

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia met in Official Session on Wednesday, May 2 2007, at 3:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room at 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 MEMBERS PRESENT:     Jack Krakeel, Interim County Administrator  
                                      William R. McNally, County Attorney  
                                      Carol Chandler, Executive Assistant  
                                      Peggy Butler, Chief Deputy Clerk

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Chairman Smith called the meeting to order.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion of County's employee vision coverage by Human Resources**

Human Resources Director Connie Boehnke said in the final draft of all the policies when it came to the vision it was determined that they would have to establish a specified amount for an examination and a specified amount for ancillary products. She said that was not the way the current vision plan worked. She said currently employees received \$200 for the exam, lenses, and contacts.

Ms. Boehnke said they reviewed the situation and found they processed between 350 to 375 vision claims per year. She said they decided they would attempt to process the claims in-house this year. She said she would set up a data base for processing claims and distribute an explanation of benefits in the event someone had other insurance.

County Administrator Jack Krakeel asked if this represented a cost savings to the County. Ms. Boehnke replied that it did not because all was included in the price with Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Chairman Smith asked if she anticipated these taking additional resources for the Human Resources Department, or would they be able to cover this with their existing resources. Ms. Boehnke said they should be able to cover this with existing resources.

Chairman Smith asked when this would take effect. Ms. Boehnke replied June 1, 2007.

Commissioner Frady asked what company handled this before. Ms. Boehnke replied Guardian. Commissioner Frady said he thought they paid them about \$45,000 to do this. Ms. Boehnke said they paid them but it also included dental. Commissioner Frady said this should be a savings then. Ms. Boehnke said it could be if they charged per claim.

Jack Krakeel said he calculated it to be a savings of \$14,000 annually for the county.

Chairman Smith said there was no action that needed to be taken on this matter.

#### **Discussion by Jack Krakeel seeking direction on the remainder of the budget process**

Jack Krakeel said he had met with a number of the departments and would conclude that process this week with the remainder of the departments. He said there were questions from the departments regarding their presence at the Board's review of departmental budgets. He

said he was asking for clarification from the Board regarding their desire to meet with every county department, the agencies and elected officials.

Chairman Smith said he did not think there was any reason to meet with a department unless they had a budget request that was outside of what was deemed responsible for that particular department.

Commissioner Maxwell asked Commissioner Frady what they did in the past. Commissioner Frady said they met with all of the departments. He said he thought the Board would want to meet with everyone because this was the first budget cycle.

Commissioner Horgan said he felt they gained insight by meeting with the departments.

Commissioner Maxwell said he would like to meet with any department who had requested to meet with the Board.

Mr. Krakeel said he had several departments who had met with him and they were satisfied with their numbers. He said unless the Board felt a need to meet with them they did not feel they needed to meet.

Mr. Krakeel said the Board had given him the direction he needed.

**Jack Krakeel will be seeking direction on arranging for an annual Board Retreat**

Jack Krakeel said the Board has asked him to assist them in developing a number of issues with respect to a retreat. He said he had collated these issues from his perspective. He said this was a starting point for discuss so they could identify immediate and long term issues.

Mr. Krakeel said he had three items he was asking authorization from the Board to proceed with.

Mr. Krakeel said the first issue, which was a topic that had been raised by the Board, was his request for the Board's authorization to conduct an in depth analysis utilizing expert resources to explore the feasibility of a defined benefit retirement program for the county. He said the goal of the analysis was to determine whether a program of this nature would be feasible for Fayette County. He said this was not a commitment by the Board to engage in a program of this nature, but simply an opportunity to acquire appropriate resources to conduct an in depth analysis and study to provide the Board with factual information. He said there would be no cost to the county to conduct this analysis.

Mr. Krakeel said secondly he wanted to request the Board's authorization to review the feasibility of re-implementing a modified P-Card system with appropriate internal fiscal controls and departmental accountability. He said he would like to look into this issue and determine if there was an avenue to be taken with respect to this issue to make the purchasing and departmental programs more efficient. He said he believed there were opportunities here that should be explored. He said he was seeking the Board's authorization to conduct that analysis and bring it back to the Board for further discussion.

Mr. Krakeel said thirdly there had been significant interest in the overall organizational structure of the Fayette County government. He said the Board had received a copy of the study that was

done last year by the University of Georgia. He said he was requesting the Board's authorization to proceed with his recommendations with respect to a functional organizational structure for Fayette County government for future discussion purposes.

Commissioner Maxwell said he felt these were three areas they needed to look into. He said some of these issues needed to be studied but not authorized further than a study at this point.

Chairman Smith asked if Mr. Krakeel was sure he could get this accomplished with a no-cost attitude. Mr. Krakeel replied that he could.

Chairman Smith said he felt this was an excellent start. He said they had talked about these things in the past and he agreed they needed to move on.

Chairman Smith said it was the consensus of the Board for Mr. Krakeel to proceed with the three issues as discussed.

Mr. Krakeel said in reference to the retreat he had identified immediate issues, intermediate issues, and long term issues. He said there may need to be some movement of these issues amongst those categories and there may be some that needed to be added. He said he wanted to use this time to identify these and allow the Board an opportunity to look at them and see if this made sense. He said he wanted to get the Board's consensus on if they wanted to have a retreat, when they wanted to have it, if they would like to have it here or off-site, and a time frame.

Chairman Smith said he would like to have someone facilitate the retreat that had experience in county government, maybe someone in a current managerial role in another county with background information on the issues they would discuss. He said he felt it would be beneficial to have that third party point of view.

