Minutes

Board of Commissioners
August 15, 2013
7:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, met in Official Session on August 15, 2013 at 7:00 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:	Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk Tameca P. White, Deputy Clerk Dennis Davenport, Interim County Attorney
Staff Absent:	Steve Rapson, County Administrator

Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Brown called the August 15, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Barlow introduced Ms. Slma Shelbayah, representing the Islamic Community Center of Atlanta, who offered the invocation. Before Ms. Shelbayah offered the invocation, Commissioner Barlow spoke about the members of the Islamic Community Center of Atlanta and of their work in the Fayette community.

Chairman Brown led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

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

PRESENTATION / RECOGNITION:

1. Proclamation of August 16, 2013 as Major General Theodore Franklin Mallory III Day.

Commissioner McCarty read the Proclamation of August 16, 2013 as Major General Theodore Franklin Mallory III Day. Mrs. Mallory thanked everyone for honoring General Mallory. Copies of the request and proclamation, identified as “Attachment 1", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

2. Proclamation of August 19-23, 2013 as Telework Week in Fayette County.

Fayette County Intern Kyra Parks read the Proclamation of August 19-23, 2013 as Telework Week in Fayette County. In his introduction of Ms. Kyra Parks, Chairman Brown informed Ms. Parks' family, who were seated in the audience, that they did a "fantastic job", and that they raised "a beautiful, smart, wonderful, intelligent woman and that it was a joy to have her in the intern program." After Ms. Parks read the proclamation, Chairman Brown pointed out that some Fayette County departments could work from home as fast and efficiently as they are able to do from the office. He said the County found that by incorporating the telework program that it would have the ability to operate away from its facilities in the event of inclement weather or a disaster. Copies of the request and proclamation, identified as "Attachment 2", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

3. Recognition of Fire Apparatus Operator Russell Sharpe as the "American Legion Firefighter of the Year".

Fire Chief David Scarbrough said the Fire Department has a tradition of acknowledging individuals for consistent job performance and outstanding deeds, and that Fire Apparatus Operator Russell Sharpe is one of those individuals deserving to be recognized. He then told of how Mr. Sharpe was able to assess an elderly gentleman who had entered into cardiac arrest, and how he was able to help resuscitate the gentleman. Mr. Denny W. Leander, representing American Legion Post 105, recognized Fire Apparatus Operator Russell Sharpe as the "2013 American Legion Firefighter of the Year." Mr. Leander stated that Mr. Sharpe was selected out of all the firefighters entered into the Georgia American Legion Firefighter's contest. He said this was the second year in a row that their nominee had won the state-wide award. He then presented Mr. Sharpe with an American Legion Award. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 3", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

4. Recognition of Clerk of Juvenile Court Kathleen Cunningham for her work in obtaining a $59,800 grant under the Juvenile Reinvestment Grant Program with the Justice Department.

Chairman Brown said the County was very proud of its Juvenile Court, and he explained it was not an easy job to work in the Juvenile Court. He said the staff has a lot of caseloads that they have to work through, that the work is very trying, that working with juveniles creates stress in its own way, and that the people who work in the Juvenile Court System do more than is required in their jobs. He explained that they look for grant opportunities to improve programs, that they look for educational opportunities, and they look for programs that will reduce the juvenile recidivism rate. He said the County was proud of its people and that it had a Certificate of Appreciation for Juvenile Court Clerk Kathleen Cunningham. He then read the certificate into the record. Ms. Cunningham and her co-worker, Ms. Helen Trouth, spoke about how the grant would be utilized for the betterment of juveniles in the court system. Copies of the request and recognition, identified as "Attachment 4", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

5. Recognition of the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce's new "Chamber for Good" website.

Chairman Brown mentioned that the Board had decided to recognize people who do good deeds in the Fayette community, and to recognize those who are setting an example for others. Commissioner Oddo then read the recognition of the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce's new "Chamber for Good" website into the record. Fayette County Chamber President Virginia Gibbs spoke about the "Chamber for Good" website and how to be involved. Copies of the request and recognition, identified as "Attachment 5", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

PUBLIC HEARING:

There was no Public Hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one spoke under Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Oddo asked to remove Consent Agenda Item 7 for consideration.

