain Bert Love with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office presented a summary of the 2009 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant that will provide \$11,956 and the grant funds combined with condemnation funds will go toward the purchase of a mobile license plate recognition system for one patrol vehicle. This appearance will serve as adequate public notification for the required 30 day period before the application is submitted. No action is necessary at this time.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

There were three amendments: (1) On Consent Agenda, add item "Request authorization for renovations to the Woodstock Health Department offices by North Georgia Health District"; (2) Under Announcements, add Chairman to announce two sessions of information meetings about the Senior Rehabilitation Program; (3) Under Commissioner Bosch, "Call for a public hearing to take comments from the citizens regarding a possible reduction in Impact Fees." After the Chairman read the amendments, he asked for a motion. Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to approve; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and the amendments were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Ahrens announced that there will be two sessions of informational meetings tomorrow, here in Cherokee Hall, from Marianne Pieper, CDBG program director on the Senior Rehabilitation Program. The first is from 10 a.m. until noon and the second is from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. anyone who is interested is invited to attend one of the sessions, and there is an information sheet available on the table outside the doors. **AMENDMENT**

REMINDER The Cherokee County Capital Program Management Division announces that the Old Highway 5/Main Street/Holly Springs Parkway Bridge over the Little River will be closed to through traffic from Tuesday, June 9 for a period of 21 days for bridge deck rehabilitation. A posted detour will be provided during the duration of the construction. Questions regarding the construction/detour should be directed to the Cherokee County Capital Program Management Division at 678-493-6080.

“Be Work Ready” Last week, Gov Perdue announced the launch of **“Be Work Ready”**, a program designed to help unemployed Georgians jump start their job search, develop confidence and gain a competitive advantage in the job market. **Be Work Ready** is a one-of-a-kind initiative providing unemployed Georgians a monetary incentive for either earning a Work Ready Certificate or improving their skills through free, online Work Ready skills gap training. When an individual earns a bronze, silver or gold level Work Ready Certificate, they are eligible for a \$50 incentive; those who earn platinum are eligible for \$100. When an individual improves their Work Ready Certificate level in any way, they are eligible for a \$100 incentive. The incentive, in the form of a gift card, can be used to offset job search expenses.

Be Work Ready is available to those ages 18 or older who are currently unemployed and have earned a Work Ready Certificate and/or improved their Work Ready Certificate level through skills gap training. Those who have earned a Work Ready Certificate since Sept. 1, 2008 are also eligible to apply. Individuals answer a short questionnaire and fill out an application form at www.begaworkready.org to qualify. Job seekers can also post their Work Ready qualifications at www.begaworkready.org and select a target industry where employers throughout the state will be able to access this information and contact candidates about available jobs. Chairman Ahrens

APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES FROM MAY 19, 2009

When Chairman Ahrens asked for a motion to approve the Work Session Minutes as submitted by the Clerk, Commissioner Bosch made the motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the Work Session Minutes received unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 19, 2009

When Chairman Ahrens asked for a motion to approve the Minutes as submitted by the Clerk, Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Hyde asked to speak about the importance of considering a reduction in Impact Fees. Chairman Ahrens told him that a public hearing would be held and that public comment would be welcomed at that time.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

CHAIRMAN

L. B. AHRENS

"Nominees for Fall 09 Class... Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta"

Chairman Ahrens noted that as part of MAACC (Metro Atlanta Arts & Culture Coalition), there is an opportunity twice yearly for individuals, for a fee of \$500 to be a part of the art appreciation program, "Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta"; because Cherokee County is a funding partner of MAACC since October 2008, we have two nominees at no charge. The Chairman has sent letters and/or e-mails to the board members, the Mayors of the cities, and to some of the organizations asking for nominations as of last Friday, May 29; he has already received 7 to date. The deadline is June 15 and you can nominate yourself.

COMMISSION POST 1

HARRY B. JOHNSTON

COMMISSION POST 2

JIM HUBBARD

Re-appointment of Debra Haynes to the Planning Commission retroactive to January 1, 2009 – no action necessary

COMMISSION POST 3

KAREN BOSCH

Announced Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, June 11 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Oak Grove Community Room at Station 19, 100 Ridgemill Court, Acworth, GA

Re-appointment of Charles Kirby to the Planning Commission retroactive to January 1, 2009 – no action necessary

Call for a public hearing to be advertised for July 7 meeting to take comments, suggestions regarding possible reduction of Impact Fees -
AMENDMENT

Commissioner Bosch said that because she believed that it was imperative to set into motion some way to bring business back into the County and put people back to work, she wanted to get this on the books quickly.

She then made a motion to approve advertising a public hearing and asked Mr. Watkins to put a summary up on the County web site that lets everyone know what the board is trying to do; Vice Chair/Commissioner Good seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of amendment to DHR 2009 5310 contract funding for reduction of \$10,000 of unused funds; this reduction has no impact on county budget or services
2. Approval of Mutual Aid Agreement with Pickens County for Cherokee County Fire Department
3. Approve request for multi-way stop at intersection of Hasty Trail at Lakeside Trail in Garrison Farms-petition submitted that met 70% requirement-participation 85%
4. Approval of budget amendment/transfer of funds of \$18,000 from proceeds of auction of Recycling equipment to cover expenditures for utility preparation, equipment and shelter installation rehab costs at Recycling Center and Hobgood Park
5. Authorize North Georgia Health District to proceed with renovations to offices at Woodstock Department of Health-no cost to County -
AMENDMENT

After Mr. Cooper finished reading the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Bosch made a motion to approve; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

COUNTY MANAGER

6. Consider approval of Resolution for Medical Benefits for Qualified Retirees

Mr. Cooper asked for further postponement until necessary information is available.

Commissioner Bosch made the motion to postpone; Commissioner Hubbard seconded and there was unanimous approval to postpone.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

ADJOURN

The Chairman asked if there was any other business, there was none. Commissioner Hubbard made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:24 p.m.; Commissioner Johnston seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.