Minutes

Board of Commissioners
February 28, 2008
7:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, met in Official Session on Thursday, February 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the public meeting room of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Commissioners Present:	Jack Smith, Chairman Herb Frady, Vice-Chairman Robert Horgan Eric Maxwell Peter Pfeifer
Staff Present:	Jack Krakeel, Interim County Administrator Scott Bennett, County Attorney Carol Chandler, Executive Assistant Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk Floyd Jones, Deputy Clerk

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Chairman Smith called the meeting to order.
Commissioner Pfeifer offered the Invocation.
Pledge of Allegiance.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Chairman Smith announced that Gail Sparrow was unable to be present tonight for the Honor Flight presentation and wanted to defer this to the March 13, 2008 Commission meeting. He also announced that the Public Comment portion of the agenda would be moved to the very end of the meeting agenda.

Commissioner Horgan made a motion and Commissioner Frady seconded the motion to accept the agenda as presented with the requested changes. The motion carried 5-0.

PRESENTATION/RECOGNITION:

A. Presentation by Gail Sparrow who will speak about the Honor Flight Project.

This item will be heard at the March 13, 2008 Commission meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Pfeifer made a motion and Commissioner Horgan seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented with the exception of item #3. The motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07 - FAYETTE COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT ON FIRE SERVICES IMPACT FEES AND SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT:

1. Approval of Resolution No. 2008-07 adopting the draft "Fayette County Annual Report on Fire Services Impact Fees, including FY2007 Impact Fees Financial Report, FY2008-FY2012 Short Term Work Program and Capital Improvements Element" as an amendment to the Fayette County Comprehensive Plan and authorization for the Chairman to sign said Resolution. A copy of the request and Resolution No. 2008-07, identified as "Attachment No. 1", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES:

2. Approval of request from Fire and Emergency Services to accept a grant from Coweta-Fayette EMS in the amount of $5,000 for a medical golf cart. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment No. 2", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY REAPPOINTMENTS:

3. Approval of reappointment of Jack Smith and Mary Shaver for an additional one-year term on the Fayette County Public Facilities Authority commencing March 1, 2008 and ending February 28, 2009.

Commissioner Pfeifer remarked that he was aware that Fayette County law allows a member of the governing authority to sit on the Public Facilities Authority but he felt it would be best if a Commissioner did not.

Commissioner Frady made a motion and Commissioner Horgan seconded the motion to approve consent item #3 as presented. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Pfeifer voting in opposition. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment No. 3", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

4. Approval of minutes for Board of Commissioners' meeting held on February 6, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS:

B. Discussion by citizens from the Sandy Creek Road area regarding the West Fayetteville Bypass Project.

Chairman Smith asked if there were any citizens wishing to speak on this issue.

Lee Sasser: Lee Sasser remarked that she was opposed to the bypass project and felt it would create a dangerous traffic situation.

Tom Waller: Tom Waller commented on the bypass and said it would create a lot of traffic problems.

Gordon Furr: Gordon Furr commented on the bypass and the impact of community septic systems in that area.

Keith Heefner: Keith Heefner commented on the bypass and said he was not sure of the phases of construction for the bypass.

Donald Fowler: Donald Fowler commented on the bypass and expressed concerned with the amount of traffic as well as speeding vehicles. He suggested the roadway go through Tillman Road instead of Sandy Creek Road.

Chairman Smith asked Interim County Administrator Jack Krakeel to have engineering staff look into this.

Marilyn Durden: Marilyn Durden expressed safety concerns about existing driveways on Sandy Creek Road.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:
NEW PHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE: Interim County Administrator Jack Krakeel remarked that the County had just completed a new telephone system upgrade throughout the County facilities and noted that it was completed on time and within budget parameters. He remarked that there was also a cabling upgrade completed throughout the County facilities.

R.F.P. FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009: Interim County Administrator Jack Krakeel remarked that staff had completed the R.F.P. for the Property and Casualty Insurance for Fiscal Year 2009 and this item would be on the Board's March 5th meeting agenda for discussion.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:
RECREATION DEPARTMENT - UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL LINES INSTALLED AT KENWOOD PARK: County Attorney Scott Bennett asked for the Board's consideration to authorize the Chairman to execute a contract that he had received from the Recreation Department for Georgia Power to install underground electrical lines at Kenwood Park as well as an Easement Agreement.

Commissioner Frady made a motion and Commissioner Horgan seconded the motion to authorize the Chairman to execute a Contract and Easement Agreement to allow Georgia Power to install underground electrical lines at Kenwood Park. The motion carried 5-0. A copy of the Contract and Easement Agreement, identified as "Attachment No. 4", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY - FUEL STORAGE CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS: County Attorney Scott Bennett asked for the Board's consideration to authorize the Chairman to execute a contract for fuel storage capacity improvements at the Public Works facility. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Horgan made a motion and Commissioner Frady seconded the motion to authorize the Chairman to execute a Contract for fuel storage capacity improvements at the Fayette County Public Works facility. The motion carried 5-0. A copy of the Contract, identified as "Attachment No. 5", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

STAFF REPORTS:
MODIFIED WATERING RESTRICTIONS: Water System Director Tony Parrott remarked that he would be bringing the issue of modified watering restrictions to the Board for discussion at the March 13, 2008 Board meeting.

BOARD REPORTS:
None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Rick Williams: Rick Williams commented on the issue of district voting and spoke in favor of it. He said there were only three Georgia Counties out of 159 who did not have district voting.

Mrs. Stuart Barnes: Mrs. Stuart Barnes remarked on district voting and said she was pleased with the current system and was opposed to district voting.

Kevin Madden: Kevin Madden commented on district voting and felt people should have the right to vote for the people who represented them.

Representative Virgil Fludd: Representative Virgil Fludd commented on the issue of district voting and the House Bill that he had presented. He felt now was the time for district voting and this issue was about justice and fairness.

William Brian: William Brian commented on district voting and said he was opposed to it.

Sam Chapman: Sam Chapman remarked on district voting and felt at-large voting spoke for all citizens and held the Commission to a higher standard.

Wendy Felton: Wendy Felton commented on the issue of district voting. She felt citizens were disenfranchised and their voices not heard. She remarked that the City of Fayetteville and the City of Peachtree City also had their municipal governments to address their citizens' concerns. She said the current voting districts were too large and district voting needed to be addressed and suggested having more than five Commissioners for Fayette County.

Connie Biemiller: Connie Biemiller remarked on the issue of district voting. She said this was not a racial issue and not a party issue. She said she disagreed with the Legislation as put forth by Representative Virgil Fludd calling for five separate voting districts. She said she was in favor of the idea for three districts and keeping two districts at-large.

Donald Sims: Donald Sims commented on district voting and felt every citizen should elect a commissioner who would be elected by them, represent them and be accountable to them.

Peter Leun: Peter Leun commented on the issue of district voting as well as the Democratic Party in Fayette County.

Alice Jones: Ms. Jones remarked on the issue of district voting and fairness to every citizen in the community. She felt there should be a Commissioner representing each specific district of the County and that specific Commissioner would be a voice for that section of the County.

Juan Matote: Juan Matote commented on district voting and said he was in favor of district voting. He remarked that in a web search of the top ten cities in the United States, seven out of ten cities had district voting. He said he had lived in Los Angles County, California and district voting had worked well there. He asked the Board members to open their minds to the idea of district voting and how well it had worked in other areas.

Mike Hofrichter: Mike Hofrichter commented on district voting He remarked that 60% of Representative Fludd's district lived outside of Fayette County. He proposed that Representative Fludd draft a Bill that would allow for one Senator per County and two Representatives per County State-wide.

Marilyn Watts: Marilyn Watts remarked that she was opposed to district voting. She said she wanted all five Commissioners representing her and she wanted to keep the current system in place. She said Fayette County's system had worked well over the years and this was one of the reasons Fayette County was one of the top Georgia Counties to live.

Henry Adams: Henry Adams commented in favor of district voting.

Emory McHugh: Emory McHugh remarked that in order to put a strategic plan together a County had to have a focus. He said district voting would not work with five separate County Commissioners. He said he had worked under this form of government in other areas and it just did not work well.

Abra Bazydlo: Abra Bazydlo commented in favor of district voting.

Judith Moore: Judith Moore commented in favor of district voting and urged the Board of Commissioners to turn things around and make them right.

Johnny Jones: Johnny Jones commented on district voting and appealed to the Board to consider this issue.

Varner Holmes: Varner Holmes felt the discussion tonight sounded like North Fayette County versus South Fayette County. She said the current system had worked well for Fayette County and she remarked that she was opposed to district voting.

Tom Waller: Tom Waller said he had some additional comments on the Sandy Creek Road issue. He said Phase I involved two intersections on Sandy Creek Road and the fiscal impact as well as the traffic concerns at these intersections. He urged the Board to put safety in front of the County costs.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Frady made a motion and Commissioner Horgan seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.

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Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk Jack R. Smith, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 13th day of March, 2008.

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Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk