

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2013 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on January 24, 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. Mr. Bryan Owensby gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Presentation – Georgia Day Proclamation – Chairman Boone stated that Mrs. Carla Brown has asked the Board to proclaim February 12, 2013 as Georgia Day in Heard County. Commissioner Boone read the proclamation into the minutes. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes – On motion (Caldwell) and second (Cammon), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve the minutes from November 29, 2012 as presented. Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell, and Commissioner Cammon voted for the motion. Commissioner Hooks abstained.

Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda – Chairman Boone asked for an amendment to New Business to add Item h. – Presentation of Service Award to Ms. Jane Olinger. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 6 – New Business – a. Appoint County Attorney for 2013 – Chairman Boone presented a resignation letter from Mr. Jeff Todd stating he would like to resign as County Attorney to Heard County effective immediately. Chairman Boone stated that he would like to recommend Jerry Ann Conner as County Attorney for 2013. Chairman Boone stated

that he previously worked with Ms. Conner and feels as if they have an excellent working relationship. He also read a letter supporting the appointment of Ms. Conner from Judge Bledsoe. At this time the floor was open for anyone to speak on this appointment. Mr. Johnny Kistler, Member of Board of Tax Assessors, Mr. Alvin Ginn, Member of Heard County Water Authority Board, Mr. Bryan Owensby, Clerk of Superior Court, Mrs. Sandra Nolen, Tax Commissioner, Mrs. Brenda Jennings, Chief Magistrate Judge, Mrs. Julie Pope, Director, Heard County Development Authority, and Mrs. Kathie Buchanan, Coroner, all spoke in favor of appointing Ms. Conner as County Attorney for 2013. Commissioner Allen stated that she has no personal views in this situation but was not in support of this appointment. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Cammon), the Board voted 4 to 1 to appoint Ms. Conner as County Attorney for 2013. Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Cammon and Commissioner Hooks voted for the motion. Commissioner Allen voted against the motion.

b. Appoint Vice-Chairman for 2013 – On motion (Hooks) and second (Cammon), the Board voted 4 to 1 to appoint Commissioner Allen as Vice-Chairman for 2013. Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Cammon and Commissioner Hooks voted for the motion. Commissioner Allen abstained.

c. Appoint County Clerk for 2013 – Chairman Boone recommended appointing Patty Jiles as County Clerk for 2013. On motion (Crook) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

d. Appoint County Auditor for 2013 – Chairman Boone recommended appointing Mr. Kim Kimmel as County Auditor for 2013. Chairman Boone stated that Mrs. Felicia Adams, Finance Director recently spoke with Mr. Kimmel who did agree to continue his service as auditor to

Heard County at the same rate as last year. On motion (Allen) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

e. Approve Heard County ADA Transition Plan – Chairman Boone stated that the Board would need to approve the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan as required by the Georgia Department of Transportation. He stated that this plan does require that an ADA Coordinator be appointed as well. He recommended appointing Mr. Floyd Toney as the ADA Coordinator. On motion (Allen) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved the plan as presented. On motion (Cammon) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously approved the recommendation to appoint Mr. Toney as ADA Coordinator.

f. Discuss Appointment to Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Board (DBHDD) – Commissioner Hooks recommended appointing Heard County resident, Mr. Keith Brown to this Board. He stated that Mr. Brown is a licensed social worker for the State of Georgia and would be an excellent asset to the DBHDD Board. On motion (Hooks) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

g. – Discuss Appointment to Heard County Board of Tax Assessors – Chairman Boone stated that Mrs. Agnes Jackson's term on the Board of Tax Assessors will expire on January 25, 2013. He stated that Mrs. Jackson has agreed to a reappointment to this Board. On motion (Hooks) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved this reappointment.

h. – Presentation of Service Award to Ms. Jane Olinger – Chairman Boone on behalf of the Board presented a plaque to Ms. Jane Olinger for 20 years of service to Heard County. The entire Board thanked Ms. Olinger for her loyal and dedicated service to Heard County.

Agenda Item # 7 – Old Business – a. Approve LOST Distributions – Chairman Boone asked the Board to approve the L.O.S.T. distribution tax schedule which reads as follows:

Town of Centralhatchee	4.5%
City of Ephesus	4.5%
City of Franklin	12%
County of Heard	79%

He stated that these are the same percentages as before with no changes. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved the certificate of distribution and gave Chairman Boone the authority to sign on behalf of Heard County.

b. Approve Short Term Work Program – Chairman Boone stated to the Board that in order for Heard County to maintain their qualified local government status, which expired on October 31, 2012, the County will need to approve the short term work program presented to them at the November, 2012 meeting. Mr. Paul Jarrell with Three Rivers Regional Commission explained to the Board that this plan is updated every 5 years. He also stated that the Department of Community Affairs has approved this plan and that in order for Heard County to be eligible for grants, the Board must also approve the plan. On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved the plan as presented.

c. Approve Commercial Pool Permit Fees for Heard County Health Department – Chairman Boone explained that the Heard County Board of Health has recommended that the Heard County Health Department set fees for commercial pool permits. He explained that Rockridge Baptist Assembly recently asked a pool company to look at their pool to do some repairs that are needed in order for the pool to be a functioning pool. Since this pool is a commercial pool the pool company cannot do any work until the health department inspects the pool and issues a permit saying they have inspected the pool. Since they health department was not aware that this pool was considered a commercial pool, they have no commercial fees

at all therefore they are asking the Board of Commissioners to approve an initial commercial pool permit fee of \$250.00 and an annual inspection fee of \$150.00. Commissioner Crook and Commissioner Allen expressed their concerns that these fees may be too high. After some discussion, Chairman Boone stated he would will attend the next Board of Health meeting on February 14, 2013 and discuss these concerns and report back to the Board of Commissioners at the next meeting. All agreed.

Agenda Item # 8 – Public Comments – Mr. Paul King, a resident at 1206 Ferry Road, Franklin, Georgia spoke regarding audit findings. Mr. Mike Crockett, a resident of Heard County asked the Board to reconsider their decision to postpone approving the health department's recommendation regarding the commercial pool fees. He stated that he would be willing to pay the \$250.00 fee for Rockridge if the Board would just proceed on approving the fees tonight. He stated his concern that Rockridge needs their pool operational for their summer business. Commissioner Cammon stated he felt that the Board should reconsider this item since Mr. Crockett is willing to pay the fee on behalf of Rockridge. On motion (Cammon) and second (Hooks), the Board voted 3 to 2 to discuss the approval of the commercial pool permit fees. Commissioner Cammon, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Hooks voted for the motion. Commissioner Crook and Commissioner Allen voted against the motion. After further discussion, Commissioner Caldwell made a motion to go ahead and approve the \$250.00 initial permit fee but not the \$150.00 annual inspection fee. He stated he felt this would allow the pool company to go ahead and begin assessing the repairs needed to the pool at Rockridge. Commissioner Crook seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved this motion. Chairman Boone said he would report back to the Board at the next meeting in February regarding the annual inspection fee.

Agenda Item # 7 – Executive Session – Commissioner Allen asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel. On motion (Allen) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel. On motion (Cammon) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session. Chairman Boone stated that personnel were discussed in Executive Session with no decisions made.

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

Affidavit for approved minutes for January 24, 2013

Patty A. Jiles
County Clerk

Lee Boone
Chairman

Date: 2-28-13