



Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES

March 18, 2014
Regular Meeting
CHEROKEE HALL 6:00 PM

INVOCATION

Commissioner Nelms led 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"

Commissioner Johnston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIRMAN AHRENS

Chairman Ahrens called the regular meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Those present included Commissioner Harry B. Johnston; Commissioner Raymond Gunnin; Commissioner Poole; Commissioner Jason Nelms; County Manager Jerry Cooper; County Attorney Larry Ramsey; County Clerk Christy Black. Also present were Agency Directors/Department Heads; the media; and the public.

RATIFY CLOSURE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chairman called for a motion to ratify the closure of Executive Session at 6:00 p.m.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclaiming March 23-29 as Boys and Girls Club Week in Cherokee County.

Chairman Ahrens read the proclamation and called the Boys and Girls club members who were in attendance to the front and presented the proclamation to a Boys and Girls Club representative.

2. Proclaiming March 28 as Agriculture Day in Cherokee County.

Chairman Ahrens read the proclamation and presented it the Cherokee County Farm Bureau's president, Mr. William Grizzle.

3. Presentation of EMS Service of the Year Award.

Chief Prather spoke briefly about the award, adding that the credit goes to Chief West. At that, he turned the presentation over to EMS Chief Danny West. Chief West stated that the award was based on 20 criteria and there were 11 evaluators and that they were honored to receive the award. Chief West said that they had received the EMS Service of the Year award in 2008. He said that in 2008 they won the State EMS Service award also and that they hoped to win that as well this year. Chief West then spoke about Dr. Jill Mabley, the County's Medical Director, who won the Virginia Hamilton Award. He said that Dr. Mabley was a big supporter of the County's EMS and that Cherokee County was lucky to have her. Chief Prather concurred that we were lucky to have Dr. Mabley.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

1. Add item 2.8: Consider approval of request by Solicitor General for VOCA Grant and budget amendment.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve the amendment; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION, WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 4, 2014.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

None Scheduled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Two people signed up to speak:

1. Mr. James Harold of Canton signed up to speak about the Aquatic Center. As a resident of The Falls of Cherokee, he thanked Commissioner Poole and the other Commissioners as well as Mr. Bill Echols for their assistance with noise issues caused by the Aquatic Center.
2. Mr. Roger Carter of Woodstock signed up to speak about the need for a recycler to clean up their messes. He read from a proposal he had sent to the Commissioners and made available to the public.

ZONING CASES

CASE NUMBER	: 14-03-002
APPLICANT	: Chatham Neighborhoods, LLC
ZONING CHANGE	: OI, R-40 and AG to R-15
LOCATION	: Batesville Road and Hickory Flat
Highway	
MAP & PARCEL NUMBER	: 02N02 - 101, 75
ACRES	: 67.51
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	: Conservation Subdivision
COMMISSION DISTRICT	: 2
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT MAP	: Transitional, Suburban Growth and Country Estates
PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION	: Denial

Jeff Watkins gave an overview of the case. Chairman Ahrens added that at Work Session, discussion led to the recommendation to postpone any action for two weeks. Commissioner Gunnin commented that he had had a lot of

correspondence related to this case. He said that he felt R15, which was the original proposal, was too dense. He said that the developer has proposed less density but that they hadn't had time to put anything together. He said as post commissioner he was recommending a two-week continuance to get plans together. Mr. Parks Huff, attorney for the applicant, agreed that a two week postponement would give them more time to fine tune and get more data. Commissioner Johnston said that it needs to be a substantial reduction in order to conform to the land use plan. He said the revised proposal comes close, but he would like to see 15% or so on top of the 20% for a total of 35% or so reduction. His preference would be R-20 at the frontage, R-40 next and R-80 in the back. Commissioner Nelms stated that he had received a lot of email communication, and said that the Board is their voice and he thanked them for coming to the Board. Chairman Ahrens stated that it was the Board's understanding that a property slightly East had a high likelihood of being developed with current zoning and may withdraw their request for rezoning. He added that this was unofficial at this point but that it was their understanding.

