

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MAY 23, 2017 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on May 23, 2017 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 Keri Denney, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner Joe Adams and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner. Chairman Boone called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone present and gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes - On motion (Hooks) and second (Denney), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from April 25, 2017.

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda – Chairman Boone asked to amend New Business to include **f – Discuss Contract with the City of Franklin**. Commissioner Caldwell asked to add a second public comments to the top of the agenda to allow the public to speak before an item is voted on. On motion (Hammond) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approved both requests.

Agenda Item # 5 – New Business – a. Discuss ATV Park – Mr. David Barker, Heard County Resident – Mr. David Barker, 308 Bush Head Shoals Road, Franklin, stated that he would like to postpone speaking to the Board regarding the proposed ATV park on Bush Head Shoals Road until a later date when the Board is prepared to speak on this item. Mr. Peter Underwood, 178 Memory Lane, Franklin, stated that he is a property owner on Bush Head Shoals Road. He asked the Board to consider notifying adjoining property owners in the future when something like this comes up. County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner explained to him that this is not a Heard County project or a rezoning issue. She stated that the State does not have to adhere to the County zoning ordinances. Mr. Scott

Parrott, 15475 Ga. Hwy. 34, Franklin, stated that the proposed ATV park will be located in his backyard. He asked the Board to reconsider supporting this State project.

b. Discuss Appointment to Heard County Board of Elections – Mr. Tonnie Adams, Heard County Registrar – Mr. Tonnie Adams, Heard County Registrar explained that with the passing of HB 461 regarding the creation of a board of elections, it was stated that the current Election Superintendent and the Board of Registrars must submit names as nominees to the Board of Commissioners for the Board of Elections and Registration. Joseph Bledsoe, the current Elections Superintendent and Mr. Adams, submitted the following names as nominees to the Board of Elections and Registration:

Post 1: Mr. James F. Kuchenbaker, 200 Riverside Street, Franklin - term of office to end July 1, 2019;

Post 2: Mrs. Alice Holmes, 255 Main Street, Franklin - term of office to end July 1, 2020;

Post 3: Mrs. Jane D. Barker, 308 Bush Head Shoals Road, Franklin - term of office to end July 1, 2021. On motion (Hooks) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved these appointments.

c. Discuss Liquor Package Sales – County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner – Chairman Boone stated that at the last Board meeting, Mr. Bob Patel, owner of County Line One Stop, a Heard County convenience store, asked the Board to consider supporting a liquor referendum for package sales to be placed on a future ballot for the public to vote on. The Board asked Ms. Conner, and Tonnie Adams, Registrar to report back to the Board on this procedure. Mr. Adams explained that in order for a liquor referendum to be placed on a ballot, a petition must be submitted with signatures of 35% of the number of prior general election voters, which would be 1945 signatures required. The signatures must be of registered Heard County voters and the signatures must be verified by the Board of Elections once they are submitted.

d. Approve Resolution Designating Court Locations – County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner –

Ms. Conner explained that during the remodeling of the courthouse, court services will need to be relocated to another location and in order to do that the Board must approve a resolution for this purpose. Chairman Boone read the resolution into the minutes (attached) stating that the Board of Commissioners, Superior Court, Juvenile Court and Probate Court judges are requesting to move court services to the City of Franklin City Hall located at 144 Davis Street, Franklin until such time as the renovation of the Heard County Courthouse is completed. On motion (Adams) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously approved this resolution.

e. Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Heard County Hospital Authority,

Guardian Probation and Heard County Magistrate – County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner

explained that in order for Magistrate court to move their office to the health department building during renovation of the courthouse, we must have an MOU in place between all parties. She explained that Patriot Probation Services will be sub-leasing a portion of their space to Heard County Magistrate and therefore the Board must approve a MOU between Heard County, Patriot Probation Services and Heard County Hospital Authority. The Board must also approve a MOU between Heard County and Heard County Hospital Authority for the space to be used by Heard County Public Defender's Office. On motion (Adams) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved both MOUs and authorized Chairman Boone to sign them.

f. Discuss Contract with the City of Franklin – Chairman Boone stated that he recently spoke with

City of Franklin, Mayor Rogers regarding leasing a portion of the Franklin City Hall for the Heard County District Attorney during the renovation of the courthouse. He stated there was no set amount yet and he and the Mayor were still negotiating. He asked the Board to allow him to continue

negotiating and authorize him to sign the MOU once it is agreed upon. On motion (Hammond) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – None

Agenda Item # 7 - Public Comments – None.

Agenda Item # 8 - Executive Session – None.

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

Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

County Clerk

Chairman

Date _____