

Minutes  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
October 10, 2016

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Lyon, Vice Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Lee Vaughn, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler, CFO Phil Pitts.

After the pledge to the United States flag, the invocation was given by Chairman Lyon.

**Adoption of Agenda.** Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to amend the agenda by adding 11B)- Executive Session to discuss economic development real estate. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to amend the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Adoption of the minutes of the Called Meeting on September 8, 2016 and the Regular Meeting on September 12, 2016.** Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Mrs. Mary Clark representing the MLK Committee to come before the Board to discuss activities for the 2017 Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend in Elbert County.** Mrs. Clark thanked the Board for their support the past several years and asked for support again this year for the weekend activities. In past years the Board has given \$1,000.00 from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the request of \$1000.00. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and Approval of a Resolution adopting the Elbert County Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan.** According to Mr. Thomas a resolution adopting this plan is required by the state as a prerequisite to receive funding. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of the Georgia DOT-Elbert County Speed Zone Ordinance.** Mr. Daughtry stated that this ordinance is requested by the DOT on forms provided by them; that in order for us to be authorized to check speed by radar we have to have signs up and a resolution for all affected roads. Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve the ordinance. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval of Chris Niggel to the Elbert County Planning Commission.** This is to fill an unexpired term to end December 2017 as recommended by the planning commission. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the appointment. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and update of the TV orphan county local news option.** Mr. Daughtry stated that we have received a feasibility certificate from both DirecTV and Dish Network concerning the switch from South Carolina to the Atlanta market area; although Dish stated the change was not economically feasible. Mr. Daughtry stated the next step will be getting together with representatives from Stephens, Franklin and Hart Counties to come up with a plan to submit to the FCC. Another issue is getting the City of Elberton on board with the plan. According to Mr. Daughtry this will be a long process.

**Discussion and approval of the financing option for the upgrade to the county-wide radio communications project.** Two proposals were received. One from Lease Corporation of America and one from Pinnacle Bank. The proposal from Pinnacle included two interest rates; one if construction was included and the other a lease-purchase plan. After looking at all options offered, Mr. Pitts recommended accepting the Pinnacle Bank proposal of a 60 month lease-purchase providing that it meets all legal requirements. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the proposal from Pinnacle Bank. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Vaughn abstained from voting.

**Finance Report.** Mr. Pitts stated the General Fund expenditures are slightly over budget by 1% through the first three months of the fiscal year. Revenues are \$138,790.00 less than this time last year. There is \$3,100.00 available in the Hotel/Motel tax fund; therefore there is enough to cover the \$1,000 donated to the MLK Committee. E-911 fund is running about the same as last year at this time. Solid Waste is actually showing a profit; mainly due to the convenience center expenditures being shifted to the General Fund account.

**Public Comments.** There were no public comments.

**Executive Session.** Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing economic development real estate. Mr. Daughtry clarified that it will be to discuss real estate in terms of economic development and will not be discussing economic development in general. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Vaughn seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session.** Commissioner Harper made the motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon stated no action was taken during Executive Session.

**Adjournment.** Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.