

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Lyon gave the invocation. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

RE-APPOINTMENT TO TAX ASSESSOR'S BOARD:

Commissioner Horace Harper made a motion to re-appoint Jim Purcell and Horace Baker to the Tax Assessor's Board for a three-year term. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

JACKSON MCCONNELL/ DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACTIVITIES:

Mr. McConnell provided the Board and County Administrator with copies of his report for 2008. He applauded Anna Grant Jones for the good job she is doing for the Economic Development. Mr. McConnell was proud of the turn-out Elbert County had in Atlanta on February 28th for the Legislative activities and meetings. He, along with Chairman Tommy Lyon, again encourage all commissioners to attend the reception for project managers in Atlanta on February 25th.

EMS REQUESTS:

There were three resolutions to be adopted regarding E-911 fees. These are all renewals.

1) Resolution Renewal for Emergency 911 Fees. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

- 2) Resolution Renewal for 911 "Emergency Telephone Fund" Surcharge. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.
- 3) Resolution Renewal for 911 Charge on Voice Over Internet Protocol. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF AMBULANCE BIDS:

There were two bids for the new ambulance. Taylor Made for \$118,285.00 and Emergency Vehicle Sales for \$106,327.00. These were both subject to Georgia Trauma Commission application approval. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to go with Emergency Vehicle Sales for the low bid. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF BID AND PURCHASE OF USED EMERGENCY SERVICES VEHICLE:

There were three bids for a used 2008 Ford CrownVic. The low bid of \$12,200 was from Claude Ray Ford in Elberton. The other bids were from Ed Murdock for \$15,183 and James Short Ford for \$16,425. EMS Director Chuck Almond said that \$4,000 of this amount will come from fundraiser money made selling family portraits through EMA. The balance will come from SPLOST. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go with the low bid. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION:

Elbert County has been in this agreement with the Forestry Commission since the early 1990's. Our volunteer fire departments have used their equipment in fire fighting, and we in turn help them out when needed. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to continue this lease agreement. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

VEHICLE BIDS FOR TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

Chief Appraiser Kevin Cameron received three bids for a vehicle. Phil Hughes Honda on a 2009 Ridgeline for \$24,447, Carey Paul Honda on a 2009 Ridgeline for \$24,996 and Claude Ray Ford on a 2008 Ford Explorer for \$24,500. Commissioner Harper made a motion to go with Claude Ray Ford on the Explorer.

Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

FINANCE REPORT:

County Administrator Bob Thomas gave the financial report. He reported that the County is seven percent under budget overall. There were a few unexpected expenses in the moving of the Tax Commissioner's office to the lower wing. Elections caused the Registrar's office to go over. There were weather related expenses causing Maintenance to go over. Mr. Thomas plans to meet again with department heads to discuss ways of reducing expenses. Eighty-eight percent of our property taxes have been collected. Mobile home taxes are not due until 5/1/09. Commissioner Eaves requests that Lorrie Higginbotham comes to the next meeting and explain how we go about getting the uncollected taxes.

HIRING AND SALARY FREEZE:

There will be no new hires and no salary increases thru the end of this fiscal year. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to accept this decision. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

TIME CHANGE FOR BOC REGULAR MEETINGS:

On this issue, CODE specifies that if we make a motion to change the meeting time, we have to have a first and second reading. Commissioner Eaves suggests changing the time to 6:00 P.M. Commissioner Harper suggests 5:30 P.M. The vote results were as follows: 6:00 P.M. 2-3 Commissioner Eaves and Commissioner Hubbard were for this and Commissioners Harper, Hewell and Albertson were against. 5:30 P.M. 4-1 Commissioners Harper, Eaves, Hubbard and Albertson were for this time. Commissioner Hewell was against. The 5:30 P.M. time will begin with the May meeting. The first and second readings will be in March and April.

COMPREHENSIVE PARTIAL PLAN UPDATE:

RDC held a meeting on the Comprehensive Plan Update, as stated by resolution. Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept this Partial Plan. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

John Ruffin suggests that we put our hearings and meetings on the Community Calendar. He said he saw nothing of the Comprehensive Plan Update in the paper. Mr. Thomas assured him that it was advertised by RDC.

With there being no further business, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 9TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Albertson gave the invocation. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hewell, Commissioner Hubbard, Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and Finance Director Daniel Goode.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Before the adoption of the agenda Chairman Lyon added an Executive Session and dropped Item 11. As amended, Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Before the adoption of the minutes County Clerk Judy Vaughn amended the vote on the time change for regular meetings. On the 6:00 p.m. time, it was Commissioner Hewell that voted for this and not Commissioner Hubbard. Commissioner Hubbard voted in favor of the 5:30 p.m.time. This being said, Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

JOYCE DAVIS OF THE ARTS COUNCIL:

Ms. Davis gave a presentation for the Visual Arts Council of Elberton and Elbert County (VAC). This council is requesting use of the old health department building on Church Street. They are also requesting \$3500 from the County for essential improvements to the building. They ask that the rent be free, the County pay the utilities and other necessary needs. Since this building is jointly owned by the City of Elberton and Elbert County, Mr. Thomas is going to meet with City Manager Lanier Dunn to discuss the proposal. He will have more information available on the Thursday after the City meets for their monthly meeting. Therefore, no decision was made.

RICK MEWBORNE, COUNTY FIRE CHIEF:

Rick came before the Board requesting permission to seek bids for up to two fire trucks for the volunteer fire departments. Two trucks will cost approximately \$300,000. He plans to use \$108,000 from the Fire Insurance Fund and the balance from SPLOST. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to let Rick advertise for these bids. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE TO CHANGE MEETING TIME:

Ordinance No. 2009-01 was read in full by County Attorney Bill Daughtry. The second reading will be at the April, 2009, meeting.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUEST FOR FIREWORKS FUNDS:

Phyllis Brooks of the Chamber came before the Board requesting half of the funds to finance the fireworks display at Richard B. Russell Park for the Fourth of July. These funds will come from Hotel/Motel Taxes. Five per cent of this tax has to be set aside for promotions and part of it has to be spent with the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

TRAILER PARK ON HARTWELL HWY:

This is not to be a mobile home park. There are only seven lots at this time. They do have room for future development. Septic tanks have been approved by the Health Department. In order to continue construction, they need approval from the County. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve this request. It was understood that the Board was only approving seven lots. Future lots will have to come back before the Board. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

DE-ANNEXATION REQUEST:

Jackie Hamm of 310 Miller Drive is requesting from the Board to be de-annexed out of the City and into the County. Her property is adjacent to the County. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to honor this request. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FOUR LANE OF HWY. 17:

This proposed resolution is the result of a joint meeting of all counties and cities from Thompson to Toccoa. The purpose is to unite in support of this project. Representatives from Stephens County are going to Washington and want to take copies of all resolutions showing our support. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

BIDS FOR PICK-UP TRUCKS FOR ROAD DEPARTMENT:

We have negotiated with Claude Ray Ford for two used pickup trucks. One is a 2006 Ford for \$9,000, and the other is a 2008 Ford for \$14,900. These will replace two trucks (1988 Chevrolet and a 1995 Chevrolet) that will be taken to Christian's Auction for surplus sale. Before voting Commissioner Hewell stated that the County Road Department is in need of a dump truck more than pickup trucks. After discussion, Commissioner Hewell made a motion to get bids on a dump truck and eliminate the purchase of the two pickup trucks. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon more discussion, Commissioner Albertson realized that he had voted against the purchase of the pickup trucks. He then rescinded his vote. Commissioner Eaves then seconded Commissioner Hewell's motion. Upon voting for the dump truck bids the vote carried 2-3 with Commissioners Hewell and Eaves for and Commissioners Albertson, Harper and Hubbard against. Chairman Lyon made a motion that we buy the pickup trucks from Claude Ray Ford now and make the dump truck our next priority. County Administrator Bob Thomas can get bid specs on a dump truck and check on available SPLOST funds for the next meeting. Commissioner Harper made a motion to purchase the two pickup trucks from Claude Ray Ford. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-2 with

Commissioners Eaves and Hewell against.

CIVIC CENTER POLICY:

Donations were made to the County for renovations to the Civic Center. New flooring, doors, painting, wallpaper, kitchen items and carpet has been a part of the improvements so far. New lighting and p.a. system is still a possibility. In an attempt to keep the building in good condition, it is suggested that we adopt a "no alcohol" policy. We could issue a "Special Use Permit" for those that wanted alcohol. Each request would have to be brought before the Board of Commissioners. Fee increases are proposed as follows: weddings, parties, etc. from \$350 to \$500, with a \$200 security deposit. Kitchen use increase from \$150 to \$300. For all uses the building must be vacated by midnight. There will be no decorations put on the walls. Security must be present at all functions. We have had some bad publicity concerning the Civic Center lately, and we want to put a stop to that now. Commissioner Hubbard has a concern about allowing some to use alcohol and not others. Commissioner Hewell suggests that we increase the charges for rental when alcohol is used. Chairman Lyon asked Bob Thomas to look at these suggestions and come back next month with another recommended policy. No vote taken.

FINANCE REPORT GIVEN BY BOB THOMAS:

Overall, everyone is still within budget. Revenues are expected to be reduced in the following months in SPLOST AND LOST by the effect of sales tax. There will be no Homestead Tax Relief coming in this year. There are also other monies that we received in the past that we won't be receiving this year. There is a meeting with department heads scheduled for Friday the 13th to discuss their budgets. Commissioner Eaves asked if we had heard from the Board of Education about payment from them for the most recent election. Having not heard, Chairman Lyon suggested that we send another letter requesting that payment.

NO PAY HOLIDAYS:

County Administrator Bob Thomas is suggesting that county employees take two holidays, Good Friday and Memorial Day, without pay. This is in an effort to cut costs. For our Public Safety departments there will be no holiday pay. Chairmay Lyon suggested that all commissioners forfeit one called meeting pay. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to move forward with this. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

SURPLUS VEHICLES:

EMS has three vehicles they want to surplus. They are one each: 1997 Ford Crown Vic, 1994 Crown Vic and 1979 Chevrolet truck. Added to this are the two pickups - 1988 and 1995 Chevrolets - from the Road Department. These will all go to Christian's Auction in April. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to surplus these vehicles. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Steve Almond came before the Board to express concerns about the activities going on at the Dove's Creek Community Center. Things seem to be getting out of hand. He has called the Sheriff's Department himself on one occasion. Mr. Almond is on the Board for the community center and assures the Board of Commissioners that this won't happen again.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Lyon asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. After returning to the meeting room, Commissioner Harper made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. There was no action taken in the Executive Session.

With there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Lyon gave the invocation. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, County Administrator Bob Thomas, Finance Director Daniel Goode, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Before the adoption of the agenda there were two amendments. The second reading of the ordinance to change the time of the monthly meetings to 5:30 p.m. was added. Also, Chairman Lyon moved Item 26 - Discussion of Loyd-Rousey Road to be heard after Item 6. With these amendments Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. After voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Before the adoption of the minutes, Chairman Lyon asked to change wording under BIDS FOR PICK-UP TRUCKS FOR ROAD DEPARTMENT. Where it read, "Chairman Lyon made a motion" it should be changed to read, "Chairman Lyon suggested". This being noted, Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PHYLLIS THOMPSON:

With Phyllis Thompson present, Chairman Lyon read a resolution from the Georgia House of Representatives recognizing Mrs. Thompson's years of service to Elbert County.

DAVE GILCHRIST, ROBERT FAMILY HOLDINGS:

Mr. Gilchrist came before the Board on behalf of Robert Family Holdings concerning taxes, interest and penalties on the Siegel-Robert, Inc. building. His request was that the County reduce the value of the property to lower the taxes. Chairman Lyon informed him that this was not a possibility at this point. He stated that we could dispense with the penalties and interest which would amount to about \$6654.99 and would give them until June 30th, 2009, to pay the taxes due. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this recommendation.

Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

LOYD-ROUSEY ROAD:

Patricia Seymour came before the Board requesting that the County maintain Loyd-Rousey Road. This road is maintained down to the unpaved part. In 1997, it was voted on, but all property owners had to be willing to give an eighty foot right-of-way. There were none recorded. It was stated that this right-of-way could possibly be reduced to a lesser amount of footage. Chairman Lyon suggested that County Administrator Bob Thomas look into this and see if there is something that can be done.

POLICY CHANGES FOR CIVIC CENTER:

County Administrator Bob Thomas brought before the Board proposed changes for the Civic Center policy. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to have "no alcohol" at the Civic Center. Commissioner Hewell seconded this motion. Commissioner Albertson then made a second motion to keep alcohol with officers present that have the power to arrest along with an extra security deposit. Commissioner Harper seconded this motion. Results on the first motion by Commissioner Eaves for no alcohol were 2-3 with Commissioners Eaves and Hewell for and Commissioners Harper, Albertson and Hubbard against. Results on the second motion by Commissioner Albertson to keep alcohol were 3-2 with Commissioners Harper, Albertson and Hubbard for and Commissioners Eaves and Hewell against. Chairman Lyon stated that we would try it this way for a period of twelve months.

SET POLICY FOR PER DIEM:

Not having a per diem policy for travel in place, County Administrator Bob Thomas brought this before the Board for adoption. In low cost areas meals would be \$6, \$7 and \$15, and in high cost areas \$7, \$9 and \$20. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

REVERAND BARNETT - GRANITE CITY COOK-OFF:

Rev. Barnett came before the Board to talk about the bar-b-que cook-off to be held. He was representing the Ministries Reliance and Coalition for Prayers. He is the pastor of Fortson Grove Church. They need grillers to enter the competition, vendors and judges. Proceeds will go to a scholarship fund. They were given permission to use the restrooms in the basement of the Courthouse.

Commissioner Albertson made a motion to support this event. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ROAD PRIORITY FOR ELBERT COUNTY:

County Administrator Bob Thomas spoke on the need for a road priority list. He has a formula used by DOT that he will utilize in producing this list. He plans to have it in place by July 1, 2009.

BIDS FOR DUMP TRUCKS:

Three bids for dump trucks were received after advertising. They are as follows: Nalley - \$112,782, Peach State - \$103,810 and Mac Truck - \$104,277. Based on experience County Administrator Thomas recommended Mac Truck. The money will come from SPLOST. Commissioner Albertson made a motion that we purchase two dump trucks. Commissioner Harper seconded this motion stating that we should take advantage of the prices being lower at this time. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

VACANT POSITION ON FIRE BOARD:

Due to the death of Joe McMullan, there is now a vacancy on the Fire Board. The Fire Board wishes to fill this vacancy with Chris Alexander. They ask for the Board of Commissioners approval. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to accept their recommendation. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

NEW WELL AT ROCK BRANCH:

The bored well at the Rock Branch Volunteer Fire Department is not sufficient anymore. After seeking bids they have three - Ace Well Drilling, Herring Well Drilling and Southern Well Drilling. Since all bids were at \$10/ft., they would like to stay local and use Southern Well Drilling. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to accept this bid. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ACCEPT LAND FOR NEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT:

Ms. Hazel Dickerson has offered land in a good location for a new proposed volunteer fire department. This land is at 1781 Athens Hwy. If we do not build a station in that area, the fire rating will go up, causing insurance and taxes to increase. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to accept this offer of land. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

REVIEW ART COUNCIL'S REQUEST:

The Board agreed for the Art Council to use the old Health Department building, as did the City of Elberton. It is jointly owned. At this time we cannot appropriate any funds. Commissioner Hewell suggested that we use detainees to help with some of the renovations. We could possibly use our maintenance employees to help with electrical work, etc. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this proposal. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PEOPLES & QUIGLEY:

Chairman Lyon and County Administrator Bob Thomas have met with Chris Quigley. He encourages us to move ahead with a "Notice of No Significant Impact". This will allow us to do some work now that will get us ready to submit grant applications and also for financing. The cost for this will be \$5,000, but they will not bill us until after July 1st, 2009. They will also proceed with a survey from residents on this proposed water system. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to move forward with this plan. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

CIVIC CENTER LEASE:

This lease will allow the Community Partnership of Elbert County to move into the Civic Center. They will be there Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. During this time, they will take reservations and keep a schedule book for the County. All rental fees will still come to the County. Bills will be paid from the administrative office here. This will eliminate a part-time position at the Civic Center. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this lease agreement. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

TRANSFER SITE AGREEMENT:

County Administrator Bob Thomas went to the current vendor and asked for contract re-negotiation. They agreed to reduce the tonnage from \$34.65 to \$32.65 for the last year of the contract. This will be immediately. We had another bid for \$31/ton, but we do need to fulfill our contract for one more year first. At that time we can again solicit for bids. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this new agreement. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ROAD PAVING BIDS:

We received four bids for paving the road between Jones Street and Athens Tech. Fifty-five per cent of this is in the school board district. This item is on their agenda for next Monday night. Forty-five percent is in the County. Ten per cent of this is in the City, but they say they have no money for this paving. If the City will not assist any funding the school system will do sixty per cent and the County forty per cent. This will help with the traffic and will be useful for school buses. Our bids were from Tugalo Construction, E.R. Snell, Toole's Asphalt and Stratton and Sons Construction. County Administrator recommended Toole's Asphalt as the low bid. Commissioner Eaves said with only \$100 difference between Toole and E.R. Snell, he thought we should go with Snell because of their experience. Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept E.R. Snell's bid. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Hewell against.

GOLDEN HARVEST FOOD BANK:

We received by letter a request for \$1000 to assist in continuing the "Brown Bag Program". Commissioner Harper made a motion to grant this request. Commissioner Albertson seconded this motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

REQUEST FROM MAIN STREET:

Sissy Herring of Main Street informed the Board that the initial request for sponsorship of a band to perform during the BRAG event had changed. The request will now be for a "Back to School Bash" in August with Modern Skirts performing. The request is for \$2500.00 and will come from Hotel/Motel Tax money. This money is designated for promotional events such as this. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

CONSULTANT AGREEMENT WITH MARKETEK, INC.:

This agreement between Marketek and Elbert County is for the Elberton-Elbert County Conference Center and Museum (Rock Gym). It is for a feasibility study. There will be a \$14,000 grant from One Georgia Authority, and the rest will be paid by the Historical Society. Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept this agreement. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ANNEX:

The City of Elberton has informed the County by letter of their intention to annex certain properties out of the County and into the City. This letter was a notification and did not require a vote.

BIDS FOR FORMAT PRINTER:

The Tax Assessor's office has requested bids for a large format printer to be used with GIS and the new aerial imagery. They have received four bids. They are from TIG (2 bids depending on when purchased), Hewlett Packard and Western States. County Administrator Bob Thomas recommended going with the low bid submitted by TIG. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this bid. Commissioner Hubbard seconded this motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

REQUEST FROM JIM-REE MUSEUM:

Mr. Jimmy White came before the Board on behalf of Jim-Ree Museum requesting financial assistance in sponsoring the Gary Motley Quintet. There will be a dinner at McIntosh Café before the concert. Tickets for the dinner will be sold separately. Any overage of monies will go towards renovations of the museum. Weather permitting, the concert will be on McIntosh Street. In the event of bad weather, it will be in the cafeteria here at the Government Complex. These funds will come from the Hotel/Motel Tax money. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to help sponsor this event. Commission Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

FINANCE REPORT:

County Administrator Bob Thomas spoke briefly on the financial situation for the County. There is good news in that we have not had to borrow any money so far this fiscal year. He anticipates that we can go into June or further before having to borrow. Our overall budget is 8.9% under budget. He is working with department heads to stay in line with their budgets.

SECOND READING OF TIME CHANGE ORDINANCE:

County Attorney Bill Daughtry read the ordinance for the second reading. This is Ordinance No. 2009-01 fo Elbert County Board of Commissioners. Beginning May, 2009, the monthly meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this time. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Joyce Davis of the Arts Council thanked the Board for allowing them the use of the old Health Department building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to come out of executive session.

Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. It was discussed that two jailers that have passed certification should be given a \$1.00/hr. increase in pay. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve this increase in pay. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 11TH, 2009

Chairman Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, County Administrator Bob Thomas gave the invocation. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, Finance Director Daniel Goode, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Before adopting the minutes, County Clerk Judy Vaughn noted that Commissioner Eaves brought it to her attention that the amount requested by Jimmy White for Jim-Ree Museum was left out of the minutes. The amount of \$1500.00 was then added. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ANNUAL LEAVE POLICY: County Administrator Thomas proposed a change in the accrual of Annual Leave. At present all annual leave hours are given up front on January 1st of each year. Any hours left on December 31st of that year is then lost. This is a policy of "use it or lose it". Due to the extra cost of the emergency services and law enforcement having to pay someone extra to work in the place of any of their staff taking off, Mr. Thomas saw a need to change this. He is suggesting that all employees be allowed to accrue a maximum amount of 240 hours. Anything over this will be lost. Also, in the event of any termination of employment, the maximum amount of payout hours will be ninety-six (96). Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to accept this change of policy. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

CELL PHONE POLICY: County Administrator Thomas sees the need to implement a "Cell Phone Policy" to assure that personal phone calls not be

excessive. While working at any job, personal phone calls are a distraction. He feels that no personal phone calls should be made during work unless absolutely necessary or in the event of an emergency situation. This will be a new addition to our Personnel Policy Manual as there is no current cell phone policy. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this policy. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

COUNTY FIRE TRUCKS: County Administrator Thomas advised the Board that Fire Chief Rick Mewborne only received one bid in response to his request for bids on two new fire trucks. After consideration, the Board thought that Rick should re-bid. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to have Chief Mewborne seek more bids. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PARTIAL PLAN UP-DATE: County Administrator Thomas explained that a Comprehensive Plan provides population projections, infrastructure goals, objectives for the County and much more. We also have to have this plan to obtain grants. We have to adopt a resolution saying that we approve of the plan as written. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve this plan. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

FORK CREEK ROAD: County Administrator Thomas told the Board that the official road list has an eighty (80') foot right of way listed for Fork Creek Road. It should be a thirty (30') foot right of way. This has to be an error in recording. After making this clarification, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to accept this 30' right-of-way. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

SOUTHERN WELL DRILLING: Pete Higginbotham of Southern Well Drilling is requesting to cross a County road and use a portion of our right-of-way on Ruckersville Road. County Attorney Bill Daughtry drew up an agreement to protect the County and establish the responsibility of Southern Well Drilling in this project. Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept this agreement. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

VEHICLES FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPT: Sheriff Barry Haston wants to purchase two vehicles to better patrol the County roads for large trucks that are using the roads carrying loads that are too large. He plans to purchase scales that can be carried in these vehicles to actually weigh the trucks on the spot. They will

also have a dual use in carrying the dogs to scenes when needed. One is a 2008 Ford for \$23,494 (includes equipment package). The other is a Chevrolet Tahoe for \$27,986. Commissioner Harper made a motion to purchase these two vehicles from SPLOST funds. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

FINANCE REPORT: County Administrator Thomas informed the Board that only a few departments were over at this time. The overall budget is six per cent under.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: John Ruffin wanted clarification that the Comprehensive Plan has to be updated before zoning maps can be created. Mr. Thomas stated that this is true. We should have a draft copy next week. There will be a series of public hearings before it is officially adopted. The goal is to have zoning in place before the end of the calendar year. Most of the work on that will come after July.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

June 8th, 2009

A "Public Hearing" was held for comments on the 2009-2010 Budget for the Elbert County Board of Commissioners. There were no comments from the public.

MINUTES

ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MONTHLY MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 8TH, 2009

Chairman Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Eaves gave the invocation. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Before adopting the agenda, Chairman Lyon added a late item to re-appoint Vickie Johnson to the Board of Family and Children Services. This will be listed after Item 15. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to accept this change. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eaves. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. A motion was then made to adopt the agenda by Commissioner Hewell. It was seconded by Commissioner Harper. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the minutes for the May, 2009, monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harper. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION HONORING DR. ZEB BURRELL: With Mrs. Burrell and daughter Nancy present, Chairman Lyon read the proclamation honoring Dr. Burrell for his faithful service to Elbert County and the EMS. They accepted this honor on his behalf.

FIRST READING TO ADOPT TRUCK ROUTE ORDINANCE: Ordinance Number 2009 was read by County Attorney Bill Daughtry. It replaces the old ordinance of 2001. A truck is defined as “any vehicle with more than six wheels”.

DR. JONATHAN POON AS EMS PHYSICIAN MEDICAL DIRECTOR: Commissioner Harper made a motion to appoint Dr. Poon as Medical Director to replace Dr. Zeb Burrell. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

BIDS FOR BULLDOZER AND BACKHOE: There were four bids received on this equipment. Prices range from \$99,761 to \$74,900. County Administrator Bob Thomas recommends accepting the bid from TEC for \$74,900 on the dozer and \$38,000 for the backhoe. The backhoe is used with less than four hundred (400) hours of service. TEC will accept a trade-in on our old D4 dozer for \$14,100. A local person is interested in purchasing the old D6 dozer for \$35,000. He requests permission to try it out first. This brings the cost of the two pieces to \$63,800. This equipment will be paid for with SPLOST funds. Commissioner Harper made a motion to purchase the bulldozer and backhoe. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. After the vote, Commissioner Albertson suggested that the bulldozer be tried out on County property. Commissioner Eaves suggested we give County Administrator Bob Thomas authority to make this decision and to work out an agreement with the interested person. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to let Mr. Thomas work out a deal on the use of the bulldozer. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF DRIVEWAY NAME: A resident off Sweet City Road has requested they that their driveway be named Deacons Way. This is for E-911 purposes only and not to be County maintained. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to honor this request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eaves. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

LOYD ROUSEY ROAD: This road was discussed a couple months ago. It was maintained by the County at one time. Some of the land owners along the roadway have signed a petition that will give right-of-way in order to have it maintained once again. According to Road Superintendent Marion Dunn, it can be scraped and the ditches pulled maybe twice a year. It is used a good cut through road, and County Administrator Bob Thomas suggests that we accept this

road into the County in order to maintain it. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to accept this road. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

EMS TRANSPORT FEES: According to EMS Director Chuck Almond, the Elbert County EMS are below the line in the fees that Medicare will allow. He wants to increase fees to receive the maximum amount they can collect from insurance companies. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to increase the fees as presented. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

EMS AMBULANCE BID PROPSALS: In February, authorization was give to EMS Director Chuck Almond to get proposals for a new ambulance subject to a \$71,000 grant application to help off-set the cost. We did not get the grant, but the need for an ambulance is still there. At this time, Mr. Almond wants approval to purchase the ambulance for \$106,327 (low bid) through SPLOST funds. He will continue to search for ways to get some monetary assistance with this purchase. If approved, delivery on the ambulance could be November. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to give approval to purchase an ambulance. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

USE AGREEMENT ON CONVENIENCE CENTER: It is time to renew the agreement between Elbert County and the City of Bowman on the Bowman Recycling/Convenience Center. We previously had a ten year agreement. We want to extend that agreement with the same terms for ten one year agreements. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to renew this agreement. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

SURPLUS 1993 FORD CROWN VIC: County Administrator Bob Thomas proposed to take this 1993 Ford Crown Vic along with a used Case backhoe and a used trailer to Christian's Auction. He will put a minimum amount of \$7500 to \$8000 on the backhoe. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to surplus these three items with a minimum on the backhoe. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

APPOINTMENT TO FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD: Mrs. Vickie Johnson's term on the DFACS Board expires on June, 2009. She has agreed to continue to serve. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to re-appoint Mrs. Johnson to the DFACS Board. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion.

Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

INDIGENT DEFENSE AGREEMENT: Public Defender Joel Shiver is requesting an increase from \$72,066.00 to \$82,740.40. He feels it is necessary to increase the staff. The Public Defender's office serves five counties. County Attorney Bill Daughtry states that it is important that the County stay in this agreement. If we dropped out of this system, we would have to pay attorney fees for indigent defense. This would be considerably more money. Of the five counties served by the Public Defender's office, at least three have to be in agreement to make this change. July 1st is the deadline for a decision. Commissioner Eaves stated that we have turned down requests for increases from the State Court Judge and the State Solicitor, and we need to be consistent. It was suggested that we table this request until the next "Called Meeting" to give County Administrator Bob Thomas time to contact the other counties for their thoughts on this increase. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to table this request. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

2009-2010 BUDGET: County Administrator Bob Thomas made a suggestion that we have a "Work Session" on Monday, June 15th, 2009, at 4:00 P.M. to go over the budget item by item in order to reach an agreement on a finalized budget. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to have the "Work Session". Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT: County Administrator Bob Thomas points out that this is the last month of our fiscal year. He informed the Board that the Road Department is not over their budget, because a fuel bill was actually coded wrong. That has been corrected, and they are in line. The overall budget is under.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go into Executive Session for personnel reasons. This was seconded by Commissioner Hewell. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Harper made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. There was no action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Brett Arrowood with Border Equipment Company out of Augusta, Georgia spoke on the recent bid for a bulldozer and backhoe. He stated that he presented bids on three different bulldozers. He brought out what was said we wanted. He was also not told that he could present bids on used equipment. He suggests that in the future we have specs in black and white so that there will

be no confusion. To bring his equipment here cost him approximately \$1500, and he feels that the procedure was not handled properly.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 15TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Before the adoption of the agenda, Chairman Lyon amended the agenda at the request of Chuck Almond to approve an appointment to the Northeast Georgia District Health Board to finish the term of Dr. Zeb Burrell, which will end in June, 30th, 2012. Chuck recommends Bob Thomas for the appointment. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve Mr. Thomas for this appointment. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Having made this change, Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

INDIGENT DEFENSE AGREEMENT: There are five counties involved in this agreement. County Administrator Bob Thomas has contacted these counties for their input on the agreement. Oglethorpe County has voted to approve the increase. Also, Hart County has voted to approve the increase, but may bring it up again, as they were given wrong information on the number of cases. Franklin County has not yet approved an increase, as they are struggling with their budget. Madison County has not yet approved an increase. Commissioner Eaves states that we don't have to wait on the other counties. We need to vote and let them see where we stand. Commissioner Harper made a motion that we stay with the amount from last year's budget, which is \$72,066. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 22ND, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

DISCUSSION/ADOPTION OF 2009/2010 BUDGET: County Administrator Bob Thomas informed the Board that there was no change in the millage rate for Elbert County in the budget. After discussion, Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the 2009/1020 Budget. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-2. Commissioner Eaves and Commissioner Hewell voted against the budget.

REVIEW AND APPROVE BIDS FOR TWO NEW FIRE TRUCKS: County Administrator Bob Thomas informed the Board that funds for these fire trucks will come from SPLOST. Commissioner Eaves stated that he wants to buy only one fire truck and build a new fire station. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve the purchase of two new fire trucks. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Eaves voting against.

Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
CALLED MEETING
JUNE 30TH, 2009

Those present for the called meeting were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Harper, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry. Absent from today's meeting due to prior engagements were Commissioner Albertson and Commissioner Eaves.

Chairman Lyon called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S CONTRACT AND BUDGET: Chairman Lyon informed the Board that the other four counties in the agreement with the Public Defender's office had already voted to approve the \$10,000.00 increase in their budget. County Attorney Bill Daughtry stated that it would be in the best interest of the County to approve this increase. At least we will know where we stand with this amount. It would be far greater if we had to pay indigent defense on a per case basis. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the budget of \$82,740.40, which includes the increase. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Commissioner Hubbard asked if we would have to amend our budget. County Administrator Bob Thomas informed him that we can take the \$10,000 out of the contingency fund and just make those two changes within the budget without amending it. Upon voting the motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 13TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the invocation was given by Commissioner Albertson. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and Finance Director Daniel Goode.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Before the adoption of the agenda, Chairman Lyon deleted Item 12, Discussion regarding Pickens Point Road. Commissioner Hewell then made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the minutes for the June 8th, 2009, meeting. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

GRANITE CITY COOK-OFF: Rev. John Barnett came before the Board to discuss the Granite City Cook-Off. This is to be held on the Square on September 12th, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Grilling spots will be \$75.00, and vendor or craft spots will be \$50.00. Chairman Lyon said that he would get someone to do a grilling spot. Money raised from this cook-off will benefit the Ministries Alliance and the Coalition for Progress.

SECOND READING FOR TRUCK ROUTE ORDINANCE: County Attorney Bill Daughtry read for the second time the amended ordinance establishing designated truck routes for Elbert County. The original ordinance on the books is from 2001. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this ordinance as written. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

WATER SYSTEM IN ELBERT COUNTY: A water system for Elbert County has been in discussion for several months. A survey was sent out in the Bowman area for input from residents that this would effect. Mr. Thomas stated that we

received back over ninety (90) positive responses from this survey. The residents were made aware of a \$500 tap on fee. Commercial tap on fee is \$750. Normally, the tap on fee is \$1,000, and this is a one time offer at \$500. The next step is to approve a "Work Order" to submit a funding application to GEFA requesting a grant and a loan. It will take about ninety days to hear from this. If we do not get this grant and loan, we will be liable for about \$60,000, which would have to come from General Fund. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to proceed with the application to GEFA. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

HOTEL/MOTEL TAX AGREEMENT WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

According to state law, we have an agreement with the Chamber of Commerce to use forty per cent (40%) of our hotel-motel tax during the year for tourism. According to County Attorney Bill Daughtry, this is not new - we have done this for years. Now our auditors have advised us that we have to have this agreement in writing to make it legal. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the agreement drawn up by Mr. Daughtry. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION FOR JUDICIAL IN REM TAX FORCLOSURES: This resolution will allow our Tax Commissioner to conduct judicial tax sales. Courthouse step sales, that we have now, has proven to be a problem with titles. This resolution will allow Tax Commissioner Lorrie Higginbotham to serve lien holders papers, with a judges signature. More importantly, it will allow for a more timely resolution of property in foreclosure sales. In the event of no sale, the County will attempt to sell on its own through sealed bids. The property will belong to the County until sold. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

IDENTITY THEFT POLICY: This policy is required by the Fair Credit Reporting Act in an effort to protect employees, customers, contractors and the County from data loss, identity theft and the misuse of sensitive information. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

SUB-LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ELBERT COUNTY BOC, ELBERT COUNTY BOE AND ACTION, INC.: There are buildings at Falling

Creek Elementary and Boman Elementary Schools that were built by the County with a block grant. ACTION, INC. is occupying these buildings and maintaining them. The Elbert County Board of Education is proposing that we sign a lease with ACTION on these buildings. County Attorney Bill Daughtry stated that there is also a modular home at Falling Creek School that should be included in this lease, as it is being used by ACTION. With this lease the County is under no obligation, financially or otherwise, for these buildings. All costs will be to ACTION, INC. (YMCA of Atlanta is the parent company for ACTION, INC. - JUST FYI.) Commissioner Albertson made a motion to agree to this lease with ACTION. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS: Upon implementation of our new Zoning Ordinance, we are required to establish a Planning Commission. Each commissioner can appoint one member. The County Chairman is to appoint two members. There are terms for two and four years. Districts two, four and one appointment from the Chairman will serve four year terms. Districts one, three, five and one appointment from the Chairman will serve two year terms. * A motion was made to adopt this format by Commissioner Albertson. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. On the next issue, Commissioners were asked for their appointments to the Planning Commission. They are as follows:

District 1, Horace Harper	Rod Daniel
District 2, W.D. Albertson	will submit name later
District 3, Frank Eaves	Pete Higginbotham
District 4, John Hubbard	Rev. Thomas Jackson
District 5, Jerry Hewell	Neil Cromer
Chairman Tommy Lyon	John Ruffin - 2 year term
	Lee Vaughn - 4 year term

Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept these nominees for the Planning Commission. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ART COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE: The Board was asked to for a Board member to serve on the Art Council. A motion was made by Commissioner Hubbard to appoint Commissioner Albertson to serve. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

RENAMING AND NAMING NEW MEMBERS TO THE RICHARD B.

RUSSELL AUTHORITY : The members are as follows: Wayne Ward, Daniel Graves, Gary Jones, Steve Howe, Walter McNeeley, Stan Ayers and Tommy Lyon. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept these members. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Hewell against.

FINANCE REPORT: Administrator Bob Thomas reported that the year was not yet closed out, due to accounting procedures still to be done. Accruals should put us within two to three per cent under budget. This should be all completed in twenty to thirty days, and we should have a finalized report for the August meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tim Case asked for the amount of the total budget. Commissioner Eaves informed him it is \$14,721,715.00, which is approximately \$1.1 million dollars less than last year. Mike Wallace of the audience stated that other counties did not charge to see fireworks. Chairman Lyon informed him that we had no control of other counties. He told Mr. Wallace that the State got \$5 of the entrance fee of \$8. The other \$3, plus concession sales, helped to pay for the fireworks. Mr. Wallace also said that he would like to see members from all walks of life, especially a farmer, on the Planning Commission. Chairman Lyon assured him that there would be a farmer chosen.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Lyon gave the invocation. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, Commissioner Albertson, County Administrator Bob Thomas, Finance Director Daniel Goode, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of Agenda: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the minutes from the July, 2009, meeting. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Special Recognition of Elbert County Citizens: On July 25th, 2009, the life of little Courtney Alexander, a four year old girl, was saved by the heroic efforts of a group of citizens of Elbert County. The incident occurred at Lake Richard B. Russell, where the child was swimming when she went under water. Due to the quick response of those closeby, her life was saved. A proclamation was presented to Shenika Jackson, Mike Terry, Shari Dye, Dana Scott, Bobby Almond, Dustin Reinfeld, Ronald Mooney, Spencer Strong, Rodney Willis, Rick Mewborn, Bobby Howell and Jonathan Burnette.

Update from Chamber of Commerce: Sandra Brown, Chairman of the Chamber, came before the Board of Commissioners to give an update on the activities being sponsored by the Chamber. The most recent event was the fireworks display on July 3rd, 2009, at Richard B. Russell State Park. Mrs. Brown stated that this was the largest show ever and was attended by approximately 2500 people. The next event will be a triathlon to be held this Saturday, August 15th, 2009, at Russell State Park. The Chamber continues to sell t-shirts and tote bags. The annual Granite City Fall Festival will be held on November 7th. Vendors need to contact the Chamber to reserve a spot. Mrs. Brown thanked the Commission Board for their continued support.

Anna Grant Jones, Economic Developer spoke on GRAD Program: The GRAD (Guaranteed Ready for Accelerated Development - Industrial Site Program) Program is through the Georgia Department of Economic Development. If we take the steps to prepare a spot at our Industrial park to have it certified, it will place Elbert County higher on the list for projects. The estimated cost of the requirements to become certified is \$12,550. This cost will be divided among Elbert County, City of Elberton and City of Bowman. The City of Elberton has already approved for Mrs. Grant-Jones to move forward in submitting an application. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion that we give our approval for Mrs. Grant-Jones to act on this request. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Christa Campbell, Extension Office, spoke on approved grant: Christa Campbell, Family and Consumer Science Agent for the Elbert County Extension Office, came before the Board to announce that she had applied for a grant on behalf of our local 4H and has been one of the two counties that the grant was awarded to. The other county is Putnam. This grant is for Children, Youth & Families at Risk, and it is in conjunction with the Elbert County School System. It is a five year/\$100,000 a year grant. The goal is to reach youth that are at risk of not finishing high school. The school will choose 15-20 participants from 9th graders. The funds will flow thru the Board of Education. The \$100,000 will be shared by UGA, Putnam County and Elbert County. Mrs. Campbell stated that Elbert County will get approximately \$25,000 this year.

Review & Approval of Health Insurance Programs: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to table this to the September meeting due to another bid coming in. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of Amendments to Roads & Bridges Ordinance: Chairman Lyon appointed Commissioner Eaves to form a committee of local citizens who deal with large trucks in their line of business to study the current ordinance on roads and bridges and make suggestions on how they think it should read. Chairman Lyon states that our goal is to preserve the roads in Elbert County, and to do it in a way that is advantageous to everyone involved. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to approve this committee headed by Commissioner Eaves. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion on providing Animal Control service to the City of Bowman: At one time Elbert County provided this service to Bowman, but it was discontinued

at Bowman's request. They are now requesting Animal Control service again. County Attorney Bill Daughtry will submit a proposal to the City of Bowman to make it clear on what that service will be. One possibility will be for their officer to catch the animal and put it in a holding pen. We could then pick the animals up and place them at our shelter. Commissioner Albertson stated that there should be a minimum of animals we will pick up to keep from going to Bowman every day. Once we get a response from Bowman, we will finalize this request in the September meeting. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to submit a proposal to the City of Bowman. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review & Preliminary Approval of Travel Trailer Park: County Administrator Bob Thomas reminded the Board that this is only a preliminary approval and not final. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to approve the planned Travel Trailer Park at this point. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Canal Wood offer to cut timber: Canal Wood has offered to cut the remaining timber on the old landfill site at the corner of Jenkins Road and Old Middleton Road. It was stated by Mr. Thomas that this land is owned jointly by the City of Elberton and Elbert County. He will talk with the city manager to get his view on this request and get back to the Board. There was no action taken on this request.

Paving bids on Rice Circle and Ruck Lane: County Administrator Bob Thomas needs to get with Attorney Bill Daughtry to get a descriptive easement before we take action on these bids.

Acceptance of Department of Justice Grant: Elbert County and the City of Elberton submitted a grant for communications equipment enhancement in the amount of \$40,077. Elbert County's portion of the grant will be used by EMS and the Sheriff's department. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to accept this grant. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report: Due to changing over the accounting system and a new chart of accounts, there is no report ready this month. When these changes are complete, Finance Director Daniel Goode will compile the reports for July and August.

Public Comments: Wanda Sims, resident on Rice Circle, questioned the length of time to obtain the easement before paving begins on Rice Circle. Chairman Lyon assured her that we would vote on the paving bids at the September meeting, and paving would begin two to three weeks after that.

