

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
AUGUST 22, 2013 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on August 22, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Heard County Courthouse. In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Lee Boone, District 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks, District 2 Commissioner Jacob Cammon, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Frank Crook, District 5 Commissioner Sandi Allen, and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner. Chairman Boone called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Commissioner Hooks gave the invocation.

**Agenda Item # 3 – Public Hearing – a. Special Use Application from Advantage Tactical -**

Chairman Boone opened the public hearing. He stated this is a Special Use Request from Advantage Tactical Company 1, LLC for a commercial outdoor shooting range located at 3541 Franklin Parkway. He stated that the Heard County Planning Commission did recommend approval of this application with two conditions; 1) Applicant must supply a noise level study; and 2) Operation Hours; Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Chairman Boone opened the floor to the applicants, Mr. Jim Peterson and Mr. Keith Thompkins. Mr. Peterson and Mr. Thompkins presented a brief summary of their business, an overhead view of the property, the locations where the weapons will be discharged and a sound study from ProAudio Georgia. Commissioner Cammon asked the applicants to describe the area where guns will be discharged. Mr. Peterson explained the size of the area and stated that the area of dirt was thick enough to drive a car over it. He also explained the type of targets they will be using and stated no one would be putting up and removing paper targets in the shooting area. Chairman Boone

then opened the hearing to the public. The following citizens commented regarding this application:

Mr. Steven Brawner, 70 Iris Drive, Lagrange Georgia  
Mr. Frank Hughes, 8004 S. Jiles Road, Douglasville, Georgia  
Mr. Len Savage, 1486 Cherry Road, Franklin, Georgia  
Mr. Elliott Smith, 17 Askew Avenue, Hogansville, Georgia  
Mr. Brannon Gray, 562 Cherry Road, Franklin, Georgia  
Mr. V.D. Massey, 2856 Franklin Parkway, Franklin, Georgia  
Mr. Bob Jones, 252 Jones Road, Franklin, Georgia  
Mr. Tim Grizzard, 2967 Mt. Pleasant Road, Franklin, Georgia  
Mr. Ken Lawler, 1040 Eley Road, Franklin, Georgia  
Mr. Jim Vaughn, 961 Nutt Road, Franklin, Georgia  
Mrs. Eva Pless, 674 Old Field Road, Franklin, Georgia

There being no further comments, on motion (Cammon) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

**Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes** – On motion (Hooks) and second (Cammon) the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve the minutes from July 25, 2013 as presented. Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Cammon and Commissioner Hooks voted for the motion; Commissioner Crook abstained.

**Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda** – Commissioner Crook asked for an amendment to New Business to include item - d – Discuss Salary Increases for Employees. On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved these amendments.

**Agenda Item # 6 – New Business a. Decision on Public Hearing Request from Advantage Tactical** – Commissioner Allen thanked the public for their interest in this application. She also stated that she is not against this application or the second amendment. She stated she just felt that a process must be followed to get this application approved or denied. On motion (Cammon) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved the Planning Commissions recommendations for this request.

**b. Discuss CAD System** – Chairman Boone asked 911 Director, Chris Acosta to give a report on the CAD system at 911 that was purchased from LAS Systems, Inc. Mrs. Acosta presented a list of what is and is not working properly on the CAD system. She explained that originally this system was supposed to go online January 1, 2013 but was not working properly then and they were not able to go online until May 7, 2013. They have stopped using the system as of July 25, 2013 because of the numerous issues with the system. She stated that she did speak to LAS about these issues. She stated that LAS has been paid in full for the system which had a 3 month warranty period. She stated that LAS began billing Heard County 911 for the monthly maintenance fees in December to be effective January, 2013 even though the system was not working properly to go online in January. Chairman Boone stated that he did not authorize the monthly maintenance fees to be paid and it is not in the original contract about monthly maintenance fees. He also stated that he spoke to Mike at LAS about the system not working properly. Mrs. Acosta stated that she also spoke with Mike at LAS who refused to work on the system until the monthly maintenance fees are paid. After further discussion, the Board asked County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner to draft a letter to LAS stating what is wrong with the system and ask LAS to work on these issues so the system can become operational on a daily basis.

**c. Legislative Updates – Commissioner Allen** – Commissioner Allen updated the Board on several legislative changes effective January 1, 2014 that will have an impact on Heard County. She stated that HB242 regarding juvenile justice will require the County to provide an attorney for juvenile cases. She also reported that there are changes to the new TAVT tax that will be implemented that will affect the revenue coming to the Tax Commissioner. She will keep the Board updated on these and other changes coming forth.

**d. Discuss Salary Increases for Employees** – Commissioner Crook stated that he would like to see the County employees get a raise of twenty-five cents an hour for each employee. He stated there have been no raises in 4 years and he feels it is time to do something for the County employees. Chairman Boone asked the Board to discuss the financials before giving any pay increases to County employees due to the revenue being down, particularly local option sales tax. After further discussion, Commissioner Crook asked that Finance Director, Felicia Adams be at the next Board meeting to discuss the financials.

**Agenda Item # 7 – Old Business – a. Discuss Timber Harvesting Bids** – Chairman Boone stated there were six timber harvesting bids received. The bids received were from the following: Flint Forest Products, Valley Wood, Awbrey Logging, The Good Forty, Inc., Carroll County Pulpwood, and Chattahoochee Timber (bids are in minute book). After a brief recess, to review the bids, on motion (Allen) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously approved the bid from Flint Forest Products.

**Agenda Item # 8 – Public Comments** – Mary Israel, a resident of 547 Five Notch Road, Franklin, Georgia asked the Board for an update on the broadband project. Commissioner Allen stated that the Broadband committee had to reapply for the grant; it was turned down the first time. Ms. Israel also invited the Board to stop by the Heard County Library anytime. Ms. Kathy Knowles, Director of the Heard County Community Partnership thanked the Board for their donation to the annual back to school bash. She stated there were approximately 900 people who attended the bash this year and 700 book bags were distributed.

**Agenda Item # 9 – Executive Session** - Chairman Boone asked the Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate, possible litigation, and personnel. On motion (Allen) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss

real estate, possible litigation, and personnel. On motion (Allen) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session.

There being no further business, on motion (Caldwell) and (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to adjourn.

Affidavit for approved minutes for August 22, 2013

Patty A. Giles  
County Clerk

Lee Boone  
Chairman

Date: 9-26-13