Minutes

Board of Commissioners
July 9, 2013
7:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, met in Official Session on July 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Commissioners Present:	Steve Brown, Chairman Charles Oddo, Vice Chairman David Barlow Allen McCarty Randy Ognio
Staff Present:	Steve Rapson, County Administrator Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk Dennis Davenport, Interim County Attorney

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Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Brown called the July 9, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
Fayetteville Mayor Greg Clifton offered the Invocation.
Commissioner Randy Ognio led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Commissioner Ognio moved to accept the Agenda. Commissioners Barlow seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION / RECOGNITION:

1. Recognition of Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Incorporated.

Commissioner David Barlow read the Recognition for Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Incorporated.

Ms. Queen Gordy, who serves as Coordinator of Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Inc. (GKRC), thanked Commissioner Barlow and the Fayette County Commissioners for their recognition. She told everyone that GKRC began under Fayette FACTOR's umbrella, and Fayette FACTOR helped GKRC become a 501(c)3. She explained that GKRC is partnered with A.V. Pride, and is supported from several churches. She informed everyone that GKRC meets on the second and fourth Thursday of every month at Covenant Presbyterian Church, and that GKRC is supported with money and supplies from Grace Evangelical Church and Olivet Baptist Church, respectively. Ms. Gordy said she met Commissioner Barlow through Fayette FACTOR, and that through Commissioner Barlow and Fayette FACTOR, GKRC is being exposed to Fayette County.

Commissioner Barlow commented that GKRC does not receive state or federal benefits, and that the grandparents and kin are taking the responsibility of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He said there was no funding available to them, and so everything that they have achieved has been done through the support of the good citizens of Fayette County who reach out to them and help them raise their grandchildren and their great-grandchildren. He said he honored God for their presence at the meeting because they were doing an unbelievable work. A copy of the Recognition, identified as "Attachment 1", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

PUBLIC HEARING:

There was no Public Hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one spoke during Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Oddo asked to remove Consent Agenda Item 3 for discussion.

Commissioner Oddo moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Consent Agenda Item Number 3. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of staff's recommendation to adopt the Georgia Department of Transportation's Contract for Acquisition of Right-of-Way for the McIntosh Road Bridge Replacement Project (SPLOST No. B-6), and authorization for the Chairman to sign said contract and related documents. A copy of the request and contract, identified as "Attachment 2", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

3. Approval of staff's recommendation to approve Ordinance 2013-09 amending the Code of Ordinances for Fayette County, Georgia by establishing operating regulations for Lake McIntosh, repealing conflicting ordinances, providing severability, and promoting the public health, safety and welfare, and other purposes.

Commissioner Oddo said that as he reviewed the material, and based on questions from some of the citizens, questions came up about the proposed rules and regulations such as why there is no bodily contact allowed with the water. He asked Water System Director Tony Parrott to explain why the rules are as they are, and he pointed out that there were other parks where a person could swim. Chairman Brown offered that Lake McIntosh is a water reservoir; meaning it is a water source and not just a recreational lake.

Mr. Parrott answered that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Drinking Water Program has rules and regulations concerning drinking water reservoirs that have been built since a certain period of time. He explained that Lake Peachtree was grand-fathered because it was built before the rules and regulations came into play, and so bodily contact is allowed with the water at Lake Peachtree. He added that the City of Peachtree City also owns Lake Peachtree and that the city passed the rules for the lake. He

further explained that Lake Kedron and Lake Horton, since they are County reservoirs built after the DNR enacted its regulations, have the same guidelines that are proposed for Lake McIntosh; meaning there is no beach and there is no bodily contact. He said boating is allowed, but motorboats are not allowed on the lake. He pointed out that a person could have a motor boat and could ski in Lake Peachtree, but that was only possible because Lake Peachtree was built in the early 1960s. He explained that the rules are for drinking water reservoirs of certain sizes, and that there are limitations on what can and cannot be done. He explained that Lake Lanier is a drinking water reservoir, but because of its size, which is more than the 650 acres at Lake McIntosh, it is allowed to have motorboats and beaches. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Oddo moved to accept Consent Agenda Item Number 3 as presented in the Agenda. Commissioner Ognio seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the request and Ordinance 2013-09, identified as "Attachment 3", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

4. Approval of staff's recommendation to adopt Ordinance 2013-10 amending the Code of Ordinances for Fayette County by revising provisions pertaining to authority to waive procedures and fee structures in emergencies, providing an effective date, repealing conflicting ordinances, providing severability, promoting public health, safety and welfare, and for other purposes. A copy of the request and Ordinance 2013-10, identified as "Attachment 4", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

5. Approval of the June 27, 2013 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

6. Consideration of staff's request for proposed intersection improvements at State Route 85 and Harp Road, including authorization to resume work on the project, to agree to Fayette County making improvements on Harp Road in exchange for GDOT to install the traffic signal, to authorize Mallett Consulting to complete the design, and to authorize the County to acquire right-of-ways and easements.