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 6-11 with the exception of Consent Agenda Item 7. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of staff's recommendation to continue the maintenance agreement between Fayette County and Motorola for the 800MHz ASTRO Simulcast System, and to authorize the Chairman to sign the renewal contract, in the amount of $490,879.91, for the term of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Copies of the request and maintenance agreement, identified as "Attachment 6", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

7. Approval of staff's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2013-16 granting oversight to the 911 Communications Board of Fayette County of the Future Naming of Streets, to promote the public health, safety and welfare, and for other purposes.

Commissioner Oddo said it sounded like a good idea to have a central "location" that would eliminate the duplication of street names, but he wanted to make sure that the naming of the streets would be left up to the jurisdictions, who would work with the 911 Communications Board working to ensure that no duplications would occur.

Interim County Attorney Dennis Davenport replied that the proposed street names would be presented to the 911 Communications Board. He added that Fayette County would need to adopt the resolution, and that all of the other jurisdictions would also have to adopt the resolution. He explained that the 911 Communications Board would serve as representatives from nearly all jurisdictions in the Fayette community, and the goal was intended to prevent like-sounding street names from occurring within any jurisdiction within Fayette County. He said the reason for this resolution was that like-sounding street names become a hindrance for emergency services' response. He said the street names would be proposed, and those names would be reviewed by the 911 Communications Board to ensure nothing is substantially similar to what is already on the books.

Chairman Brown added that the issue was to eliminate the potential of an operator error by having two street names in the County, say in Peachtree City or the County or in Tyrone, so that an emergency vehicle is not dispatched to the wrong location.

Commissioner McCarty moved to approve staff's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2013-16 granting oversight to the 911 Communications Board of Fayette County for the Future Naming of Streets, to promote the public health, safety and welfare, and for other purposes. Commissioner Ognio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Copies of the request and Resolution 2013-16, identified as "Attachment 7", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

8. Approval of staff's request for the Board to declare six workstations as unserviceable, to authorize staff to sell the workstations either to the highest bidder or by utilizing the GovDeals website, and to return proceeds from the sales to 911's fund balance. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 8", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

9. Approval of the Sheriff's request to authorize the Chairman to sign the Statewide Electronic Secondary Metals Recycler Database Agreement as required by the Georgia Sheriff's Association. Copies of the request and the Statewide Electronic Secondary Metals Recycler Database Agreement, identified as "Attachment 9", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

10. Approval of the disposition of tax refunds as recommended by the Tax Assessor's Office. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 10", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

11. Approval of the August 7, 2013 Board of Commissioners Emergency Special Called Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

12. Discussion of proposed amendments to the Fayette County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 20. Zoning Ordinance, Article IX Zoning Board of Appeals regarding illegal lots.

Community Development Director Pete Frisina reminded the Board that this issue was raised by the Board in April in response to a previous zoning application for an illegal non-conforming lot status. He said the Board asked staff to review the issue and to try to find another mechanism or solution within the zoning ordinance that would achieve basically the same outcome; namely, to look at illegal lots under criteria to determine if there is a way to "legitimize those lots". Mr. Frisina replied that the proposed process would involve the Zoning Board of Appeals, and he added that the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission have looked at the proposed amendments and are in favor of them. He also mentioned to the Board that the proposed amendments were prepared by both the interim County Attorney and staff.

Mr. Frisina explained that the proposed amendments explained that if an applicant wanted a zoning variance that they already had to meet seven criteria, and that the proposed amendments would add an additional three criteria pertaining to illegal lots. He said the county has several properties that have been illegal for years, and those illegal lots have gone through five, or six, or seven property owners who are far removed from the person who created the problem. He said the county was trying to find a solution for those properties since the lots are in an area where they could not be rezoned to a smaller acreage due to the County's Land Use Plan. He said the intention was to not create a conflict either with the Zoning Ordinance or with the Land Use Plan. Mr. Frisina explained that the first of the three additional criteria was that the transaction given the applicant owner of the subject property was more than five years old from the date of the application, or (if the period of ownership is less than five year) that the property has been illegal for at least ten years. He explained that, essentially, a person had to own the property for at least ten years before they could apply for a variance. He added that the intention of the first criteria was to establish a time period that does not encourage people to create illegal lots, but that the time limit is not designed to be so far out that it is unachievable. Mr. Frisina told the Board that the second additional criterion was that the applicant cannot be related to anybody who created the problem or who made the lot illegal. He then said the third additional criteria was that a determination would have to be made concerning property adjacent to the illegal lot that could be purchased and added to the illegal lot that would then render the illegal lot as a

legal lot. He said if the county would not allow a purchase that would render an otherwise legal lot to be illegal. He also clarified that if the neighboring lot to an illegal lot was illegal, then the county would not allow someone to buy a sliver of the neighboring illegal lot only to make the original lot legal.

Chairman Brown asked Mr. Frisina what constitutes an illegal lot and why there are illegal lots. Mr. Frisina replied that an illegal lot is a lot that was altered in a way that it does not comply with basic zoning, be it lot size, lot width, or the road frontage. He explained that years ago, Fayette County did not have quite as much control over the issue as it does now, and that now the county, based on the laws imposed on the Clerk of Superior Court, sends any plat back to the Planning and Zoning Department that does not have approvals or signatures on them. Mr. Frisina said there are still ways to create illegal lots since there is no way to catch everything, but that the proposed amendments were an effort to deal with lots that have been illegal for a long period of time. He explained that if a person has an illegal lot and something happens to his home, the county cannot allow that person to rebuild his home. He acknowledged that those were the worst case scenarios, and that was what the county was trying to alleviate.

Commissioner Barlow asked if this issue was in relation to the young couple who came to the Board earlier in the year and were unable to get help. Mr. Frisina replied that they were one of several people throughout the county. Commissioner Barlow asked if the proposed amendments would help solve their problem. Mr. Frisina replied that he thought it would help them with their problem. Commissioner Barlow mentioned that help would be wonderful since it was a devastating thing to find a young couple who purchased an expensive home only to find out it is on an illegal lot, that they cannot get insurance, and that they cannot rebuild it if something happens to it.

The Board consented to authorize staff to forward the proposed amendments to the Fayette County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 20. Zoning Ordinance, Article IX Zoning Board of Appeals regarding illegal lots to public hearing. A copy of the request, identified as “Attachment 11", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. Consideration of a recommendation from Chairman Brown and Commissioner Ognio to appoint Mr. Todd Strickland to the Fayette County Development Authority, to fill State Court Judge Jason Thompson’s unexpired term, and for said appointment to expire on April 9, 2014.

Chairman Brown explained that State Court Judge Jason Thompson was appointed by Governor Deal to his position in State Court, and in doing so a vacancy was left on the Fayette County Development Authority. He said a number of really good candidates were interviewed. He reminded everyone that the current Board advertises for all boards, commissioners, and authorities, and that the County has been receiving tremendous responses. He said the candidates who apply are full of life experience, education, and work experience. He told the audience that the hardest part is to tell some of them that they will not be the choice. Chairman Brown continued saying the County always feels good advertising for positions since it receives “super fantastic people” and that Mr. Strickland is one of those. He commented that Mr. Strickland would be a great addition to the Fayette County Development Authority.

Commissioner Ognio moved to appoint Mr. Todd Strickland to the Fayette County Development Authority. Commissioner McCarty seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the request, identified as “Attachment 12", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

14. Intern Project: An Unified Approach to Motorized Cart Ordinances.

Chairman Brown mentioned that there were additional documents on the dais that were not included in the Agenda packets. He said there was an emails in support from Ms. Amy Evert, Ms. Elaine Knowlton, Ms. Kay Norton, Ms. Lara Dial, and Duey Pfeifer.

County Intern Jason Girolami gave a PowerPoint presentation on "An Unified Approach to Motorized Cart Ordinances". Mr. Girolami identified two areas of concern with regard to the various golf cart ordinances throughout Fayette County: 1) Age Restrictions for driving golf carts that differ between the jurisdictions and 2) Registration / Decals requirements which can be specific for the jurisdictions that residents live in but can become a problem once a person crosses from one jurisdiction to another in his golf car.

Mr. Girolami recommended that the jurisdictions of Fayette County, Fayetteville, and Tyrone should consider amending their age restrictions to match those of Peachtree City, and that this effort may require amending state law to reflect the county-wide system as an extension of the Peachtree City system. Mr. Girolami further recommended that Fayette County needs to consider registering golf carts like other jurisdictions do, that the county, along with the City of Fayetteville, should administer identification decals for each golf cart, and that all Fayette County's jurisdictions should enact reciprocal agreements, similar to the agreement between Peachtree City and Tyrone, to allow travel county-wide.

Chairman Brown pointed out that in Peachtree City, senior citizens who have quit driving a car can still drive a golf cart, but in the City of Fayetteville senior citizens who have quit driving their cars are also not able to drive their golf carts.

Commissioner Oddo asked if consideration had been given to merging all of the jurisdictions under one authority. Mr. Girolami said that there had been consideration to merge all of the jurisdictions under one authority, but it seemed like a very big and tedious process. Chairman Brown added that the suggested merging would create its own legal issues as well since jurisdictions are required to have their own sets of ordinances.

David Kozusko: Mr. Kozusko stated that in 1998 he lived in Jefferson Woods, and Peachtree City was going to build a golf cart path from his property to Starr's Mill High School. He said he recognized that there was going to be a problem with the age restrictions since they lived in Fayetteville even though his address read "Peachtree City". He said the issue was addressed in 1998 and resolution was being sought at that time for this issue. He said he hoped to get resolution since the students would be able to drive to school, thus reducing the flow of traffic. He pointed out that at the time the biggest issue that he kept pressing was the age restrictions since they would come from different jurisdictions. He noted that the issue has waited for 14 years, and yet the same battle is being fought. He suggested that the Board needed to do something to move the issue forward since young adults are driving from jurisdiction to jurisdiction on the same golf cart path, and if the Sheriff catches them they are in violation.

Lara Dial: Ms. Dial said she would piggy-back on what Mr. Kozusko stated. She said she lives in Whitewater Creek, that she has two kids in Starr's Mill High School and one at Rising Star. She said Mr. Girolami gave a great presentation, and that her biggest issue was that not only can the kids not drive themselves to school, but that they do not know exactly where the jurisdictional lines are. She said if they drive from Peachtree City to Fayetteville, and many kids do, they do not know that they have crossed into a different jurisdiction. She said the differences between jurisdictions are confusing, and that the neighborhoods on Redwine Road are really a part of Peachtree City. She said half the students at Starr's

Mill live in Peachtree City while the other half live in Fayetteville, but that they are all part of the same community. She suggested that it would make the issues so much easier if the differences were made the same.

Bob Carty: Mr. Carty, a resident of Highgrove Subdivision, said he would follow up on Ms. Dial's comments, and he mentioned that people from Whitewater who are going into Peachtree City should know that it is illegal to cross Redwine Road on a golf cart. He said this battle has been ongoing for several years, that several discussions had taken place between the Board and Mr. Phil Mallon on this issue, and he asked if the people could be given a status on the study.

Chairman Brown replied that he has been working with Public Works Director Phil Mallon and, together, they have been looking at possible ways to generate a crossing between Highgrove and Whitewater subdivisions. He mentioned that the entrances are directly across the street from one another, and he has always found it fascinating that someone from Highgrove can drive in their golf cart all the way to Peachtree City and play at Braelinn Golf Course, but they cannot go across the street and play golf at Whitewater. He said he and staff have worked on solutions, but the work has been delayed due to the recent Stormwater issues. Chairman Brown finished his comments saying Mr. Mallon was going to resume working on this matter as soon as possible.

Scott Fabricius: Mr. Fabricius, who serves as President of Whitewater Creek, said he wanted to follow up on what has been said already. He said he was appreciative of the presentation that was given, and he thought it was important since he wanted to encourage greater golf cart use throughout Fayette County. He continued that there are certain areas throughout the county that are unable to have access to the golf cart system, and that, if possible, that should be changed. Mr. Fabricius stated that people are using the roads to cross with their golf carts in an unsafe manner already, and he asked for stop signs to be installed and crossing paths to be established so that the dangers can be avoided. He mentioned that the stop signs that have been requested outside of Whitewater Creek and Highgrove have been justified on the basis of unsafe travel for vehicles alone, but in addition to that, he asked the Board to establish crossing paths to be established for golf cart use. He encouraged greater use of golf carts throughout the county, but also for the county to look at those areas that could be better adapted to golf cart use so that more people could utilize the golf cart path system.

Deanna Nelson: Ms. Nelson said she lived in The Chimney's Subdivision, and that she appreciated everything that has been said so far. She mentioned that there was a giant elephant in the room that has been missing, and that is that Starr's Mill is not allowing golf carts at the school on the property. She thought it was important for the school to add a few curbs and to utilize parts of the parking lots for golf cart parking. She said there were very few crossing paths and no sharing of streets. She mentioned that golf carts are meant for the grass or for dirt paths and that they do not have to have an expensive blacktop to run on. She thought that as lovely as the conversation was, Starr's Mill is a big complex and it would be awesome to get some parking and curbing and a few extra paths to use the land for green use.

Sam Sweat: Deputy Superintendent of the Fayette County Board of Education Sam Sweat agreed the presentation was very good. He said that through working with the Board of Education, he has spoken to Chairman Brown and that discussion has been held with the principal at Starr's Mill High School. He explained that he was present when Starr's Mill was opened, and that there has always been an issue with parents wanting to drive golf carts to school and wanting to have their children drive golf carts to school. He thought Mr. Girolami's recommendations were good ideas. He said the citizens know that electric golf

carts use clean energy, and he thought it was a good idea. He explained that the golf cart path that leads all the way down to Whitewater Creek was funded through Fayette County through a Safe Routes to School grant. Mr. Sweat explained that there is a golf cart path from Peeples Elementary School to Starr's Mill High School, but that the problem is interacting with the streets. He explained that when the Fayette County Board of Education built Starr's Mill High School, it did not build for golf carts. He said there was enough space at Starr's Mill High School to make parking for golf carts, but the problem is getting the pathway where it is safe for the kids. He understood that golf carts were coming, but it was a matter of funding, taking care of the kids, and ensuring that the county and everyone are on the same page.

The Board unanimously consented to direct Interim County Attorney Dennis Davenport to return to the Board with a review on mimicking the age limitations from Peachtree City for Fayette County, to look at registration of carts, to review offering of decal identifications with the registration, and that the County begins the process of talking to the other jurisdictions upon creating a reciprocal agreement that each jurisdiction recognizes the other jurisdictions' registrations. Copies of the request, the emails identified on the dais, and the PowerPoint presentation, identified as "Attachment 13", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

15. Intern Project: Rural Resident Outreach.

County Intern Kyra Parks provided the Board on an update on Rural Resident Outreach. She explained that the Rural Resident Outreach is an initiative to reach out to county citizens who may not receive the local newspapers. She told the audience that an electronic newsletter from the county was able to be accessed on the internet at www.fayettecountyga.gov. She stated that once a person was at Fayette County's home page, they could locate an orange box on the right side of the page that reads: "Subscribe to our Email Newsletters" and that they could register to receive the newsletter from that location. Ms. Parks explained that the electronic newsletter was entirely free and that a person could decide what types of information to receive.

Ms. Parks informed the Board that she and Mr. Jason Girolami delivered informational flyers and distributed them in targeted areas throughout Fayette County. She added that they also sent the flyers to various churches asking them to place information in their bulletins. She said the intention was to have an increase of inscriptions to the newsletter, which will lead to more citizens in Fayette County being informed.

Commissioner McCarty asked if there is there a way to modify the subscription to receive more information. Deputy County Clerk Tameca White answered on Ms. Parks' behalf by stating that there is a way to modify the email newsletter subscription, and she briefly described the steps on how to do so. No other discussion followed. The Board took no action on this item. Copies of the request and PowerPoint presentation, identified as "Attachment 14", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

16. Consideration of staff's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2013-17 calling a referendum to seek authorization to permit and regulate Sunday Sales of Distilled Spirits or Alcoholic Beverages for Beverage Purposes by the drink; to promote the public health, safety and welfare, and for other purposes.

Interim County Attorney Dennis Davenport explained that everyone already knows that Fayette County has alcohol sales on Sunday in Fayette County, and some are wondering why this issue has come up again. He informed the Board that one of the tasks that he had initially at the beginning of the year was to deal

with a number of ordinances, and the alcohol ordinance was one of them. He continued by explaining that in 2002, the Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution to hold a referendum to allow the sale of spirits and liquors in Fayette County for on-premises consumption. He said the referendum passed and it allowed businesses to sell from Monday through Saturday. He added that there is a provision of State law that if the County wants to hold sales on Sunday, either package sales or on-premises consumption, the County must first hold a referendum. Mr. Davenport reported that the County held a referendum last year for package sales on Sunday. He explained that the problem is that in May 2012, the question came up about whether the County codes should be amended to allow on-premises consumption of distilled spirits on Sunday, and the decision was to amend the County code. He told the Board that the problem is that the County cannot just amend its code since a referendum must first be held. He stated that Fayette County has already issued licenses to several businesses in the County for on-premises consumption on Sunday while not having the legal authority to do so. He recommended that the Board pass the resolution authorizing a referendum to occur in November for the purpose of allowing on-premises consumption of distilled spirits and alcoholic beverages on Sundays.

Commissioner Ognio moved to approve staff's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2013-17 calling a referendum to seek authorization to permit and regulate Sunday Sales of Distilled Spirits or Alcoholic Beverages for Beverage Purposes by the drink; to promote the public health, safety and welfare, and for other purposes. Commissioner Oddo seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously. Copies of the request and Resolution 2013-17, identified as "Attachment 15", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

17. Consideration of Commissioner McCarty's request for an ordinance modification allowing for up to one dozen (12) female chickens in all zoning districts except in those neighborhood associations that do not allow chickens.

Commissioner McCarty said at one time, in one of his first jobs, he worked with 100,000 chickens. He said the chickens were all hens, that they laid eggs, and money was made with the eggs. He stated that people should have the right to have chickens, to have fresh eggs for breakfast, out of their own yard. He mentioned that chickens help to control insects, they help to fertilize the garden and yard, and when they get to the point where they do not lay eggs they make "a gospel bird dinner". He thought it should be a person's right, except in a neighborhood association where they are prohibited, to have the ability to raise chickens in their yard and property. Commissioner McCarty pointed out that in parts of downtown Los Angeles, there are areas where chickens are allowed in people's yards. He added that chickens are also allowed in areas of Chicago and New York City. He thought that Fayette County, in an effort to maintain its rural atmosphere, should allow chickens as well.

Chairman Brown suggested that a committee be created, with Commissioner McCarty serving as chairman of the committee, to look at possible options available to the County. Commissioner McCarty agreed to the suggestion, and the Board consented to the creation of a committee for this purpose.

Commissioner Barlow said he researched backyard chickens, and he was fascinated with some of the chicken coops that he saw. He said some of the chicken coops have plans that would require a skilled carpenter to build, and when they are built they create a nice little residence. He explained that he was concerned about the lot sizes and the number of chickens on specific sized lots. He suggested a committee would allow for Commissioner McCarty to explore questions and bring answers back to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Oddo said he had never thought of having a chicken in his backyard before. He explained that while he does not know much about chickens, that he is a big believer in property rights who wants to ensure that the chickens would not bother the neighbors either with sound, diseases, or other factors.

Chairman Brown asked Community Development Director Pete Frisina to work with Commissioner McCarty and the committee on this issue, and he asked for the Planning Commission weigh in on the issue.

The Board consented to create a committee on this topic, for Commissioner McCarty to serve as chairman of the committee, to look at possible options and to present some options to the Board. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 16", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

18. Approval of the July 15, 2013 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Ognio was not present for this meeting.

Commissioner McCarty moved to approve the July 15, 2013 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed 4-0-1 with Commissioner Ognio abstaining from the vote.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

There was no Administrator's Report given.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Executive Session to Approve Executive Session Minutes: Interim County Attorney Dennis Davenport reported there was one item for Executive Session involving a review of Executive Session Minutes from June 27, 2013.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Commissioner Barlow: Commissioner Barlow commented that one of Fayette County's great leaders has come under attack, and said he was taken aback by the unsubstantiated allegations being made against Water System Director Tony Parrott. He said as one who has come under vicious attacks, he knows what it is like to stand firm in one's convictions when it would seem that everyone else is against you. He said God's Word reads to "Put on the whole armor of God that we may be able stand against the wiles of the devil". He said as a member of the Board of Commissioners, who does not speak for others, he does not and will not allow a politically expedient opportunity to take down one of Fayette County's finest. He said that he would not allow an attack against any of Fayette County's employees go unchallenged. He explained that his family name and its heritage are filled with warriors who fought for Christ. Commissioner Barlow displayed his family crest, and said it goes back to the 11th and 12th centuries. He explained that the crest pictured the Barlow's as bold as a lion, and that his family fought for Christ. He said he had no idea what the family crest stood for throughout his entire life, until after he turned his life over to Christ. He told everyone that the Barlow's are not easily intimidated, nor are the Barlow's easily defeated. He mentioned that on the evening of his salvation into God's kingdom a prophecy was spoken over him that at the time he did not understand, but that he was being called into spiritual warfare. He stated that the Barlow crest then took on meaning. Commissioner Barlow quoted Matthew 11:12 saying it was the verse that was spoken over him, and he said the word "violent" referenced in the Scripture means "those who are zealous in their faith". Commissioner Barlow said if the allegations against Mr. Parrott are proven true, then he would cast the second stone. But in the interim, he would stand firm against the enemy and defend Mr. Tony Parrott. A copy of Commissioner Barlow's PowerPoint presentation, identified as "Attachment 17", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

Commissioner Oddo: Commissioner Oddo noticed that the audience was pretty full and he appreciated everyone for coming. He thanked everyone for attending and all those watching on television. He encouraged them to keep coming to the meetings since there was no better way to learn what was going on in the County.

Chairman Brown: Chairman Brown pointed out that this month is an odd meeting schedule for the County since the Board typically meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. He explained that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, August 29. He added that there would also be a Special Called Meeting that would be held on September 5 at 7:00 p.m. for an official vote on the Core Infrastructure SPLOST referendum. He said that it pertained to the referendum that would be put on the November ballot in order to get some of the stormwater problems beneath the roads repaired.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session: Chairman Brown moved to recess into Executive Session. Commissioners Oddo and McCarty seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. and returned to Official Session at 8:30 p.m.

Executive Session Affidavit: Commissioner Ognio moved to exit Executive Session and for the Chairman to sign the affidavit. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. No vote followed this motion and second.

June 27, 2013 Executive Session Minutes: Chairman Brown moved to approve the June 27, 2013 Executive Session Minutes as presented. Commissioner Oddo seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Brown moved to adjourn the August 15, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Oddo seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

The August 15, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 8:31 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 29th day of August 2013.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk