

CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session Minutes

January 3, 2012

3:00 p.m.

Cherokee Hall

The Chairman began at 3:06 p.m. with all members of the Board present by referencing an email that he had sent out to all County Employees with New Year Greetings and a message for 2012. He said that the theme this year is a carryover from last year because it worked: "Manage the Downside, Create Opportunities II".

The list of USP's is attached and included as part of the Work Session Minutes.

1. Presentation of the proposed 2012 budget by Janelle Funk.

Janelle Funk went over the proposed 2012 budget, adding that a hard copy is on file in the County Clerk's office for review and it is available on the County's website as well. A public hearing is scheduled for January 17, 2012.

She added that we are changing the fiscal year to October 1 to September 30. The fiscal year had been January 1 to December 31. She said the new fiscal year would show a more true cash basis.

The summary that she went over on a slide presentation is attached and included as part of these Work Session Minutes.

The Chairman then said that the January 26/27 retreat is a Public Meeting and that notice would be sent to the media with details of time and location.

Commissioner Johnston said that after last meeting he spoke with family members of the applicant of the zoning case that was postponed from the last minute and that he is prepared to approve as O & I.

2. Review of Majestic/Taubman project for possible outlet center at Hwy. 92 / I-75.

Chairman Ahrens said he would like to skip this item and talk about it at the end of the meeting.

3. Discussion of Regular Agenda Items.

Mr. Cooper went over the four items under the Consent Agenda:

- Requesting to authorize Chairman Ahrens to execute contract with GDOT for resurfacing of 13.96 miles of road in the amount of \$1,202,687.15 funding provided by GDOT.
- Consideration of a one-year extension of Professional Services Agreement with Key Risk Management Services from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.
- Consider approval of contract renewal between Cherokee County and Rindt-McDuff Associates, Inc. (RMA) for the Blalock Road Landfill closure at a cost not to exceed \$159,000.00.
 - Commissioner Johnston asked if were close to seeing an end to the active monitoring of the landfill. Mr. Cooper replied that A 'whirly bird' type mechanism has been put in place to help pull the methane out of the wells. He added that we were in about the twelfth year of a thirty-year plan to pull out the methane.
- Consider approval of new lease for 2,237 square foot space located at 155 Towne Lake Parkway with monthly lease payment of \$2,197.50 beginning January 1, 2012 between the County and Express Employment Professionals under new ownership.

Mr. Cooper then went over the County Manager portion of the agenda:

- Requesting acceptance of proposal and approval of contract with Rec1.com in the amount of \$250 per month for website management services and 1% fee of online registration transactions (approximately \$10,000.00 annually) to provide web-hosted recreation registration and reservation software contingent upon receipt of executed affidavit and valid certificate of insurance as well as county attorney review and approval. Other two bids were from: Active Network for \$8,400

initiation and \$30,888 annually with no website; Vermont Systems for \$47,944 initial year and \$24,528 annually for software and no website.

- Consider approval to award construction contract to the lowest responsible bidder, with the most responsive bid proposal for landscape and trees at the Soccer Complex at Blalock Road to Ed Castro Landscape, Inc. of Roswell GA in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00. Bidders included: Ed Castro Landscape Inc. at \$56,219; Athens Landscape Group at \$73,353; Ruppert Landscape at \$94,147; Tri Scapes Inc. at \$59,974 and three others.

Commissioner Bosch said that she has asked for neighborhood input on this project. She suggested that perhaps when projects are in an area that may be sensitive for one reason or the other, we might want to consider stopping when a resident has a concern until a Commissioner can be contacted. In this situation a resident had concerns about trees being cut down. Commissioner Johnston said he didn't know that that was practical in every case. Mr. Cooper commented that in his opinion, the trees that had been removed needed to be removed but that the neighborhood should have been involved.

- Consider adoption of a resolution by the Board of Commissioners authorizing the 2012 Tax Anticipation Notes and approval of the accompanying closing documents providing for closing and funding of the TAN's on January 4, 2012.

Chairman Ahrens said that there has been a last minute flurry of emails regarding HOST legislation. He asked was this something the Board would like to consider tonight.

Angie Davis handed out a draft resolution and bill and said that if the Board was interested in proceeding with this, the first step would be to adopt a resolution requesting the local delegation to submit the legislation to the General Assembly at its next session which starts in a couple of days. She said that she didn't think the deadline to accept local bills has past because the session hasn't started yet. She said assuming that it passes, this doesn't put the bill in place, it authorizes a referendum and then the question goes to the voters.

After much discussion as whether to specify a date, Angie suggested that Exhibit A of the bill be left blank in order to at least keep the option open for the board to go ahead with the referendum.

Majestic/Taubman project for possible outlet center at Hwy. 92 / I-75

Chairman Ahrens said that he was expecting Mr. Stan Conway of Majestic to be here today but he was out of town and unable to attend.

Chairman Ahrens reminded everyone that the project is a mixed use development up I-75 in Bartow County. Their proposal would place an outlet center at exit 277 in Cherokee County.

As a follow up to the Horizon Outlet project discussed at the last Work Session, Chairman Ahrens said that he has received the resolution from the City of Woodstock requesting capital/financial assistance from the County for improvements to Ridgewalk Parkway.

The Chairman asked if there was anything else. Hearing none, Vice Chair Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 5:07 p.m. to discuss personnel issues, pending litigation and property acquisition. Commissioner Nelms seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session to Follow