Executive Session: A motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel and Litigation was made by Commissioner Hubbard. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. A motion was made to come out of Executive Session by Commissioner Eaves. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. No action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjournment: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Albertson. Those present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioners W.D. Albertson, Frank Eaves, John Hubbard and Jerry Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, County Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of Agenda: Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eaves. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the minutes for the August 10th, 2009, meeting. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

✓ **Request by Sis Sewell for a refund of property taxes.** Ms. Sewell came before the Board requesting a refund for overpayment of taxes for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008. She stated that the description of her property was wrong for those years. The garage portion of her home is not heated and; therefore, not livable. Her argument is that she should only be taxed on the part of the house that she actually heats and lives in. County Attorney Bill Daughtry informed Ms. Sewell that the tax bills for 2006, 2007 and 2008 had been corrected, and that the property cards for those years show that her house is fifty per-cent (50%) functional obsolescent, meaning that only half of the house is livable. Mr. Daughtry further states that the garage portion for those three years was not taxed at all. On her 2008 property bill this was corrected, which made a considerable increase in her taxes. Mr. Daughtry stated that since her property cards are correct, she is not owed any tax refund. Commissioner Eaves informed Ms. Sewell that she has a right to three appeals. The first should be before the Board of Assessors, the second to the Board of Equalization and the third to the Superior Court. Commissioner Eaves told Ms. Sewell that he would meet with her in the Commissioner's Office and help guide her in this process. There was no response to a request for a motion on a refund. The request died for lack of a motion.

Approval of Millage Rate for Elbert County: There will be a slight decrease in the millage rate for Elbert County in 2009. In the unincorporated area, the rate drops from 9.73 to 9.71. In the incorporated area, it drops from 10.500 to 10.496. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve this millage rate. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-2 with Commissioners Eaves and Hewell against.

Approval of Millage Rate for the Elbert County BOE: On September 14th, 2009, the Board of Education met and set the millage at 15.95 for the 2010 fiscal year. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve the mill rate set by the Elbert County Board of Education. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

First Reading to Amend Chapter 58 of the Code of Ordinances (Heavy Hauling) for Elbert County: Last month Chairman Lyon asked Commissioner Eaves to head a committee of various individuals in the County that are in the trucking industry to get their input on amending this ordinance. He met with a group of men along with County Manager Bob Thomas and County Attorney Bill Daughtry on several occasions. They came up with several changes, some of which are that an unloaded truck can travel on county roads, timber cutting permits must be displayed in sight for everyone to see and the maximum penalty was reduced from \$1,000 to \$500 for the third offense or sixty days in jail. The committee's main goal is to stop abuse of county roads.

New Volunteer Fire Stations in Elbert County: We are in need of at least three fire stations in Elbert County. One is needed on the Athens Hwy. in the Sweet City area, one at Harper's Ferry and one in the Ruckersville area. Home owners insurance will go up significantly if the residents are not within five road miles of a volunteer fire station. These areas will go from a Class 5 to a Class 10 if these stations are not built. It is the Commission Board's goal to offer all County residents the same fire coverage. Applications for grants to help fund these stations have been submitted; however, we will not hear from these until January. We could borrow the money to build the stations and pay it back when the grant money comes in. One and a half acres is needed for each station. We already have \$17,000 in an account for the Sweet City station. We could start with this by clearing the land, doing a septic tank and well. Mr. Thomas will contact the USDA about a low interest loan and have this information at the October meeting. Monty Dixon, Chairman of the Fire Board, said that eight to ten volunteers are needed to open a station. Commissioner Albertson made a motion

to proceed with building two or three fire stations. Commissioner Eaves spoke up and stated that we definitely need to go for all three stations at once. If we need to, we can vote a year in advance to put the fire stations on a referendum for SPLOST money. Commissioner Albertson rescinded his first vote and made a motion to proceed with building three fire stations. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Truck Bids for Extension Office: The Extension Office does have \$30,000 in their budget for a new truck. It was decided that for pulling horse and cattle trailers it will probably be better to have a diesel engine. Ed Murdock had the low bid for a diesel 2010 F Series Ford at \$28,790.00 and Jacky Jones had the low bid for the gas engine at \$23,147.00. Both vehicles will have to be ordered. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to purchase the diesel from Ed Murdock. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

David Freeman to replace Neil Cromer on the Planning Commission: Mr. Cromer resigned from the Planning Commission. David Freeman is willing to accept the position. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to accept Mr. Freeman to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. ✓

Amendment to Ordinance for Bulk Waste Container Contents: Wording of the ordinance was changed to add the following items that can be placed in the bulk waste containers: children's toys, garden hoses, fluorescent bulbs, styrofoam products, mops and brooms. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to amend the ordinance to include these items. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Insert Letter in County Tax Bills: This year the Georgia General Assembly and the Governor did not fund the Homeowners Tax Relief Grant due to financial strains on the state budget. This will result in an increase of approximately \$200 to \$300 on this years individual county property tax bills. The Board of Commissioners feel that we should insert a letter in the tax bills explaining this increase. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to insert this letter of explanation in all tax bills. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Albertson. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Changes in County Water System per HB489: Counties and cities have to co-

operate on services. The City of Elberton provides water to some of the unincorporated areas as does the City of Bowman. The County has to adopt a Service Delivery Strategy, which insures that we will not go into the areas where water is already provided by the Cities of Bowman and Elberton. There will be no competition between the three. The cities also have to adopt a Service Delivery Strategy agreeing to the same. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt a Service Delivery Strategy. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Elbert County Transpo Drug Policy: The Transpo Policy does not prohibit legal drugs as long as they do not impair the driver's abilities in any way. If the employee is taking prescription or over the counter drugs, he/she is to inform the supervisor. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this policy. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Airport FY2009 Entitlement Fund Projects: Randy Haralson, Elbert County Airport Manager and Reg Weaver of W.K. Dickson appeared before the Board to discuss these projects. We get \$150,000 from the FAA every year for improvement projects. The State gives another five per cent as well. The first project that will be financed from this \$150,000 is the completion of the taxiway at an approximate cost of \$42,741. Another project is the runway striping and re-marking at approximately \$20,000. The last project and the most costly is an Airport Layout Plan Update. We have not had one done since the 70's. Most of the update will be done by FAA. They will complete a new GPS survey for approaches, new mapping, possible new entrance, possibility of moving the office to another site at the airport, what the airport could look like in twenty years and most important this update assures us of eligibility for more grants in the future. This update will be good for fifteen to twenty years. Also, Randy has applied to the Air Georgia Grant Fund for a \$1.7 million grant to be used to extend the west end of the runway (toward Elberton) one thousand feet. However, this grant is just in the beginning stages. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve these projects. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harper. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Asphalt Paving Equipment: This purchase is for a 1999 Leeboy 8000. It comes with two rollers, and we can get all three pieces for \$19,000. It is valued at \$22,500 to \$24,000. This paver will be used for small road jobs, patch work and overlay. County employees will be able to operate this equipment. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to purchase this equipment. Commissioner Harper

seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Health Insurance: We have had four meetings regarding a health insurance program for full-time employees. County Administrator Bob Thomas recommends that we stay with BlueCross and BlueShield at no increase in premiums. The only change will be a \$5 increase in co-pays. Commissioner Harper made a motion to accept this recommendation. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Off-System Safety Improvement Project: This project is funded by the Federal Transportation System. County Administrator Bob Thomas stated that we advertised for bids for four weeks in the paper. We sent out bid packets, but only one bid was received in the amount of \$108,080.50. This will be for road striping, signs and stop bars on eighty-five miles of various county roads. We can add additional projects after the initial ones are taken care of. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this bid of \$108,080.50. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Change in Meeting Date for October: The second Monday in October will be Columbus Day. Since that is a County holiday, County Administrator Bob Thomas suggests that we move our monthly meeting to Monday, October 19th, at 5:30 p.m. The work session will be on Wednesday, October 14th at 4:30 p.m. (There were prior engagements on Thursday, 15th.) Commissioner Hewell made a motion to move our monthly meeting to October 19th. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Eaves. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report: County Administrator Thomas informed the Board that we are still having issues in the change over to a non-profit software program. This change over was at the request of our auditors. Everyone is under budget at this time, and Finance Director Daniel Goode assures the Board that they will have the reports by the end of the week.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Executive Session for Personnel: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go into Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Hewell. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Upon re-entering the Commission Meeting Room, Commissioner Harper made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion in Executive Session regarded two employees at the Detention Center that have completed their certification for jailer training. A \$1.00 an hour increase in pay was requested by Jail Administrator Mike Thompson for each of these employees. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve this increase in pay. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the pledge to the United States flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner John Hubbard. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioners Albertson, Eaves, Hubbard and Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of agenda: The agenda was amended to add the Second Reading of the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 58, Heavy Hauling and First Reading to amend Chapter 62 of the Code of Ordinances to clarify the intent of Sections 62-51 thru 62-55 of said chapter. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harper. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of minutes from September 14th, 2009: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Forestry Commission report: Wesley Moss of the Forestry Commission could not be present tonite. County Administrator Bob Thomas gave each commissioner a report that Mr. Moss had left and stated that the Forestry Commission appreciates the County's support.

Reverend Barnett, Granite City Cook-Off: Reverend Barnett came before the Board to express his appreciation for their support during the recent cook-off event. He plans for this to be an annual event and will need their support again.

Centerville Community road closing request: The Centerville community request the closing of the dirt part of Plantation Road for a fund raising activity for the Centerville Fire Department from October 26th through November 1st, 2009, from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to grant this

request. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of using a consultant for transportation needs for Elbert County:

The purpose of having a consultant will be that of advising and assisting Elbert County in obtaining funding assistance from state or federal funds. The consultant will meet with DOT personnel to discuss projects and explore funding options, to communicate emphasis on projects and will attend DOT Board meetings, other relevant meetings and workshops to foster the accomplishment of the scope of work. The consultant will work closely with County Administrator Bob Thomas. Compensation for the consultant will be \$720 per month. Should it become necessary to engage with the legislature to advance these projects, the monthly compensation will be increased to \$1720 per month for the period January thru March, 2010. Commissioner Harper made a motion to enter into an agreement with a consultant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eaves. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Update on construction of three new volunteer fire stations: County Administrator Bob Thomas told the Board that the acre of land off the Athens Hwy. has been cleared. They are trying to decide on drilling a well or using the City for water. At this time there is no land for the other two stations. Mr. Thomas has been talking with USDA about a loan for these stations. He has a meeting set up with them for further discussion. However, using them will be an approximate 90-120 day process. Commissioner Eaves suggested borrowing the money from a bank until the USDA loan comes through, at which time we could pay off the bank loan. He does not feel we have time to wait for the process of a loan through USDA. He also feels that we should buy land instead of waiting for someone to donate it for these stations. It is possible that ACCG can provide financial assistance through a lease/buy-back program. Commissioner Harper stressed the importance of obtaining bids for all three stations in the beginning. Mr. Thomas has been in contact with Fire Chief Rick Mewborne and Dennis Young on this project.

Discussion regarding the Public Hearing on a solid waste handling facility:

The following motions had to be made in order for Elbert County to give consideration for any proposals for a Solid Waste Needs Hearing.

Motion 1) Commissioner Hewell made a motion that Elbert County give

appropriate consideration to any proposal received for development of an alternative to disposal of solid waste generated in the county through a waste-to-energy facility that includes creation and use of renewable energy from waste and if a proposal is received, that the appropriate county officials are authorized to develop for consideration an appropriate amendment to the Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Harper. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Motion 2) Commissioner Harper made a motion to authorize the County Attorney Bill Daughtry, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves and staff to give consideration to any proposed contractual agreement presented to the County by a waste-to-energy facility as an alternative waste disposal method and authorizing appropriate County staff to receive and process any request for initiation of a Development of Regional Impact (DRI) to the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission for potential development. Commissioner Hubbard second this motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. **(Please note that Commissioner Albertson and Commissioner Eaves volunteered to serve in this capacity.)**

Approval to add new road name - Ware Drive off Athens Hwy: This approval is for road name only for E-911 and emergency purposes and does not include county maintenance. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to approve Ware Drive as a new road name. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Preliminary approval of Knott's RV Park: This approval will be for ten spaces at Nickville and Reagin Road. It will be subject to Health Department approval first. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve these ten spaces contingent upon Health Department approval. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Hewell. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of architect's contract for Armory renovation: This contract will be with Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc. for Phase II renovation of the Armory Auditorium and Museum. This firm handled Phase I also. This renovation will be financed

through a 80/20 grant from the DOT TE Fund. The Historical Society will pay the twenty per cent from the Woodruff Grand Funds. There will be no cost to Elbert County. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the contract with Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Update and review County water system: Due to policy changes, we will now have to make a loan in the amount of \$1.5 million dollars instead of the original \$1 million. County Administrator Bob Thomas stated that we need to go ahead with this. He will report back with more information at the next meeting.

Costs of upcoming Coroner's inquest: County Coroner Chuck Almond has informed the Board that he has to sequester an inquest on the death of an inmate. This is required by State law when an inmate dies while incarcerated. He anticipates the amount to be around \$2,000.00. County Administrator Bob Thomas says that since this was not budgeted, the expenses can come from the Contingency Fund. It is also possible that the Coroner's budget could come under and could still be taken from there. Commissioner Albertson made a motion for the County to cover the expenses for this inquest. Commissioner Harper second the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

EMS Transfer Policy: This policy establishes rules and regulations for transporting patients for long distances. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve this policy. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Second and Final Reading of Heavy Hauling Ordinance: This was the second and final reading of Chapter 58 of Code of Ordinances for Heavy Hauling. The First Reading was on September 14th, 2009. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve and adopt this ordinance as read. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

First Reading to amend Chapter 62 of the Code of Ordinances: This amendment is to clarify the intent of Sections 62-51 thru 62-55 of said chapter. This will provide a definition of the terms "private disposal site", "landfill", "waste disposal area" and "waste storage area" as used in said chapter. It will also repeal conflicting ordinances. For First Reading only.

Finance Report: County Administrator Bob Thomas reported that all departments are in line. We are under five per cent overall. He advised that we should have an auditor's report in December. He requested amending the Tax Assessor's budget by \$10,000, due to mapping maintenance being omitted. This will have to come from the Contingency Fund. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the amendment to the Tax Assessor's budget. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Hewell against.

Executive Session: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. On re-entering the Meeting Room, Commissioner Eaves made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. During the Executive Session County Administrator Bob Thomas brought before the Board requests for pay increases due to certifications and promotions due to rank changes. All of these increases will be within budget. There were two requests from the EMS, one from the Senior Center, three from the Sheriff's Department and two from the Detention Center. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve these rate changes. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Lyon brought before the Board another issue of importance to the Administrative Office. He informed the Board of another county approaching County Administrator Bob Thomas with the offer of County Administrator for their county. Chairman Lyon further stated that we have had an ordinance in effect for years that states the County Administrator should make fifteen per cent over the highest paid elected official. At this time, Mr. Thomas does not make as much as our elected officials. Chairman Lyon suggests that we increase his salary to \$81,900.00, which will be approximately \$600.00 more than the highest paid elected official. Commissioner Eaves stated that since we are under a hiring and salary freeze at this time, he could not vote for a pay increase for anyone. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve the salary increase for Mr. Thomas. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-2 with Commissioner Eaves and Commissioner Hewell against.

Adjournment: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 2009

Present for this meeting are Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

In the absence of Chairman Tommy Lyon, Vice-Chairman Harper called the meeting to order.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the agenda. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Hubbard. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED NEW FIRE STATIONS: County Administrator Bob Thomas informed the Board that in addition to the three fire stations, we will need to purchase two new fire trucks. The low bidder on the last truck purchased, Fireline, Inc. from Winder, has made an offer to reduce each truck by \$20,000 to \$30,000 each if they are purchased by the end of October. These will be 2009's, as the 2010's will cost more due to changes. We can get two trucks for \$330,600.00. Also, we will have to purchase equipment packages for these two trucks and one more truck. Each package will be \$50,000, which will include hose, airpicks, nozzles, radio equipmen, etc. The total cost for two trucks and three packages is \$480,600. Rick Mewborne and Dennis Young were at the meeting to discuss the costs of the new stations. They will be obtaining prices on a block building and metal building. This will be put out for sealed bids. It is to be ran in the paper for two weeks. Plans are to have the bids in and a decision made by the next meeting on Monday, November 16th, 2009. Construction could possibly start the first of December, 2009. Mr. Thomas is talking with several people about possible sites for the stations at Pearl Mill and Ruckersville. He was advised to make Pinnacle Bank an offer for their land in Ruckersville. He will update the Board at the November 16th meeting. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to move ahead with the purchase of two new fire trucks and three equipment packages. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Due to existing conflicts, the November meeting will be held on the third Monday, November 16th, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. The work session will be held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH, 2009

In the absence of Chairman Tommy Lyon, Vice Chairman Horace Harper called the meeting to order. Present for the meeting were: Vice-Chair Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of agenda: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discuss and approve Worker's Comp Insurance proposal for November and December, 2009: County Administrator Bob Thomas informed the Board that about a month ago we began receiving mail from our then Worker's Comp Insurance carrier, SEUS, that they were having financial difficulties but were trying to work through their problems. We then received a letter from the Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, John Oxendine, informing us that the business for SUES, Inc. would not be continued. We have been faced with finding coverage for November and December of this year. Jimmy Brown with Franklin Insurance Agency has not been able to obtain a quote. ACCG has quoted \$21,563 to cover the County for November and December, 2009. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to contract with ACCG for the remainder of this year. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 4-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Chairman Lyon. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, Finance Director Daniel Goode and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of Agenda: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the agenda. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Harper. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes for October 19th, October 28th and November 6th, 2009: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Steve Longcrier, Georgia Civil War Heritage Trails, to give an update: Mr. Longcrier came before the Board to update them on the progress they are making and of the status of Elbert County's portion of the trail. Elbert County has two sites on this trail. One is Dan Tucker's Grave and the second is the Confederate Veteran's Monument. Mr. Longcrier has worked with the Georgia DOT for over three years to get site plans approved. Elbert County has contributed \$5,000 to support this program, as did the City of Elberton and the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Longcrier took this opportunity to have a resolution presented to Bill Lester, a longtime member of this program and a volunteer for six years to the Board of Trustees to the GA Civil War Heritage Trail. Chairman Lyon read the resolution and presented it to Mr. Lester.

Approval and Adoption of amendments to Chapter 62 of the Code of Ordinances: After the second reading of this ordinance, Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the amendments as read. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chris Quigley, Peoples and Quigley, to review meeting with GEFA: Chris informed the Board that GEFA will vote on 11/17/09 on funds to loan. He recommends that we start with a small loan at first (maybe \$500,000). Payments will start after it is operational. A USDA loan is a longer process. There has to be an Environmental Report submitted just to get on the table. There would have to be \$25,000 from the County to get started. We would have to lay out a project, and then USDA will take over, process the numbers and tell us the amount they will loan. Chris still thinks we should proceed with USDA even though it could be a minimum of one and a half years to finalize the loan. In the meantime, we have to decide on the best course of finance until the loan can be made. More discussion on this project at the next meeting.

Beer and Wine License Renewals for 2010: There were sixteen licenses for to be renewed for 2010. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve these licenses. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of restricted truck traffic on roads less than twenty feet wide: Some of our county roads are less than twenty feet wide. This is a safety issue with a large truck on the road along with another vehicle going in opposite directions. County Administrator Bob Thomas will be asked to get a list of all roads that fall into this category and have appropriate signs put up.

Update on fire stations and property: Rick Mewborne informed the Board that two new fire trucks should be in this week or the first of next week. Request for bids have been sent out for either a metal building or a block building. County employees will be used to complete the inside of these buildings. The bid opening will be Thursday, November 19th, 2009, at 12:00 noon in the Commissioner's Meeting Room. After the commissioners and Bob Thomas have had time to look over each bid, a decision will be made. Property on the Athens Hwy. has already been secured for that station. The Addison family is going to donate land for the station at Pearl Mill Road and Middleton Road. Max Black is willing to sell the County two acres on the Ruckersville Road for a station in that area.

Request to purchase and update radios from Sheriff's Dept: Sheriff Barry Haston is requesting a little over \$20,000 from SPLOST funds to purchase and update radios to the new digital system which is required by FCC before 2012. After a motion of approval was made by Commissioner Harper and seconded by

Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Eaves requested tabling this request till the December meeting. He stated that truck traffic is still a problem, and there is an issue he spoke to the Sheriff about that he still has not taken care of. Chairman Lyon said that he had spoken with the Sheriff, and he is working on these traffic problems and working with us. Unfortunately, the truck traffic is not his only priority. Commissioner Hewell asked EMS/911 Director Chuck Almond for his opinion on this request. Mr. Almond stated that he is about seventy-five per cent there in making this change. He informed the Board that the City has gone ahead and done an upgrade. This change by the City is causing a "bleed over" on our frequency. The calls are not clear, and this could cause a serious problem. A motion to table was made by Commissioner Eaves. The motion to table was seconded by Commissioner Hewell. Upon voting the motion failed 2-3, with Commissioners Harper, Albertson and Hubbard against. A motion was then made to grant the request to upgrade the radio system at the Sheriff's Department by Commissioner Albertson. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 3-2 with Commissioner's Eaves and Hewell against.

Financial Report: Daniel Goode, Finance Director, informed the Board that all departments are doing a good job. Parks and Rec made a large uniforms purchase at one time which put them slightly over. Overall we are 5.3% under budget. The audit report should be ready in January with the anticipated completion in December. Commissioner Harper inquired as to how the SPLOST is coming in. Mr. Goode said that it is ahead of projection. It is about 14.5% ahead at this point.

Public Comments: On the water system, Chip Rousey wanted to know if we have plans other than using city water. He was told that we have discussed other plans. Kenneth Ashworth wants a definition for "disposal sights". County Attorney Bill Daughtry told him that he would get that for him.

Adjournment: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Those present were Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

REVIEW AND APPROVE BID FOR NEW FIRE STATIONS: There was a total of ten bids turned in for the construction of three volunteer fire departments. There were three bids for block buildings. Seven bids were turned in for metal buildings. The amount for block buildings ranged from \$70,321 to \$103,795 per building. On metal buildings amounts ranged from \$51,323 to \$89,000 per building. After discussion of the bids presented, Commissioner Albertson made a motion to accept the bid of \$153,968.00 or \$51,323 per building from Craft Construction. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 2009

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Eaves. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and Finance Director Daniel Goode.

Adoption of Agenda: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes for November 6th, November 16th and November 25th: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Robert T. Sides to request property tax relief: A resident of Elbert County, Robert T. Sides, came before the Board to ask that the Board waive penalties and interest from his tax bill. He bought property with a mobile home on it. He found out later that there were back taxes owed on the mobile home. He did not know this in the beginning. He will pay the taxes. He is only asking that the penalties and interest be waived. This item failed for lack of a motion.

Approval for EMS to submit a grant for an ambulance: This grant will be to the Georgia Trauma Commission for \$72,000. This request is for permission to submit the grant only. The difference on the amount of the ambulance will come out of next year's budget. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to give EMS Director Chuck Almond permission to move forward with grant application. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chris Quigley to update the status of the water system: GEFA is no longer doing grants. Everything must be a loan. A \$500,000 loan has been discussed, but

that will only connect about thirty-five customers. That will not generate enough revenue for us to work with. We will continue to look at a loan from USDA and other options. USDA requires an environmental study which will cost about \$25,000. This study has to be done first with approval to continue with this project.

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to move forward with the Environmental Study. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Before voting, Commissioner Hewell asked where the money will come from for this study. County Administrator Bob Thomas stated that the money is in our budget for "professional services". Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review and approve bid for 2010 Workers Comp Insurance: Two bids were received on the Workers' Comp Insurance - Franklin Insurance and ACCG. Franklin Insurance Agency submitted a low bid of \$114,843/annually. This bid was \$29,000 less than ACCG. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to go with Franklin Insurance for our Workers' Comp Insurance coverage. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review and approve bid for 2010 Tax Anticipation Note: Three bids were submitted for the Tax Anticipation Note: 1)Regions Bank, (2) Pinnacle Bank and (3) Northeast Georgia Bank. Pinnacle Bank offered the lowest fixed rate of 3.90%. Also, the "Sweep Account" that we had with them past year saved the County \$12,000 during the course of the year. County Administrator Bob Thomas recommends staying with Pinnacle Bank. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go with Pinnacle Bank for the Tax Anticipation Note. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Appointment of Larry Smith to the Industrial Development Authority: If approved, Mr. Smith will represent the County on the Authority for a six year term. He has previously represented the City, but he now resides in the county. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to appoint Mr. Smith to the industrial Development Authority. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of facility Use Agreement with Elbert County Little League Program: We were in the agreement last year with the Little League , and it worked well. The Little League runs the program and make all the purchases. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to continue the agreement with the Little League program. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the

motion carried 5-0.

Approval of \$1,500 fee for NEGRC to prepare a grant application to DCA:

This grant will be for a Community Development Block Grant Employment Incentive Program. Pamas is wanting to expand their business, which would create about twenty job openings. The cost to expand will be approximately \$162,000. This grant will be handled by the Board of Commissioners through the Administrative Office. Commissioner Harper made a motion to proceed with this grant application. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Before voting County Administrator Bob Thomas stated that we have money in the budget for professional services. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Appointment of a representative to the Joint Development of Northeast

Georgia: This authority includes Elbert, Jackson, Madison and Oglethorpe Counties. The appointment will be for a term of two years. Mr. Thomas recommended Anna Grant Jones to represent Elbert County. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve Mrs. Jones' appointment. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Request to approve the Northern Judicial Circuit Probation Office as a special revenue department of Elbert County: County Administrator Bob Thomas asked to table this request until further research into the cost is completed. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to table this request at Mr. Thomas' request. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval to submit an additional application to DOT for road safety signs and striping: This application will be in addition to the most recent application. This is money from a safety program through the Federal government. We will gain about \$150,000 in work for approximately ninety miles. We will know in March, 2010, if we are approved. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to submit the application. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review and approve a resolution of the Elbert County BOC amending the effective date of a resolution establishing a minimum number of acres as a condition for qualifying for the current use assessment of real property located in Elbert County: This is for the Conservation Use Program, and at this time, one has to have twenty-five acres to qualify. The Board will be authorizing

that amount to be reduced to fifteen acres. The 2010 renewals can be used instead of the proposed 2012. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve this amendment to the resolution. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review and approve a resolution of the Elbert County BOC amending a resolution of the Board dated April 10th, 2006, which delegated to the Board of Assessors the authority to approve or disapprove taxpayers' claims of incorrect taxation and/or overpayment due to obvious clerical errors in the Tax Digest, and to adjust the Digest and authorize credits or refunds: The Board of Assessors now has the authority to go back five years and authorize refunds up to \$2,000. This amendment will change the law to only go back three years and up to \$2,000. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve this amendment. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Public comments: Tim Case asked if check s in the amount of \$29,000 had been written and refunded to individuals/companies? County Administrator Bob Thomas replied that this had been done.

Financial Report: County Administrator Bob Thomas reported that the total budget is 6.5% under. All but two department are within budget, and these two should adjust themselves in the next month. Mr. Thomas plans to start meeting with each department head to see what is anticipated in the next six months.

Adjournment: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, 2009
12:00 NOON

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioners Albertson, Eaves, Hubbard, and Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to go into Executive Session for discussion of litigation against Elbert County. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. There was no action taken while in Executive Session.

Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 11TH, ~~2009~~ 2010

283-6620

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Chairman Lyon. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, Commissioner John Hubbard, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and Finance Director Daniel Goode.

Adoption of Agenda: Chairman Lyon asked to amend the agenda by moving Item 7 (Sandra Brown of the Chamber) up to Item 5. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adopt the agenda with this change. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Sandra Brown, Chamber Chairperson: Chairperson Brown came before the Board to give an update on the Chamber of Commerce from August through December, 2009. They continue to sell t-shirts, tote bags, brochures and other items to the public and visitors to the county. There were four hundred participants in the triathlon held at Richard B. Russell Park. The Chamber also had a booth at the Elbert County Fair. Mrs. Brown thanked the commissioners for their help through the Hotel/Motel Tax, which helped make these events possible.

Kevin Lewis, Citizens for Public Awareness: Mr. Brown represents this group and came before the Board to express their concerns on the incinerator and the landfill that are proposed to come to Elbert County. The Citizens for Public Awareness oppose both of these projects and ask for a moratorium of at least six months before deciding or taking a final vote on one of these projects. They believe that each proposes a risk to our health, property and that the value of the surrounding property will decrease. He stated that people are either uninformed or

misinformed. The CPA recommend that we authorize an independent comprehensive feasibility study and also form an advisory panel of citizens to work on this issue along with the Board of Commissioners.

Mike Jones, Councilman from Carlton: Councilman Jones came before the Board to express his concerns on the waste to energy projects on behalf of the City Council of Carlton. He stated that Carlton and Elbert County have always been good neighbors, and that a lot of Carlton citizens come into Elberton to shop. In the event that the incinerator is built in Elbert County, they have concerns for the air and water quality and also for the increase in truck traffic coming through Carlton. He wants more information from Green First on the "truck traffic", and what they will be responsible for. He feels this is needed before permits are given.

Jimmy White, Jim-Ree African American Museum: Mr. White is asking the County to apply for a grant through USDA for improvements to the museum building on 24th South Oliver Street, which is a County owned building. This will be a Rural Business Enterprise Grant for \$99,999. Ms. Margaret Duck with the USDA has a package compiled on this grant for the County to review. This money will be used for heat and air, new plumbing, new electrical wiring and possibly new paint for the outside. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to move forward in applying for this grant. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Verdale Thompson, U.S. Census Representative: Ms. Thompson called before the meeting to let us know she could not be here tonite.

Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with City of Bowman: This will be for animal control in the City of Boman. They do not have an animal control office and are asking that we provide assistance to them. The City of Bowman approved the Memorandum of Understanding at their council meeting in December. They agree to capture the animals and bring them to us for \$20 each (cat or dog). Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Bowman. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review and discuss changes to Chapter 54 of the E.C. Ordinances by the Planning Commission: This was for a "First Reading" only. County Attorney Bill Daughtry explained the changes in the ordinance will be in the language, outdated provisions. We also now have five districts.

Approval of a Resolution Renewal for Emergency 911 Fees: This is something we do annually to re-establish the fees. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of a Resolution Renewal for a 911 "Emergency Telephone Fund" Surcharge: This resolution is also done annually. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval to amend the budget: The amendment will be to the Board of Commissioners' budget for a \$5,000 donation made by the Coggins Foundation. Commissioner Harper made a motion to amend the budget. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report: County Administrator Bob Thomas informed the Board that overall the budget is under seven per cent. There are two departments that are a little over, and he plans to meet with them this week. The Rec Department did have to buy more supplies because of more registrations than expected. Also, we have to be aware of the gas prices spiking again.

Public Comments: Twelve members from the audience came before the Board to speak on the proposed waste to energy projects. Eleven are against both projects. Audrey Hardin was the only citizen to have positive things to say. She firmly believes that the Commissioners will get all the answers before they make a decision for Elbert County. Chip Rousey wants this put on a referendum on the November election to allow the people to vote on one of these waste facilities coming to Elbert County. They are concerned with the air quality and the smell, toxic gases, heavy metals, effect on wildlife, water quality and property values. They seem to think we should continue to transfer our garbage out of the county as we are doing now. Wayne Childs stated that our tax revenues will go down, which will cause the millage rates to go up. Most of those that spoke did ask that the Board not make a hasty decision. They ask that they study and research the

incinerator fully before deciding. Chairman Lyon assured those in attendance that they will consider everything involved with this project, and that they should watch the local paper for updates.