Commissioner Maxwell said his number one pick would be the County Manager from Cobb County.

Chairman Smith said he would like to see the retreat take place 45 minutes to an hour from here. He said he would like it far enough away that the cell phones would not work and it would not be convenient to get in the car and run to the office to take care of business.

Chairman Smith said the time frame would be dependent on the topic they chose to work on. He said the one they picked might require background investigation and documentation to look at. He said the first thing they needed to do before answering the time frame issue was to choose an issue. He said from a broader perspective he would like to see it happen as quickly as possible. He said he suggested ninety days.

Commissioner Maxwell said he would like to see them do it quicker than that. He said he would like to be ready to go the week after budgets which would be the end of June.

Chairman Smith asked if Mr. Krakeel could be ready that soon. Mr. Krakeel said his only concern was getting the Board the relative background information. He said the fact they were tied up with budgets now which was consuming a tremendous amount of staff's time. He said in

order to give the Board the information they needed to make informed decisions, he preferred mid-July.

Chairman Smith said to set that as a drop dead date with hopes of an earlier time.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Michelle Walker, Sheriff's Department, said she had an item that was suppose to be on the April 26, 2007 agenda but did not make the cut-off date. She said she had an urgency to try to get this handled today. She said she had two vehicles that were purchased with Federal funds. She said one was a 2001 Chevy Tahoe and one was a 1998 Lexus. She said they both had more than 100,000 miles on them and were in bad shape. She said she needed to dispose of these vehicles. She said she was planning to trade them for another vehicle. She said the Sheriff had approved it.

Ms.Walker said in compliance with the Board they had been putting vehicles on a Consent Agenda so they would know these vehicles were no longer in inventory. She said they sent the Fixed Asset forms to Finance for inventory purposes. She said the Board was approving the Sheriff's approval.

Motion was made by Commissioner Maxwell, seconded by Commissioner Horgan, to approve the disposition of two vehicles from the Sheriff's Department that were purchased with Federal seizure funds. Motion carried 5-0

Jack Krakeel, Interim County Administrator, said the Board should have a copy of the job description for the position of County Administrator. He said he had taken the liberty of modifying the current job description. He said he was asking the Board to review this and give him their comments. He said once the Board had the opportunity to review this and the appropriate changes made, he would forward to the Board a complete list of issues they would need to develop and deal with in respect to that process.

### **BOARD REPORTS**

Commissioner Maxwell said he received an invitation to the International Fire Chief's Association event. He asked Jack Krakeel to let the Board members know if they needed to attend.

Commissioner Maxwell said he received a letter from the Department of Transportation regarding grant money. He said he did not know if they qualified but he wanted to make sure the right department and person received this information. He said he would like to see from this day forward that when considering performance evaluations of department heads one of the performance standards reviewed would be whether they applied for and received grants for their department.

Commissioner Maxwell said the county had just created a community service situation with the State Court. He said he had an article regarding horror stories about what happened with community service organizations that were not properly organized. He said the article talked about the liability for not providing training for the workers. He suggested Mr. Parrot meet with the county attorney in regards to creating releases for workers in the program.

Commissioner Frady said GRTA met in Coweta County on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. He said they were making comments in regards to getting bus service in Peachtree City by the year 2012. He said what he was getting at was that Fayette County was trying to get money to build bridges and roads for people to travel from one county to the other. He said Coweta County gave GRTA \$850,000 for the program to start the bus service. He said in turn GRTA gave Coweta County \$15 million in funds to complete local road widening projects such as lower Fayetteville Road.

He said Fayette County could not get money from GRTA. He said he wanted to note for the record GRTA's lack of cooperation and distribution of funds.

Commissioner Maxwell said for him to consider anything GRTA recommended for Fayette County he would have to see some cooperation from GRTA towards Fayette County. He said this Board had stayed away from the Peachtree City TDK thing but they watched what was going on. He said Peachtree City was being forced to build things because of a project they had no control over. He said that was not the way this Board wanted to operate. He said if they wanted to talk about turning Highway 92 into an interchange to get folks out of this county then he might consider talking to them about buses. He said until that issue was resolved he did not know if he wanted to deal with GRTA.

Commissioner Pfeifer said they needed to communicate this to the state representatives. He said he had some small discussions with them. He said GRTA was a state creature created by a former administration and they needed to take a look at this.

Commissioner Frady said he asked Jack to start looking into investments and percentages the county was getting paid for interest. He said there was money sitting in the Library fund which had been there since the SPLOST for the construction of the Library eight or nine years ago. He said it was only making 3.41 percent. He said for his money in a checking account the percentage was 5.8.

Mary Holland, Chief Financial Officer, said they had talked about establishing an Investment Committee to look at these types of issues and determine where they could improve the yields on some of this money.

Commissioner Maxwell stated he had one legal item for Executive Session.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Frady, seconded by Commissioner Pfeifer, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss one legal item. Motion carried 5-0.

Legal: Commissioner Maxwell discussed a legal item with the Board.

The Board took no action on this item.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Frady, seconded by Commissioner Pfeifer, authorizing the Chairman to execute the Executive Session Affidavit affirming that one legal item was discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 5-0. A copy of the affidavit, identified as "Attachment No. 1", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

Motion was made by Commissioner Frady, seconded by Commissioner Horgan, to adjourn from Executive Session. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Smith stated the Board discussed one legal item in Executive Session and there was no action to be taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Frady, seconded by Commissioner Horgan, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

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Peggy Butler, Chief Deputy Clerk

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2007.

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Peggy Butler, Chief Deputy Clerk

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Jack R. Smith, Chairman