

CHEROKEE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES Work Session

March 6, 2012

3:00 p.m.

Cherokee Hall

1. Presentation on study of prime agricultural lands in Cherokee County by Margaret Stallings.

Jeff Watkins gave an introduction to the topic. Margaret Stallings then presented a slideshow, and afterwards introduced Planning Intern Chris Luly who spoke about agriculture as it relates to Cherokee County.

Margaret Stallings asked if the Commissioners had any thoughts on where they should go from here. Commissioner Johnston then asked if anyone had really implemented a successful transfer of development rights program. He said it seemed like the perfect way to preserve farm land but coming up with the funds would be an issue. Jeff Watkins then gave an example of a county very similar to Cherokee who came up with a way to preserve their farm land by using the TDR program. He then said that conservation easements would be an easier route. Commissioner Johnston expressed his concern again with finding the funds to purchase the easements.

Commissioner Bosch commented that small businesses have the incubator program and that there should be a program similar for starting a farming business.

Chairman Ahrens took a moment to acknowledge the incident that occurred at the Bluffs the previous day, reminding everyone that danger could be lurking anywhere. He thanked the Marshal's Office and Sheriff's Office for addressing the situation quickly, promptly and efficiently.

He added that Senator Rogers introduced the HOST bill and expects it to pass tomorrow.

He briefly went over his agenda items which included appointments to CRPA Advisory Board and the Region 1DBHDD Board.

2. Discussion of Regular Agenda Items.

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

- Consider approval to surplus computer equipment, phones and cell phones from the Public Works Agency.
- Consider approval of 2nd amendment to ARC FY2012 budget contract to assign newly allocated funding in the amount of \$6,903.00. (\$5,508.00 from state to Transportation Voucher Program; \$1,396.00 from Tax Check Off state funding to Meals on Wheels Program).
- Consider budget amendment to SPLOST V in the amount of \$125,498.00 for receipt of additional Patton Mold Settlement revenue to be appropriated to the construction of the fire training center.
- Consider request by Cherokee FOCUS Board of Directors for the County to remain as fiscal agent.
- Consideration of a 90-day contract extension with VPSI, Inc. to continue the Cherokee County (CATS) Vanpool Program to May 1, 2012.
- Consider renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement with Fortis College (Formerly Medix College) to allow EMT and Paramedic students to ride on County ambulances for training purposes.

Mr. Cooper went over the **County Manager** Portion of the Agenda:

- Consider approval of submittal of the FY2013 Department of Human Resources (DHS) annual application for funding which supports the County's Rural Transportation Program (CATS 5311 Demand Response Service) in the approximate amount of \$209,736.00.
- Consider approval of a Change Order to the Professional Services Agreement with POND & Company for a total amount not to exceed \$115,050.00 for additional design and engineering services for the planned Fire-ES Training Center.

Chief Robinson then gave an update on the property purchased for the Fire-ES Training Center. Commissioner Bosch asked if they would be keeping the building that is already there and Chief Robinson answered yes. Commissioner Bosch said

part of our hopes with all of this is to be able to bring in other folks to help and there'd be a charge if other agencies wanted to bring in their folks to train and kind of offset the cost of operating this center. Chief Robinson said there had been some consideration of this. Commissioner Nelms said he thought this would do two things for the county; one, it is going to save us money from an operational standpoint and it will also separate us from the pact. Commissioner Nelms then asked if the facility was going to require long-term staff at the training center. Chief Robinson said they already had staff assigned to the training center.

- Consider approval of contract with lowest bidder, Walton Press, for printing and delivery of the CRPA Quarterly Program Guide, *Leisure Pursuit*. Walton Press has a long-standing relationship with CRPA and bid at \$3,079.00 per 11,000 pages. Other bidders were Raindance Media at \$3,299.00 per 11,000 pages; Sauers at \$3,643.00 per 11,000 pages and Northside Printing at \$7,199.00 per 9,000 pages.
- Consider approval of amendment 2 to existing contract with Waste Management to extend for three (3) 1 year terms, including a provision for allowing the County to relocate the recycling facilities located on Blalock Road.
- Consider budget amendment from Impact Fees to accommodate the Library's request for \$100,000 to be spent on books during the 2012 Budget Year.
- Consider approval of change order to the design/build services agreement with the Latimer/JKH Architects team for additional services including concessions & toilet buildings and signage at the Soccer Complex on Blalock Road in an amount not to exceed \$48,295.00.
- Consider approval of Right-of-Way agreement between Cherokee County and Georgia Department of Transportation for the Commerce Boulevard Project.
- Consideration of 2011 Budget Amendment for additional Insurance Premium Tax Revenue received in the amount of \$456,449.00 from the Insurance Premium Tax Fund to the General Fund. County budgeted \$5.7 million but received \$6.5 million.
- Consider approval of contract award to Telenet Systems, Inc. for replacement of audio/video surveillance monitoring, recording and management system for the Cherokee County Adult Detention Center in the amount of \$151,538.97. Seven bids were received ranging from \$34,306.50 to \$372,205.00. Telenet's proposal is determined to be the best solution.
- Consider proposed changes to the Development Code.

- Consider approval of Professional Services Agreement with Diversified Electronics for the annual preventive maintenance, outage repairs and customer service of county-wide outdoor warning sirens in an amount not to exceed \$30,083.00.
- Consider resolution authorizing change order one to the construction agreement with Gay Construction for a guaranteed maximum price of \$1,199,420.00 for the Senior Center Renovation/Expansion Project.

Angie Davis went over the **County Attorney** Portion of the Agenda.

- Consider suspension, revocation, or probation of precious metal dealer's permit for Butch Roberts d/b/a Goldhound, 2382 Marietta Hwy, Canton, GA. (This item was postponed from last meeting.)

Angie Davis said that the Sheriff's Office goal was achieved as the business had relinquished their Occupational Tax Certificate (Business License) and the business has closed down. She said as of now, there is nothing further this Board has to do. She said to leave it on the agenda and she would announce that at the regular meeting.

- Consider adoption of resolution establishing the electronic maintenance and storage of board records for Cherokee County Board of Commissioners.

Angie Davis stated that the resolution was to establish where and how the Board will keep official records including the Board's minutes. She said that the County's efforts to go paperless by maintaining and storing minutes electronically made these records more accessible to the public via Internet, including contracts. She added that hardcopies of contracts will be kept as well in the Administrative Offices.

The Chairman asked if there was anything else. Hearing none, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 4:44 p.m. to discuss personnel issues, pending litigation and property acquisition. Commissioner Bosch seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session Followed