Commissioner Gunnin made a motion to postpone until the April 1, 2014 meeting; Commissioner Nelms seconded and there was unanimous approval.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

CHAIRMAN

L. B. AHRENS

VICE CHAIR/COMMISSION DISTRICT 1

HARRY B. JOHNSTON

COMMISSION DISTRICT 2

RAYMOND GUNNIN

COMMISSION DISTRICT 3

BRIAN POOLE

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1.1 Consider approval to transfer \$19,077.00 from Building Inspections to the Development Services Center for transfer of position for additional Customer Service.

- 1.2 Consider approval to release one loaned tanker fire apparatus and one loaned tanker (tender) body back to Georgia Forestry. Also, approval to surplus and donate one truck chassis to Georgia Forestry. The chassis would cost more in work and man hours to disassemble than the value of the chassis.

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

COUNTY MANAGER

- 2.1 Consider approval to accept Homeland Security Grant Program/State Homeland Security Grant Program and Budget Amendment in the amount of \$12,000.00 for grant period August 26, 2013 to May 30, 2014. This is a no match grant.

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

- 2.2 Consider approval of Professional Services Agreement with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., for completing an intersection analysis for the

intersection of Woodstock Road and Victory Drive in the amount of \$10,900.00.

Ms. Beale, whose niece was killed in January at the intersection, was in attendance. From the audience she spoke about keeping the project at the front burner so that no one had to suffer like her family has. Commissioner Nelms responded by saying he was the District Commissioner and would speak on behalf of the Board. He said that the Board understood how she felt and he read through the plans that said the analysis will include: reviewing all accident data, reviewing intersection geometry and sight distance, performing and analyzing 24-hour and peak hour traffic and turning movement counts on all approaches to the intersection, reviewing future development trends in the immediate area that will impact the traffic flow at this intersection, performing an all-way stop warrant analysis, performing a round-a-about analysis, performing a traffic signal warrant study and conducting a cost analysis of all practical alternatives.

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

2.3 Consider approval of annual guardrail installation and repair services contract with Martin-Robbins Fence Company, Inc., to perform guardrail installation and repairs county-wide as needed.

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

2.4 Consider Sidewalk Trip Hazard Removal Services Contract with MRC Group, LLC, to perform sidewalk repairs county-wide as needed.

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

2.5 Consider Professional Services Consulting Contract for update to the Cherokee County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) to Parsons Brinkerhoff, Inc., in the amount of \$378,674.00.

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

2.6 Consider approval of Change Order to Maintenance Services Agreement with Shumate Mechanical for the installation of variable fan device controls at a cost not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the Aquatic Center. Also requesting approval of landscape plan and authorization to be competitively bid for the installation of approximately 90 to 95 trees at a budget of approximately \$40,000.00. Upon receipt of bids, BOC approval will be requested.

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

2.7 Consider approval to submit a grant application to Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) for funds to establish/continue operation of a Mental Health Court in Cherokee County in the amount of \$113,625.00 with a match of \$12,625.00.

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

2.8 Amendment: Consider approval of request by Solicitor General for VOCA Grant and budget amendment.

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

COUNTY ATTORNEY

3.1 Notice of Annexation, City of Woodstock regarding property located at the East Side of Main Street North of Highway 92.

Mr. Ramsey gave an overview of the annexation notice of approximately 5 to 6 acres of a 52.95 acre parcel that has already been annexed. He said that staff has not found the annexation to be of a material increase in burden upon the County in which to meet land use objection under the statute. He said his recommendation would be to not object the annexation request. The Board was in approval of no objection. Mr. Ramsey stated that if the Board did not object to the annexation, no action would be necessary.

ADJOURN

The Chairman asked if there was any further business. Hearing none, Commissioner Johnston made a motion to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.; Commissioner Nelms seconded and the motion received unanimous approval.