

CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Pre-meeting work session

MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2010

3:00 p.m.

Cherokee Hall

Chairman Ahrens opened the Work Session with a reading from the Jack Welch book saying that he was going to read from a chapter titled "Facing Reality" which today seemed especially appropriate. Next the Chairman asked Steve McClure to come forward and begin the recognition of the 86 employees listed.

1. Employee Service Recognition

Mr. McClure first explained that there would be four categories of service recognized tonight, he would begin with the 10 year service employees and ask that those who were here to stand when their name was called. Once all those names were called, then the audience could applaud; and after all the categories were completed, the recipients could exit to the pre-conference area, where Tracy Chambers and Rachel Mahurin would be waiting with their chosen awards and certificates. Of the 86 employees, at least half were in attendance tonight and the Chairman thanked everyone for their dedication and service, saying that continuity was very important in this organization.

2. Presentation of awards to T.D.I.P. (Teen Driving Impact Panel Instructors) by Judge John B. Sumner, Presiding Judge Juvenile Court

The Chairman asked Judge Sumner to come up and when he did, he gave a brief explanation of what the Teen Driving Impact Panel Instructors do for this particular treatment program available in Juvenile Court. Judge Sumner said that these officers spend their Saturday mornings to try to get through to teenage drivers what the consequences of their actions are when they are behind the wheel. He then called the officers up beginning with Lt. William Thompson from the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office; Lt. Jeff Hall of the City of Canton Police Department and Sgt. Shane Collie from the City of Woodstock Police Department and presented the awards to them.

After giving the awards, Judge Sumner asked the officers if they would like to say anything, Lt. Thompson came forward and said that they had dedicated their Saturdays for the past year to the classes with 20 to 25 students in each. They have had over 300 students with a 97% success rate in that only 3% had re-offended.

3. Amy Davis to present December 2009 financials

Mrs. Davis began by saying that these were not the final figures for December as they had not been audited and some invoices would still be trickling in despite their best efforts. She completed her report, after some comments and questions from the board, by saying this would be her last report, as she was leaving to take a job with the City of Sandy Springs. The Chairman thanked her on behalf of the board for her years of service to the County and wished her good luck.

4. Discussion of regular agenda items

After the Chairman mentioned the Announcements, he asked Mr. Watkins about the zoning cases coming up. When Mr. Watkins came up, Commissioner Hubbard said that on the pumpkin farm case he was thinking this was the same piece of property of a previous zoning case and asked if Mr. Watkins remembered the zoning case some months back, in this same area, where there was a building on the property being used for storage. Mr. Watkins said that he did not remember that particular one but thought that this parcel did not have a building on it at this time. He said he would research it before the meeting to confirm that this was a different property.

Commissioner Johnston said that on the next case in his Post, he had no problem with the AG zoning requested but as to the conditions given by the Planning Commission, he had drafted some that were a little different that he was more comfortable with; he said that he had combined 1 and 2 but changed the wording somewhat and he also wanted to add one item to the list of AG Permitted Uses of "Large Animal Veterinary Clinic". He was also deleting the condition regarding the cul-de-sac.

The Chairman then discussed the 2 items under his portion before calling Mr. Cooper forward for a review of the Consent Agenda items. Mr. Cooper went over the items on the Consent Agenda before moving on to his portion of the agenda. On the first item, the adoption of the budget, Mr. Cooper said that there had been some changes since the original was presented and he gave a brief summary of the changes. On item 2, Commissioner Johnston pointed out that the qualifying fee for Post 1 and Post 4 should be the same, the Clerk said she would make the change to the Resolution before it was signed. There was some discussion when Mr. Cooper got to item 9 regarding whether to put it out for bid and it was decided that the proposed cost by JKH Architects of \$14,000 did not warrant the length of time involved in bidding it out.

After Mr. Cooper finished the review of his portion, the Chairman asked if there was anything else.

Hearing none, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel, pending litigation and property acquisition at 4:34 p.m. Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.