Public Works Director Phil Mallon reported that this project was first initiated nearly eight years ago, but because it includes an intersection improvement on a state route, the County needed the Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) approval before a traffic signal could be installed. He reported that earlier this year, GDOT determined that a signal is warranted. He said this request was for authorization for the Chairman to sign the application needed for the permit. He added that, due to the amount of time this project has taken, that he thought it was appropriate to bring the issue back to the Board in order to confirm that the County wanted to move forward on the project with Mallett Consulting.

Chairman Brown asked Mr. Mallon how much work has Mallett Consulting done on the project. Mr. Mallon replied that, from a budgetary perspective, the County has spent just under $20,000, and that much of the money was spent as an additional service because the County, several times over the eight year period, collected data to try to get the signal permitted. He said Mallett Consulting prepared some concepts, they

were wonderful, and one of them was ultimately approved by GDOT. He explained that GDOT has told the County that the County would make improvements on both the east and west side of Harp Road, and those improvements would include adding a dedicated left-turn lane, through lane, and right-turn lane. He said once the County does all the asphalt work, GDOT will install the traffic signal. Chairman Brown asked if there was an estimate for what Mallett Consulting's cost would be to finish the work. Mr. Mallon replied that the estimated cost to complete the work was $16,400.00. Discussion followed concerning the type of traffic light that would be installed at the intersection, and the Board expressed concerns that traffic could be slowed along State Route 85. Mr. Mallon replied that the type of signal that is installed would be entirely to GDOT, but that the County could make a suggestion on the type of traffic light it wanted. Mr. Mallon mentioned that GDOT may accept the County's suggestion, but that it could make the County pay an additional cost, if any, if they agreed to the request.

Commissioner Oddo moved to accept New Business Item 6 as presented and to authorize for the Chairman to sign pending attorney review. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the request and the application to the Georgia Department of Transportation, identified as "Attachment 5", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

7. Consideration of the Water Committee's recommendation to award a bid for Supervisory Control and Data Collection (SCADA) Upgrades to J.K. Duren Company, Inc., in the amount of $299,500.00, and authorization for the Chairman to sign the contract and related documents.

Water System Director Tony Parrott reported that staff has been working on the SCADA project for a long time in an effort to upgrade the computer system that operates the controls for valves, for water tank levels, and for pumps. He explained that the old system that the county currently has is an analog system, and this upgrade would move the system to digital. He said staff issued a request, that three companies showed initial interest, but that the County only had one bidder–J.K. Duren Company, Inc. He told the Board that J.K. Duren Company has worked at the water plants before and was involved in the original system. He said the Water Committee and the Purchasing Department reviewed the bid, and staff is recommending that the contract be issued to J.K. Duren Company, Inc. in the amount of $299,500.00.

Chairman Brown asked Mr. Parrott to explain why the County only received one bidder for the project. Mr. Parrott replied that three potential bidders picked up the plans for the proposed upgrade, but that two of them thought that the timeframe involved was too short. He added that at no point during the process, when they had an opportunity, did the two non-bidders ever say that they thought there was not enough time. He said that issue only came up after Mr. David Jaeger checked with the two potential bidders asking what was wrong.

Chairman Brown added that most of the equipment for the upgrades was proprietary in nature since the company designs it. He pointed out that J.K. Duren Company was the original designer, and so there was some understanding that the other companies did not want to touch somebody else's proprietary work. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Ognio moved to approve the consideration of the Water Committee's recommendation to award a bid for Supervisory Control and Data Collection (SCADA) upgrades to J.K. Duren Company, Inc., in the amount of $299,500.00, and authorization for the Chairman to sign the contract and related documents. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the request and contract with J.K. Duren Company, Inc., identified as "Attachment 6", follow these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

Purchasing Director Authorized to Sign Titles for Surplus Vehicles: County Administrator Steve Rapson asked the Board to authorize Purchasing Director Ted Burgess to sign titles for surplus vehicles. He explained that the past practice in previous administrations was that the Purchasing Director had authority to sign titles for surplus cars that are being sold. He asked for an official vote on the matter in order to delegate the authority to the Purchasing Director.

Chairman Brown moved to give Mr. Burgess the ability to sign off on the titles for surplus vehicles. Commissioner McCarty seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on the Jail Evaluation and Cost Assessment: County Administrator Steve Rapson reported that the County has put a Request for Proposal (RFP) "on the street" for the Jail Evaluation and Cost Assessment, and that the bid opening would "come back" on August 6, 2013. He said this was the project that would use some of the extra bond proceeds in regards in trying to get the old jail back up to operational status.

Core Infrastructure SPLOST 2013 Package: County Administrator Steve Rapson reported that the County has released the Core Infrastructure Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) package to the press, and that the information is at each of the municipalities and the libraries. He added that there is a copy of the information was in the Environmental Management Department and in the Administrative Office. He said that there is a wealth of information in the package. He pointed out that a copy was provided to Mr. Dennis Chase as well. He told the Board that the package has GIS maps, projects listing, prioritization, costs, pictures, and other information in regards to the SPLOST that is proposed for stormwater. He continued that the package entailed $16.8 million in projects, and that the Chairman would explain what would happen with the residual money based on the estimate of what SPLOST would bring in. He said this effort furthered the Board's commitment pertaining to what was discussed at the Town Hall Meetings that were held concerning Stormwater issues. He stated that it further maintained the Board's promise since there was nothing in the proposal that was unrelated to stormwater activity.

