

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION  
December 15, 2020 ~ 5:00 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a work session on December 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Heard County Administration Building to discuss the SPLOST Spending Plan and other matters as needed. In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Lee Boone, District 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks, District 2 Commissioner James Perry, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, and District 5 Commissioner David Walls. Also present at the meeting were Felicia Adams, Finance Director, and Kevin Hamby, the County SPLOST Manager. Chairman Boone opened by discussing the handout Chief Wirth gave the Board. Chairman Boone then recognized Chief Wirth to discuss the Public Safety Fueling System. Chief Wirth stated the current large tank holds 3,000 gallons of gasoline and 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel. The current fuel system has been having issues since 2012, and the pumps are no longer repairable because parts cannot be found to fix the pump. Chief Wirth stated four quotes had been requested instead of the normal three quotes. Chief Wirth also indicated that the industry is moving away from single walled tanks to double walled tanks, because the environmental issues are less and there are internal monitors. New tanks placed at the EMA Headquarters would be 4,000-gallon gasoline tanks and 2,000-gallon diesel tanks. Chairman Boone then turned the meeting over to Kevin Hamby SPLOST Project Manager. Mr. Hamby spoke to the Board about the lights for the recreation department ball fields. Mr. Hamby said the light plan is not a new project, but the project actually comes from the SPLOST 4 plan, but the lights were never installed. Coweta Fayette EMC was approached about partnering with the county to help secure funding for lights. About \$40,000.00 will come from Coweta-Fayette EMC for the project. Mr. Hamby addressed the Board about the Historical Old Jail and the need for stabilization because the right front part of the building is

falling off. Since the building is on the National Historic Registry it has to be handled a certain way. Fire and EMS numbers would go from \$250,000.00 to \$300,000.00 and the Sheriff would go from \$36,000.00 to \$100,000.00. Chief Wirth returns to the podium to discuss getting another ambulance. Chief Wirth stated that EMS tries to put a new ambulance on the road every two years. The last one that was bought cost \$119,000.00 A new one would need about a \$10,000.00 increase, and some of the stations need furniture replaced because they still have the original furniture. Chairman Boone discussed the decrease in SPLOST funds and stated that we all knew that the county was going to take a hit because businesses had to close, and the power companies could not shut off customer's power for non-payment. Other matters discussed- Chairman Boone wanted the Board to further discuss that the Water Authority Generator is a CAT generator and the county should buy the generator direct from the company. The generator is a state procurement item, if we got it, it could be here in a week. The generator is a 1000kw that is two years old with thirty hours and includes the automatic transfer switch. The generator will run the entire power plant with a little left over. Per Mr. Hamby. the power plant will have to approve the generator because they do not want it to back feed into their system. Commissioner Perry asked are we going to go and spend \$268,000.00 and have other unknown cost and come back to the Board to vote on what the county spends. Commissioner Perry thinks the Board may need to have a called meeting to approve quotes.

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned.