

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia met in Official Session on Thursday, January 23, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the public meeting room of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Greg Dunn, Chairman  
Linda Wells, Vice Chair  
Herb Frady  
A.G. VanLandingham

COMMISSIONER ABSENT: Peter Pfeifer

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris W. Cofty, County Administrator  
William R. McNally, County Attorney  
Carol Chandler, Executive Assistant  
Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk

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Chairman Dunn called the meeting to order. Daniel Graddy of Scout Troop 74 offered the invocation and Shawn Sing led the pledge to the Flag.

**RESOLUTION FOR TDK BOULEVARD EXTENSION:**

Chairman Dunn remarked that the Intergovernmental Agreement was being reviewed by the County Attorney and would not be signed tonight. He said the City of Peachtree City would give the County \$200,000 in two payments with one payment now and one payment at the beginning of next year. He said Peachtree City had already done substantial amounts of work on engineering. He said the City would turn over their engineering products to the County. He said these plans were not totally completed yet but they would be turning over everything that they had done. He said when the engineering was completed, the City would turn the entire project over to Fayette County. He said the County would take the project from that point on and Peachtree City would no longer be involved in it except for the interest as to how the project was proceeding. He said the County would then have the responsibility of working directly with Coweta County. He remarked that he had spoken with Senator Seabaugh today about the Agreement not being signed tonight. He said this had nothing to do with the commitment. He said this was just to get the details straight so that the County/City would know what was expected of each entity. He asked Coweta County Commissioner Vernon Hunter who was present in the audience to come to the podium to speak on this issue. He remarked that Mr. Hunter used to be Fayette County's Public Works Director for a period of eight years. He said Mr. Hunter had been responsible for the road planning in the County. He said many of the projects that were currently in the County's plans to still be done were initiated by Mr. Hunter. He said luckily for the County, Mr. Hunter was the person the County would be working with on the other side of the County line.

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Mr. Hunter said it was good for him to be back in familiar ground. He said he was present tonight for a specific purpose and one purpose he was not present for was to tell Fayette County how to run its business. He said he was present to say that he was completely dedicated and Coweta County was completely dedicated to the task at hand to build this road. He jokingly said he had a problem with the name of TDK Boulevard. He said he called the road the Fayette/Coweta Connector. He said if the Board read minutes from the Coweta County Commission meeting the road would be referred to as the Coweta/Fayette Connector. He said the naming of the road would be something that he would be strong about. He said Fayette County could name its side of the road anything it wanted but to the middle of the Creek he wanted the road to be named the Coweta/Fayette Connector. He said this road began with a very, very humble beginning. He said discussion began in Fayette County several years ago in regard to the County's acquisition of water from Fayette County and the buying of water from Fayette County and the building of a road between the two. He said for some time this did not have a whole lot of support and it looked like it would never come to fruition. He said it was amazing how much support this project had garnered from the business people, governments, and chambers on both sides of the Creek. He said this road was much needed and a very popular project. He felt it was time to use the support that there was from all of the different elements of the society in the two counties and proceed with the completion of this project. He said he would be glad to answer any questions that the Board might have as they relate to Coweta County's intentions. He said he wanted the Board to know that Coweta County was 100% dedicated to this road.

Chairman Dunn thanked Mr. Hunter for being present. He said he was sure that the Chambers of Commerce in both counties and the other governments in the County were going to be thrilled that he was present and made this commitment. He said the Board was aware that Coweta County had already committed \$1 million to the project.

Mr. Hunter interjected that the \$1 million was not a calculation on what the road was going to cost. He said it was not a calculation as to what Coweta County was willing to contribute. He said it was in response to certain allegations that went public in various locations that people were not too sure about Coweta County's position. He said Coweta County wanted to go ahead and prove its commitment by appropriating \$1 million. He said this was symbolic in that it was \$1 million and did not have anything to do with how much a road was going to cost or how much was going to be spend. He said Coweta County was not limited to \$1 million.

Chairman Dunn said he understood that and knew it would cost Coweta County more than \$1 million. He said he wanted people to understand how this project was going to proceed. He said the project started many years ago and did not get much attention at the Atlanta Regional Commission where most of the road work projects were put into the long range transportation plan and then brought into the short range. He said the southside of Atlanta a lot of times did not get a whole lot of attention on things that were believed in this area were critical. He said

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this project was at one time listed for 2010. He said as time went on the project went to 2015 and then this past year went to 2025. He said the governing bodies sat down and said this would never get done on a regional basis and the project would have to be done by the County's neighbors. He said Mr. Hunter and his Board and the Fayette County Commission were totally committed to getting this project done now and not waiting until 2025. He said the business community and the citizens could not wait that long to travel between the two counties.

Mr. Hunter said when the Fayette County Commission and the Coweta County Commission agreed to pull this project out of that method of funding where it was no longer in competition with S.R. 74 or S.R. 54, it was said that the project would proceed with as much local funding as possible utilizing all of the help that could be obtained through the State highway department. He said it was only when this project was pulled out of the program that it was moved up at all. He said if this project had been left in the program, it would still be listed to begin in 2025.

Chairman Dunn remarked that Fayette County would be responsible for the road that was in Fayette County up to Line Creek. He said Coweta County would be responsible for the road up to Line Creek on their side and the two County governments would split the cost of the bridge right down the middle. He said in the near future both counties would meet in the middle of that bridge. He said sometimes projects in the region were so difficult and Fayette County was so lucky to have a man like Vernon Hunter who was willing to work so easily with Fayette County.

Chairman Dunn remarked that he had executed the Resolution. He said he would now present the Resolution to Coweta Commissioner Vernon Hunter so that he could present it to the Coweta Commission as a demonstration of the County's commitment.

On motion made by Commissioner Frady, seconded by Commissioner VanLandingham to authorize the Chairman to execute the Resolution of the local governments in Coweta and Fayette Counties supporting the joint effort for the timely construction of the Coweta-Fayette County Connector project (TDK Boulevard), discussion followed.

Commissioner Frady asked when the Board would be receiving the Agreement.

Chairman Dunn said he had spoke to the Peachtree City Mayor and two of the Council members. He said the County's attorneys had reviewed the Agreement in great detail and there were some changes that were being suggested by Peachtree City. He said some of the changes would change the intent of the Agreement.

Commissioner Frady said he would like to see a copy of the Agreement and the changes that were made.

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The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Pfeifer was absent. A copy of the Resolution, identified as "Attachment No. 1", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Commissioner Wells requested item no. 3 be removed for discussion. On motion made by Commissioner Frady, seconded by Commissioner Wells to approve the consent agenda as presented with the exception of item no. 3. The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Pfeifer was absent.

**WHITEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND BOOSTER - SIGN REQUEST:** Approval of request from the Whitewater Middle School Band Boosters to place a sign on the old courthouse lawn from February 23<sup>rd</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003 advertising an art auction fundraiser to be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment No. 2", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**WATER COMMITTEE - MEETING SCHEDULE:** Approval of Water Committee recommendation to approve the Water Committee meeting schedule for the year 2003. A copy of the schedule, identified as "Attachment No. 3", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**WATER COMMITTEE - WATERLINE EXTENSION POLICY:** Approval of Water Committee recommendation to leave the Waterline Extension policy as it is, with one change of collection and disbursement of funds being handled by the Water System. A copy of the memorandum, identified as "Attachment No. 4", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

Commissioner Wells asked Mr. Parrott if the prices would remain the same.

Water System Director Tony Parrott replied yes. He said the discussion of price changes would be coming to the Board at a later date.

On motion made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner VanLandingham to approve the Water Committee's recommendation to leave the waterline extension policy as it is, with one change of collection and disbursement of funds being handled by the Water System. The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Pfeifer was absent.

**WATER SYSTEM - WATER LINE FOR SUBDIVISION ON GOZA ROAD:** Approval of Water System Director Tony Parrott to install a 20-inch water line to serve a new subdivision located on Goza Road. A copy of the memorandum, identified as "Attachment No. 5", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**CONSIGNING CLOSETS - SIGN REQUEST:** Approval of request from Consigning Closets to place a sign on the old courthouse lawn from August 24 through September

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6, 2003 to advertise a Children's Consignment Sale at the Fayette County Kiwanis Fairground on September 3-6, 2003. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment No. 6", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**E-911 CENTER - DICTAPHONE RECORDING SYSTEM:** Approval of request from Chief Jack Krakeel to approve replacement of the Dictaphone Recording System at the E-911 Center in the amount of \$52,761 with funds to come out of the reserve fund. A copy of the memorandum, identified as "Attachment No. 7", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**WENDELL GOODMAN - PROPERTY TAX REFUND DENIED:** Approval of recommendation to deny a request for a property tax refund by Wendell Goodman.

