

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
OCTOBER 23, 2014 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on October 23, 2014 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 – Approval of Minutes** – On motion (Allen) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from September 25, 2014 as presented.

**Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda** – None.

**Agenda Item # 5 – New Business – a. Set 2014 Millage Rate** – On motion (Allen) and second (Caldwell), the Board voted unanimously to set the 2014 millage rate at 6.94 mills.

**b. Discuss New EMS Billing Contract – Chief Steve Wirth and County Attorney**

**Jerry Ann Conner** – County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner stated that she had reviewed the contract along with Chief Steve Wirth between Heard County and National Reimbursement Group (NRG) for their billing services for Heard County EMA. Chief Short stated that that NRG's billing fees are much less than the current fees with Intermedix. Commissioner Hooks asked Ms. Conner to please clarify in the contract that Heard County residents do not receive a bill for Heard County's ambulance services. She stated she would clarify this in the contract. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the

Board unanimously approved accepting NRG as the new billing service for Heard County EMA.

**c. Discuss Increasing Business License Fees** – Chairman Boone stated that he recently had requested a survey of the surrounding counties business license fees. He found that the surrounding counties all charge a considerable amount more than Heard County. He stated that Heard County’s business license fees have not been changed in several years. County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner suggested that the Board may want to consider adding regulatory fees and a revocation provision in the ordinance also. On motion (Crook) and second (Hooks), the board voted 4 to 1 to increase the business license fee from \$25.00 to \$75.00 beginning January 1, 2015. Commissioner Allen, Caldwell, Crook and Hooks voted for the motion. Commissioner Cammon voted against the motion.

**d. Appointment to Heard County Development Authority** – Chairman Boone stated that the Heard County Board of Education recently sent a request to the Board of Commissioners to appoint Mr. Chad Wood as the Heard County Board of Education representative to the Heard County Development Authority Board to replace Mr. Morris Long whose term has expired. On motion (Hooks) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – a. Appointment to Heard County Board of Tax Assessors** – Chairman Boone stated that after Mr. Kistler’s resignation from the Board of Tax Assessors, County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner researched and found that counties with residents of 100,000 or less can have a member of the tax appraisal staff on the Board of Assessors. He stated that since the Board of Assessors has changed to a three member board, they must appoint a third member in order for them to legally conduct

business. Mr. Jerry Nixon, Board of Assessors member, stated that Mr. Dustin Pate from the Board of Tax Assessors office is willing and eligible to serve on the Board of Assessors. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously appointed Mr. Dustin Pate to the Board of Tax Assessors.

**Agenda Item # 7 – Public Comments – None.**

**Agenda Item # 8 – Executive Session –** Chairman Boone asked the Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation. On motion (Allen) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session. On motion (Cammon) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session.

Chairman Boone stated that in Executive Session litigation was discussed with no decisions made.

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

Affidavit for approved minutes for October 23, 2014

Patty A. Giles  
County Clerk

Lee Boone  
Chairman

Date: 11-20-14