Update on the Gradall XL4100 Wheeled Excavator: Commissioner Ognio asked County Administrator Steve Rapson about the Gradall XL4100 Wheeled Excavator which was placed on the June 27, 2013 Agenda, tabled to the July 9, 2013 Agenda, and then removed from the Agenda prior to publishing. Mr. Rapson reported that the Gradall is currently under evaluation and that staff is actually obtaining quotes in regard to doing an overhaul to the hydraulic system. He said he would brief the Board at a future meeting once staff was able to obtain further information.

Introduction of Intern Jason Girolami: Chairman Brown introduced Mr. Jason Girolami; who is interning with the Board. Chairman Brown informed everyone that Mr. Girolami is a Starr's Mill student who is doing a fabulous job. He said the County was "working him to death," and that he would be ready to go back to school by the time he finished his internship. He added that Mr. Girolami would be providing a presentation to the Board at a future meeting, and he invited the audience to attend in order to see the presentation.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Interim County Attorney Dennis Davenport stated he had no report and that there were no items for Executive Session.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Commissioner Barlow: Commissioner Barlow thanked all the grandparents, grandchildren, and great grandchildren who came to the meeting. He said what the grandparents were doing was truly a blessing from on high, and he believed God honors each of them for what they are doing. He hoped and prayed that their path would be made a little easier as word goes out about their accomplishments so that the community would step up and help in any way they can.

Commissioner Oddo: Commissioner Oddo quipped to Interim County Attorney Dennis Davenport that if he was going to make any more comments like "there is no Executive Session," to remember that the chairs that the Commissioners sit in are very slick and that the Board nearly slipped out of them. He commented that he was glad to see people coming to the meetings, but that he really wanted to see more people come to the meetings. He asked everyone to encourage their friends to come to the meetings since there is so much to learn about how the County is working. He pointed out that while the County is taking advantage of new opportunities to get the word out, there was nothing quite like being at the meetings and seeing what is going on. He closed by thanking the audience for coming to the meeting.

Commissioner McCarty: Commissioner McCarty thanked the grandparents for what they were doing. He encouraged them to get their grandchildren to become interested in government. He asked them to get their grandchildren involved in what is going on in their communities and in their country. He explained that there are not enough young people getting involved although this area is something the young people have to get involved with and learn about; otherwise they will not like what happens.

Commissioner Ognio: Commissioner Ognio thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and said he would see them next meeting.

Chairman Brown: Chairman Brown said the Core Infrastructure SPLOST 2013 projects came about by the Board reaching out to its constituents. He explained that there was a Stormwater Utility in place, but that many residents in unincorporated Fayette County were upset about it and that it was not a popular subject. Referring to the resolution located in the back of the meeting room, Chairman Brown explained that one of the first things the current Board did was to adopt the resolution which states, in part: "We will own the problems." He told the audience that while the current Board did not create the problems, it would address them and take care of them. He pointed out that some of the 181 proposed projects were decades old that have not been done, but that the current Board was keeping its promise by taking care of them. Chairman Brown reminded everyone that the current Board held three Stormwater Town Hall Meetings, and that many of the hundreds who showed up asked the Board to consider looking at a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax in order to take care of problems and restore the infrastructure. He added that the Stormwater fees, from that point forward, would be used to keep the maintenance going. Chairman Brown pointed out that the County did not want roads collapsing, and that roads have collapsed in the past requiring emergency funds to be utilized from other accounts in order to make the repairs. He explained that having a good infrastructure would help make Fayette County competitive in the metro-Atlanta area by providing attractive jobs and high-quality residents. Chairman Brown explained that the County had an engineering firm that analyzed each proposed project in several areas including cost and description. He said the firm's findings showed that the

County's portion of the projects would cost less than the proposed budget; meaning Fayette County would have a balance of funding. He reminded the audience that the Board promised its constituents that it would only do stormwater projects. He said since this is a two-year SPLOST for the first time in Fayette County's history, and since the Board had said it would only use enough money to do stormwater projects, and since some of the municipalities did not have adequate funding in the SPLOST to do all the projects they wanted, that the Board, in the spirit of cooperation, would give the municipalities the opportunity to take some of the money the County was unable to use. He added that the municipalities could decide how they wanted to divvy up the funds and how they would use the funds, but that this was an opportunity for the County to help its sister communities and cities to get everything done on their lists. He closed by saying the County was proud to be a part of that and to do that, that the County was proud of its cities, that the County enjoys its working relationships with the cities, and that this is just another way to say "thank you" to the cities.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Barlow moved to adjourn the July 9, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Oddo seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

The July 9, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk

Steve Brown, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 25th day of July 2013.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk