

By policy, minutes are not official until approved by the Board at a future regular meeting.

CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session

February 21, 2012

3:00 p.m.

Cherokee Hall

MINUTES

The Chairman began at 3:08 p.m. with all members of the Board present by reading the last chapter of "Essence of Leadership" with the topic being Integrity.

The Chairman said he had a couple of items he wanted to go over. He announced early voting which had already begun. He then referred to the CRPA Advisory Board vacancy to fill the unexpired term of Jim Haslam who resigned due to conflicts with his work schedule. He asked for any nominations and said he had a couple of names himself but did not plan to make an appointment today. The resolution in support of clarification and redefinition of certain Powers of Authority to update the current CCDA resolution was the next topic. It was passed, voted, and signed by the CCDA and is included in the agenda packets. The Chairman said the Commissioners had two options; send a resolution or a letter of support for CCDA's resolution to the delegation. It was decided since the resolution was ready, that they would execute the resolution.

1. Discussion of Regular Agenda Items.

Mr. Cooper went over the **Consent Agenda**:

- Consider approval of Settlement and Release Agreement for the Millstone at Little River Subdivision from performance bonds for a total amount of \$72,368.52 for asphalt topping installation and \$3,730.00 for trees.
- Consider approval of a proposal from American Engineers, Inc. for revisions to East Cherokee Drive Safety Enhancement project in the total amount of \$16,500.00.
- Consider approval of a proposal from American Engineers, Inc. for revisions to the Earney Road project in the total amount of \$26,440.00.

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- Consider request to transfer reimbursed Insurance Recovery Funds in the amount of \$5,150.00 to EMS Vehicle Maintenance.
- Consider approval of budget amendment to transfer ASPCA Grant funds awarded to the Animal Shelter in the amount of \$6,500.00 for the purchase of vaccines and spaying/neutering.
- Consider approval of disposition to surplus computer hardware from the Tax Commissioner's Office for disposal at the next Electronics Recycling Day.
- Requesting approval of budget amendment establishing adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2012 for the GEMA Grant in the amount of \$15,000.00.
- Requesting approval to set a public hearing for March 20 to consider changes to definitions and regulations for Residential Care Facilities.
- Requesting approval to amend DATE Fund budget to include Drug Court training in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Mr. Cooper then went over the items under the **County Manager's** portion:

- Consider adoption of County Grant Fiscal Management Policy for Fiscal Year 2011 and later.

Commissioner Bosch asked if Mr. Cooper wanted this approved today. He said that they can but he knows it is the first time they have seen it so it would be fine to postpone it until the next meeting. Commissioner Bosch asked for a time frame and Mr. Cooper stated that it just needed to be done before the audit begins.

- Consider approval of budget amendment to transfer \$1.0M Bond Premium Proceeds to Debt Service Fund to cover debt service payments.
- Consider approval of budget amendments for SPLOST V and RRDA Budgets: Transferring \$1,827,000.00 assets previously purchased by the General Fund to SPLOST V Fund; Use the resulting reserves from the transfer to fund RRDA Debt Service payments until June 2012 for a total of \$1,826,015.03.
- Requesting consideration of CRPA Advisory Board's recommendation for naming the park on Blalock Road.

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- Requesting acceptance of low bid by Morgan's Ace Hardware in the amount of \$12,918.96 to purchase from Parks Bond funds one (1) zero turn mower with 72" deck. Other bidders were Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation at \$13,068.96 and Bells Ferry Ace Hardware at \$13,499.00.
- Consider approval of submission of application for the Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mr. Cooper gave a brief summary of how this program's goals would be similar to the goals of DUI Court.

Judge McElyea provided information about the application they made to attend the Drug Court training sponsored by the National Drug Court Institute. A representative from the DA's office, Judge McElyea, a representative from the Sheriff's Office, probation, a treatment provider and a few others from the community would be attending.

Commissioner Bosch then asked if this was going to require additional staff. Judge McElyea said that eventually it would.

The Chairman asked when they would know about the award of the grant. Judge McElyea said they wouldn't know until October. The Chairman stated that October would be part of the next fiscal year of planning.

The topic then changed to the precious metal dealer's ordinance. Angie Davis said that Paul Dzikowsky with her office would present the hearing tonight.

The Chairman then presented a couple of topics since there was time left before Executive Session. The first topic was the Mountain Conservation Trust in Jasper. Several years ago, in 2007, there was a settlement of \$500,000 given to Mountain Conservation Trust. He said that approximately \$150,000 was spent related to resources along the Amicalola near the watershed area and the question is, Where is the remainder of the money and what is the balance?

Commissioner Bosch asked who actually received the check. The Chairman said the Mountain Conservation Trust did. He said a letter has been sent to them to find out the status of the money.

Commissioner Johnston said it might be a more action oriented request if we actually propose a specific qualifying purchase.

Commissioner Bosch asked when the money was granted, wasn't it specifically supposed to go to the county? She also said they should have had some communication of how it would affect us.

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Commissioner Bosch introduced the topic of the Development Code Summary changes which had been discussed most recently at the retreat. She said she'd like to get some kind of commitment to move forward with it. Commissioner Johnston said he that he had read through the changes and did not see anything he objected to. Commissioner Johnston said his review did not leave him with any specific questions or concerns. Commissioner Bosch asked if a hearing had to take place on this matter and Margaret Stallings replied that it did not. Commissioner Bosch asked if they wanted to put it on the agenda for the next meeting or if they wanted to approve it now. Commissioner Nelms said he was fine with whatever the board wanted to do and that he had no concerns after reviewing it. Angie Davis added that if it wasn't a pressing time issue that they wait until the next meeting since it was not on this agenda. The public would probably have an interest in the changes. Chairman Ahrens agreed that it would be on the next agenda.

Commissioner Bosch asked the status of the Waleska Splashpad project. Bryan Reynolds replied that he had just visited the site today and that the lighting had been installed and now we were just waiting for warm weather to test it.

Chairman Ahrens said he had one more item he wanted to go over. He had a conversation with a Hall County Commissioner, Scott Gibbs who had reached out mostly to inform about House Bill 849, sponsored by Representatives Emerson, Rogers, Kidd, Lindsey, and Stephens. The bill was to amend Article 3 Chapter 4 Title 3 regarding distilled spirits. The bill basically opens up that legislation to a County or City initiated ordinance. Commissioner Nelms said it already had its second reading according to the General Assembly website on February 2nd. Commissioner Hubbard asked if it would allow the County to initiate alcohol sales without a referendum. Chairman Ahrens said you must still have the referendum, but the referendum could be by resolution or ordinance.

The Chairman asked if there was anything else. Hearing none, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 4:15 p.m. to discuss personnel issues, pending litigation and property acquisition. Commissioner Nelms seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session to Follow