Adjournment: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 2010

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chair Horace Harper, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of Agenda: Before adopting the agenda, Chairman Lyon asked to amend the agenda by adding approval of a Resolution to allow Athens Clarke County to participate in the Joint Development Authority of Northeast Georgia. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to approve this resolution being added to the agenda. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. With this change in the agenda, Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approve and adopt a resolution setting Qualifying Fees for 2010 election: Qualifying fees were set based on three per cent of the base salary of these positions. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approve DOT contract for repair work on Mineral Springs Road and Golf Course Road: This will be for resurfacing in the amount of \$304,570.03. County Administrator Bob Thomas said that we will prepare a contract to be sent to DOT for approval. We will then send it out for bids. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve this contract. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approve and adopt a resolution to allow Athens-Clarke County to participate in the Joint Development Authority of Northeast Georgia: Chairman Lyon stated that Athens-Clarke County wants to join because of the emphasis this authority puts on Northeast Georgia and for the benefits in applying for grants. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve and adopt this resolution.

Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.



ELBERT COUNTY
Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2010 - 4:30 P.M.

A public hearing was held for the purpose of informing the public and receiving public comments concerning a proposed amendment to the Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan, to include in that Plan an energy-from-waste solid waste disposal facility proposed to be located in Elbert County by Plant Granite, LLC. Prior to any of the public speaking, County Administrator Bob Thomas highlighted the changes to the Solid Waste Plan for clarification. There were approximately nine citizens to approach the Board and express their concerns about this amendment.

A second public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving public comments and input concerning the Board of Commissioners' determination of consistency of the energy-from-waste solid waste disposal facility proposed by Plant Granite, LLC. There were approximately eighteen citizens to approach the Board with concerns about decision by the Board.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOC - MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2010 - 5:30 P.M.

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Frank Eaves.

Those present for the meeting were Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, County Attorney Bill Daughtry and Finance Director Daniel Goode.

Adoption of Agenda: Before adopting the agenda, Chairman Lyon asked to amend the agenda by adding an "Executive Session" for pending litigation. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to amend the agenda for the Executive Session to be added. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Eaves then made a motion to adopt the agenda with this amendment. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of minutes for January 11th and January 25th, 2010: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Ernest DePascale, Attorney, representing landowners of Elbert County: Mr. DePascale came before the Board on behalf of several landowners of Elbert County that are concerned about the proposed incinerator to be built in Elbert County. He agrees that the Commissioners are trying to do something good for Elbert County, but asks that they not do so in such a rush. People are afraid and feel threatened by the “unknown”. He asks that the Board table this item and get our own independent study.

Kevin Lewis, CPA representative: Mr. Lewis came before the Board representing the Citizens for Public Awareness. He reminded the Board of the “Right to Vote Petition” that has been circulated. He asked that the Board consider a six month moratorium. He stated that at the last meeting he was told by the Chairman that there would be plenty of time for community involvement. Voting for this project in February does not give them that promised time. He asks that the Board delay voting for this project.

Approval and Adoption of proposed Host Agreement between Elbert County and Plant Granite, LLC: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this agreement with Plant Granite, LLC. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval and Adoption of resolution for proposed Amendment to Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan and transmittal of approved Plan as amended to Northeast Georgia RDC. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Solid Waste Plan. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of a determination of “consistency” of proposed energy-from-waste facility with Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan as amended, and Plan “consistency” letter to Georgia EPD. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the determination of “consistency” of the proposed energy-from-

waste facility with Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan as amended. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of authorization for Chairman Lyon to provide a letter of land use compliance for proposed Plant Granite, LLC, facility to Georgia EPD:

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve Chairman Lyon providing this letter to the Georgia EPD. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Second Reading of proposed changes to Chapter 54 of the Elbert County Ordinances by the Planning Commission: County Attorney Bill Daughtry read the proposed changes. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt and approve these changes to Chapter 54 of the Elbert County Ordinances. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chuck Almond, EMS Director, to come before the Board to request approval to purchase computer upgrades for EMS laptops grant award: Chuck explained that we have a State grant in the amount of \$8670. These laptops will help in providing information to the hospital while on calls. \$8850 is the County's portion in this year's budget. An additional \$4800 will come from next year's budget. This will be taken from the Contingency Fund. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Code Enforcement and Planning and Development request approval to purchase a new pick-up truck: An "Invitation to Bid" on a 2010 F-150 Ford 4x4 Super Crew was advertised by Patrick Hopp, Code Enforcement Officer. He received four bids. The low bid was from Ed Murdock for \$25,175. This will be paid from SPLOST Funds. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve this purchase from Ed Murdock. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval to declare three vehicles as surplus property: The vehicles are a 1987 Mac truck, 1994 Explorer (from Solid Waste) and a 1983 Ford Bronco (from Code Enforcement). These vehicles will be taken to Christian's Auction in March to be sold. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to declare these vehicles surplus. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of proposed wording of the Referendum Ballot for the July general primary election on the question of whether Elbert County should levy a new ad valorem tax of two mills for the benefit of Elbert Memorial Hospital: There was a request to table this to February 17th, 2010. Commissioner Eaves approved the request to table. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Jennifer Downer to Action Board: Jennifer Downer has agreed to serve on the Action Board in the vacancy left by Laura Evans. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve Ms. Downer to represent Elbert County on the Action Board. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Rick Mewborne, Elbert County Fire Chief, requests approval to advertise for bids for fire department equipment: The County Fire Department has been awarded a Federal grant in the amount of \$219,000. The County's match is 5%. Chief Mewborne is requesting approval to put out bids only for equipment. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to give approval to put out bids. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report: County Administrator Bob Thomas reported that the County is still about eight per cent under budget. There are still two departments that are slightly over budget, but they should even out before the end of the year.

Public Comments on agenda items: Again, we had citizens to come forward to speak on the proposed incinerator project. They are upset that the Board went ahead and voted to proceed with this project. They feel that their requests were completely disregarded. The Board will be held accountable for their actions.

Executive Session: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. There was no action taken.

Adjournment: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOC CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 2010 - 11:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tommy Lyon. Present for the meeting were Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Harper, Commissioner Albertson, Commissioner Eaves, Commissioner Hubbard, Commissioner Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn and County Attorney Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of agenda: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Tom Brown, Administrator, Elbert Memorial Hospital: Mr. Brown came before the Board to update them on hospital issues. He stated that the hospital is on track in cost saving measures, having reduced their deficit in excess of \$1 million for the prior year of 2009. Their revenues have stabilized, and the bad debt right-offs are averaging \$33,000 per month. They are still in the process of applying for "Critical Care Access". The discussion is whether to put the hospital on the July 20th ballot to determine proposed ad valorem tax for the hospital or to maybe to put the hospital on the next SPLOST vote. Their immediate needs are for equipment and improvements. Once in survival status, they want to recruit more physicians; and hopefully, more citizens will use local doctors and not go out of town. The hospital's contract with Quorum ends in September, 2011. Mr. Brown informed the Board of Commissioners that the Hospital Board did approve for a member of the BOC to be on the Hospital Board. The BOC will vote amongst themselves as to which member that will be. Commissioners feel that there will be more support from the citizens if we choose to put this on SPLOST instead of property taxes. Mr. Brown said that after the hospital has their meeting on Tuesday, February 23rd, he should know more as to which direction they should go.

Review and determine purchase of proposed volunteer fire department buildings: County Administrator Bob Thomas has received an invoice from Craft Construction for buildings that have already arrived. However, Mr. Thomas said that we had not issued a purchase order with the go ahead to order. The USDA loan process takes a long time. He is concerned that they might not reimburse us

for these buildings if we go ahead and pay Craft Construction. Mr. Thomas will call USDA and ask how we should proceed on this issue. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to table this decision until Mr. Thomas has heard from USDA. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Review of GEBCorp Retirement Program: At the request of the Board, Steve Vaughn, representative from GEBCorp, has looked into ways that the County can cut costs on retirement and still offer employees a good plan. He has come up with a plan for all new hires that will reduce the modifier (used in calculating the amount received monthly) from 2.5% to 1.25%. There will no longer be an "early retirement" (25 years of service; retire at 55 with full benefits) in the plan for new hires. In addition, 2% will no longer come out of employees bi-weekly checks. As for veteran employees already on the current plan, they can opt to stay with this plan and have 6 or 7% come out of their bi-weekly checks to cover this cost, or they can go with the new plan. The new plan is anticipated to begin with the new budget year in July, 2010. GEBCorp representatives will set up a day next week to come and talk with employees and further explain these changes. They will come back at another time to meet one on one with employees to get fill out the correct papers on their specific choice.

Executive Session: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to go into Executive Session for litigation and personnel. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. During Regular Session there was a motion made by Commissioner Albertson to approve an attorney engagement letter with Webb, Tanner, Powell, Mertz and Wilson (however, the contents of the attorney engagement letter is attorney-client privileged). Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. On another issue, Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve acknowledgment and waiver with Bill Daughtry (however, the contents of the acknowledgment and waiver is attorney-client privileged). Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment: Commissioner Albertson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.



ELBERT COUNTY
Board of Commissioners

WORK SESSION
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, MARCH 4TH, 2010
5:00 P.M.

- 1) Approve and adopt a proclamation recognizing "Census Week".
- 2) Request from Advantage Behavioral Health Systems for Elbert County Board of Commissioners to contribute \$14,662 for funding the fiscal year 2011.
- 3) Chuck Almond, EMA Director, to discuss and request approval from the Board to purchase a weather warning device.
- 4) Approval to declare two vehicles as surplus property. Vehicles are: 1969 Chevrolet Flatbed Truck - Vin No. CE339A817115 from the Road Dept., and a 1995 Grand Jeep Cherokee - Vin No. 1J4FX58S2SC768647 from the 4H Office.
- 5) First Reading on amending Ordinance No. 2008, Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance to clarify what constitutes "minor land disturbing activities" under Georgia Law.
- 6) Discussion of a joint purchase of a Geographical Information System (GIS) Program with the City of Elberton.
- 7) Approval of an "Intergovernmental Agreement" with the City of Elberton on the operation and maintenance of a Geographical Information System (GIS).
- 8) Approval of a list of County roads that have been posted as "No Thru Trucks Over Six Wheels".

- 9) Discuss proposed 2011 SPLOST Projects.
- 10) Discussion and approval of an Internet Policy.
- 11) Finance Report. (Includes Victims' Assistance Grant Report)