**HUGH PIERCE - PROPERTY TAX REFUND APPROVED:** Approval of recommendation to approve a request for a property tax refund by Hugh Pierce in the amount of \$344.60.

**DAVID STEVENS - PROPERTY TAX REFUND APPROVED:** Approval of recommendation to approve a request for a property tax refund by David Stevens in the amount of \$297.27.

**NANCY ELWOOD - PROPERTY TAX REFUND APPROVED:** Approval of recommendation to approve a request for a property tax refund by Nancy Elwood in the amount of \$103.17.

**CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA - PROPERTY TAX REFUND APPROVED:** Approval of recommendation to approve a request for a property tax refund by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in the amount of \$19,322.73

**MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for Board of Commissioners meeting held on January 9, 2003.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Members of the public are allowed up to five minutes each to address the Board on issues of concern other than those items which are on this evening's agenda.

There was no public comment.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

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**CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING ENGINEER TO PERFORM A WATER QUALITY**

**STUDY:** Assistant County Attorney Dennis Davenport remarked that he had with him tonight for execution the contract for a consulting engineer to perform a water quality study. The said the Board had previously approved this item at a prior meeting. A copy of the contract, identified as "Attachment No. 8", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**AGREEMENTS WITH SIX OF THE YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS:**

Attorney Davenport remarked that this was something that was regularly updated and executed for the associations to work at the county recreation area. He said there was one change that was made for the additional requirement for the associations to perform background checks. He said this had been added to these agreements. He asked for the Board's consideration to authorize the Chairman to execute the six agreements.

Commissioner Wells asked if any of the associations had refused to sign and drop out.

Attorney Davenport said he had all six documents and they had all been executed by the appropriate associations.

On motion made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner VanLandingham to authorize the Chairman to execute the six Agreements with the youth sports associations. The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Pfeifer was absent. A copy of the Agreements, identified as "Attachment No. 9", follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE TRUST FUND:**

Attorney Davenport remarked that there was a Hazardous Waste Trust Fund that was set up with the State of Georgia. He said its purpose was to help facilitate clean up of landfills throughout the State. He asked for the Board's consideration for each Board member to execute a Resolution and to authorize County Engineer Ron Salmons to execute any documents to secure the funds. He commended Mr. Salmons for sheparding the paperwork through the State to be able to take advantage of the resources available through the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund. He said Mr. Salmons had secured a grant in the amount of \$101,481.74. He said he would like to present that to the Board tonight in the form of a Resolution.

Commissioner Wells asked if this required the Board to do anything other than accept it.

Attorney Davenport replied that was the extent of the receipt of the dollars and that was to pass the Resolution to accept it and then Mr. Salmons would be signing the documents to secure the funds.

On motion made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Frady to authorize the Board to execute a Resolution and also to authorize County Engineer Ron Salmons to execute any documents to secure funds, discussion followed.

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Chairman Dunn commended Ron Salmons for all of his work on securing the \$101,481.74 in a refund of taxpayers' money. He thanked Mr. Salmons for his initiative and determination in getting these funds. He said there was only a limited amount of this money available in the State of Georgia and Mr. Salmons got much more than what would normally be considered Fayette County's fair share. He said it was greatly appreciated.

The motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Pfeifer was absent. A copy of the Resolution, identified as "Attachment No. 10", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

**OPENING OF FAYETTE COUNTY'S NEW FIRE STATIONS:** Commissioner Wells commented on the opening of the three new fire stations. She commended Mallett & Associates who had done most of the engineering and oversight on these new stations. She said they had come in under budget and three months ahead of schedule.

**UPDATE ON COMMISSIONER PFEIFER:** Chairman Dunn remarked that Commissioner Pfeifer had come home from the hospital yesterday and would have therapy each day. He said Peter would be back to the Commission very soon.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Dunn adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

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Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk

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Gregory M. Dunn, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

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Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk