

# SUMMARY

## Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

September 3, 2013  
Regular Meeting  
CHEROKEE HALL 6:00 PM

### **INVOCATION**

Ted Lester, Pastor of Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church Woodstock, gave the invocation.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*"Veterans of U.S. military service may proudly salute the flag while not in uniform based on a change in the governing law on 25 July 2007"*

Jerry Cooper led the Pledge.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

### **CHAIRMAN AHRENS**

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. Those present included Commissioner Harry B. Johnston; Commissioner Raymond Gunnin; Commissioner Brian Poole; Vice Chair/Commissioner Jason Nelms; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Angie Davis; County Clerk Christy Black. Also present were Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media; and the public.

### **RATIFY CLOSURE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Ahrens called for a motion to ratify the closure of Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

### **PROCLAMATION(S)**

1. Proclamation in recognition of Court Administrator **Lynn Epps**.

Chairman Ahrens read the proclamation in recognition of Lynn Epps. Family, friends and coworkers were in attendance as Ms. Epps received the proclamation. She thanked the Board for the recognition and said that it was

really the efforts of a great team. She said the idea began with Judge Gober and it has carried through now with Judge Jordan among others and as continued to be successful.

Chairman Ahrens congratulated Ms. Epps and efforts of the team. He spoke about attending several DUI Drug Court graduations and the impact it makes to those in attendance.

2. Proclaiming the week of September 8 – 15, 2013 as **Firefighter Appreciation Week** in Cherokee County.

Chairman Ahrens read the proclamation and Chief Prather accepted it on behalf of the Firefighters.

### **PRESENTATION**

Recognition of Firefighters by Chief Prather.

Chief Prather spoke about two firefighters who recently went above and beyond the call of duty. He said that both were off-duty and in different states, but on the same day, August 2, 2013, they both performed life-saving actions. He said that with Firefighters Appreciation Week and the Patriots Day Remembrance, the timing was right to present the awards to these two exemplary employees. Chief Eddie Robinson presented the Meritorious Action Awards to Lt. Mike Malone, who has 18 years of service with the County and to Lt. John Bennett, who has 13 years of service with the County.

Chairman Ahrens thanked the Chief for his leadership and for bringing the presentation before the Board.

### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

None.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Ahrens announced that an **outdoor warning siren test** is scheduled for tomorrow at noon.

1. **North Georgia Health District is holding Drive-by Flu Shot Clinics** for each county beginning mid-September. Flyers are available in the lobby with more information and the complete clinic schedule.

**Drive-by Flu Shot Clinic for Cherokee County**

Tuesday, October 1, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Woodstock Health Center, 7545 North Main Street, Woodstock;  
(770) 928-0133

2. **Road Closures**

Due to the weather, Cherokee County Roads & Bridges Department announces that **Roscoe Collett Road** will remain closed until Monday September 30, 2013 for road improvements.

**Summer Drive** will close beginning Monday, September 9 at 7:30 am. to Friday, September 13 at 5:00 p.m. for pipe replacement.

Questions regarding the road closures should be directed to the Roads and Bridges Department at 770-345-5842.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES FROM AUGUST 20, 2013.**

As distributed by the County Manager.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

**APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES FROM AUGUST 20, 2013.**

Commissioner Gunnin made a motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

## **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM AUGUST 20, 2013.**

Commissioner Poole made a motion to approve; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None Scheduled.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mr. Tom Ware signed up to speak about the Aquatic Center. He thanked the Commissioners for standing by their commitment to build it while receiving so much criticism during construction. He added that he recently visited the Aquatic Center and it was packed with visitors. He said he was very impressed with the complex. He was particularly impressed that the food at the complex was available at a reasonable cost.

Chairman Ahrens thanked Mr. Ware for his remarks. He agreed about the reasonable cost of the food, and added that tables were also available for those who did not want to purchase food.

## **ZONING CASES**

None Scheduled.

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## **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

**CHAIRMAN**

**L. B. AHRENS**

The Chairman mentioned that he had specifically asked the City of Canton to consider raising the speed limit of 35 mph on Bluffs Parkway. He said that he doesn't know what the process is or what the prospects are, but the request was made to Mayor Hobgood.

- A. Vacancy on the Region One DBHDD (Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities) Planning Board.

The Chairman gave a brief background of the Board and asked that anyone who is interested, or knows someone who might be interested in serving on the Board, to contact him or Christy Black and more information would be provided at that time.

- B. Discussion on Etowah Community Standards.

Chairman Ahrens said that this discussion is a follow on and follow up of previous discussions that began in 1990 related to the development of the 1,300 acre site with 2 miles on the Etowah River. He stated that a Public Hearing had been called a couple of times and not held. He said there is a Public Hearing scheduled for September 17 at 6:00 p.m. to consider development of community standards. Included in that are descriptions of the residential unit mix of some 1,800 residences, which is down from 2,800 originally. He added that it is a Master Planned Community, an old PUD which doesn't exist any longer. He said that in Work Session it was discussed as to what information to put out to the public by the end of the week to allow a full week to review the document that will be considered at the Public Hearing. He said that this was just an update-we expect to have the Public Hearing and expect to have details available on the web by end of week.

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 1**

**HARRY B. JOHNSTON**

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 2**

**RAYMOND GUNNIN**

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 3**

**BRIAN POOLE**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1.1 Consider accepting Grant Funds awarded in the amount of \$10,082.00 and corresponding budget amendment for the purchase of two (2) patrol cameras. This is a no match grant.
  
- 1.2 Approval to officially accept receipts totaling \$36,000.00 in grant monies from ACCG for Cherokee County's Wellness Programs. Approve budget amendment for the FY2013 budget appropriating the Northside Hospital total of \$5,000.00 in payments received and formally accepted, but never appropriated for the County's Wellness Program.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

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**COUNTY MANAGER**

- 2.1 Consider approval of a Construction Contract with low bidder, Massana Construction, Inc., for completing bridge repairs on the Tripp Road Bridge over Mill Creek in the amount of \$358,051.00. A second bid was received from Sunbelt in the amount of \$606,280.65.

Commissioner Gunnin made a motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.2 Consider approval of the transfer agreement between Cherokee Child Advocacy Council, Inc. and Universal Alloy indicating no public comments were received at the required Public Comment period on July 30, 2013.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.3 Consider approval to purchase fifteen (15) new patrol vehicles for the Cherokee Sheriff's Office from Akins Dodge and Hardy Chevrolet in the total amount of \$514,520.36.

Commissioner Poole made a motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.4 Approve the purchase of three (3) Pumper Apparatus for a total amount of \$1,048,077.00 from Fire Line, Inc., Manufacturer's Representatives for E-One, a fire truck manufacturer.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.5 Consideration of proposal for Northside Hospital-Cherokee to provide \$75,000.00 for conference center audio-video upgrades for four-year extension to the Conference Center Naming Partnership.

Chairman Ahrens asked if the plans were comprehensive. Mr. Cooper replied that it was for the Ballroom generally. The Chairman mentioned that it would be great if the upgrades could be squeezed to include some in Cherokee Hall.

Commissioner Poole made a motion to approve; Commissioner Johnston seconded and there was unanimous approval.

- 2.6 Consider award of bid and contract for upgrades to conference center audio-video system.

Commissioner Nelms made a motion to approve; Commissioner Poole seconded and there was unanimous approval.

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**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**ADJOURN**

The Chairman asked if there was any further business. Hearing none, Commissioner Nelms made a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.; Commissioner Poole seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.