

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on January 12, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Heard County Courthouse. In attendance at the meeting were Commission Chair June Jackson, District 1 Commissioner Karen Isenhower, District 2 Commissioner Lee Boone, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Frank Crook, District 5 Commissioner Sandi Allen, and County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner. Commission Chair Jackson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Mr. Johnny Kistler gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Presentation to Ms. Orine Cheeks - Commission Chair Jackson on behalf of the Board, presented a plaque to Ms. Orine Cheeks, with the Heard County Senior Center, for 30 years and 10 months of service to Heard County. The entire board thanked Ms. Cheeks for her loyal and dedicated service to Heard County.

Agenda Item # 4 – Public Hearing – a. Abandonment of a Portion of Barr Farm Road – Commission Chair Jackson opened the public hearing for abandonment of a portion of Barr Farm Road. She explained that the County received a request from the McCormick family regarding abandoning a portion of Barr Farm Road where the old road was relocated. There being no comments or questions from the Board and no public comments, on motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes – On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved the minutes for December 8, 2009 and December 15, 2009.

Agenda Item # 6 – Public Comments – Commissioner Isenhower voiced her concerns about the pollution in the Chattahoochee River. Mr. Jeremy Smith, with Georgia EPD gave a report on water quality and fish management in the Chattahoochee River. Mr. Carl Gill a resident at 1162

Minardi Drive commented on his concerns regarding the water quality in Heard County. Mrs. Martha Bennett a resident at 1103 Minardi Drive commented on her concerns regarding the water quality in Heard County and the paving of Minardi Drive. Mr. Charles Cummings a resident at 1206 Ferry Road expressed concerns regarding the Heard County ordinances. Mrs. Tina Hannah a resident at 670 Pearidge Road expressed her appreciation to the Board, the Public Works Department and all the Heard County employees for their hard work. Mr. Steve Lane of Brush Creek Park commented on the pollution in the Chattahoochee River and asked Commissioner Isenhower what her plans were for a water filtration plant on the Chattahoochee River. Mr. Brant Hess, with Georgia Natural Resources Fisheries Management commented on the acceptable levels of contaminants in the Chattahoochee River.

Agenda Item # 7 – Amend Agenda – Commissioner Chair Jackson asked for an amendment to Old Business to include “d” – Discuss Revolving Loan Fund Application”. On motion (Allen) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 8 – Old Business – a. Discuss and Approve Furniture for Fire Administration Building – Kevin Hamby – Mr. Hamby presented an updated furniture budget for the Fire Administration Building. He stated GSI Office Environments has been working with the department heads regarding their furniture needs. He stated the furniture needs did come in under budget and he asked the Board to approve the furniture for the EMA, 911 and Coroner. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

b. Approve Pay Requests for Fire Administration Facility - Commission Chair Jackson presented pay request number 20018 from GeoImage in the amount of \$410.00 and pay request number 17905-14 from Clough Harbour & Associates in the amount of

\$6,692.00 for engineering services related to the fire administration facility. On motion (Boone) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved these requests.

c. Discuss Appointment to Region One Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Planning Board – Commission Chair Jackson asked the Board for an appointment to the Regions One Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Planning Board. Commissioner Isenhower nominated Mrs. Brenda Poole to serve on this Board. There was no second to this motion therefore the motion did not pass.

Commission Chair Jackson stated she would bring this back to the next commissioners meeting for an appointment.

d. Discuss Revolving Loan Fund Application – Mr. Terry Harper, Chairman, Heard County Development Authority – Mr. Terry Harper stated that the Heard County Development Authority recently received another application for the revolving loan funds available to prospective businesses opening in Heard County. He stated that the application from Mr. Tim Meacham, to open Small Town Automotive and Diagnostics, does meet all requirements of the revolving loan fund and the Development Authority recommended approval of this application. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve this motion. Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Crook and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion stating that she felt there were more important issues in the County to spend this money on. Commissioner Jackson explained to Commissioner Isenhower that this money is specifically designed for economic development in our area and cannot be used for anything else.

Agenda Item # 9 – New Business – a. Decision on Public Hearing – Abandonment of

a Portion of Barr Farm Road - On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously voted to abandon a portion of Barr Farm Road and for the portion to revert back to the original property owners.

b. Discuss Budget Amendment for Magistrate Office – Brenda Jennings – Magistrate

Judge Brenda Jennings asked the Board to approve a budget amendment for the health insurance line item in her budget. She explained to the Board that there are not enough funds in that line item for her clerk, Robin Arrington’s family health insurance. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve this request.

Commissioner Isenhower, Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion and Commissioner Crook abstained.

c. Decision on Public Works Building Renovations – Darold Wiggins – Darold

Wiggins reported to the Board that he received three bids on the public works building renovations. The bids were as follows:

Daniel Construction of LaGrange	-	\$ 91,500.00
Mark Cook & Mickey Cook, Franklin	-	\$106,250.00
Berkley S. Cook & Sons, Inc., Carrollton	-	\$125,801.00

After some discussion, on motion (Caldwell) and second (Boone), the Board voted 4 to 1 to accept the low bid from Daniel Construction of LaGrange for \$91,500.00.

Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Caldwell, Commissioner Crook and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion stating she would like to see the bid go to a local contractor.

d. Discuss EMS Laptop Grant – Chief Scott Blue – Chief Scott Blue stated that his department recently received a grant to purchase laptop computers for the ambulances in the County. He presented to the Board three options for these computers. (See attached spreadsheet). Chief Blue stated that in his discussions with the Heard County IT Department, the IT Department recommended option D, where the County would own the computers and maintain them. Option D also includes a 3 year warranty on the computers. After further discussion, on motion (Isenhower) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation. Chief Blue also thanked the Board for the new EMA Headquarters.

e. Discuss Ingress and Egress Permit for Timber Harvesters – Robert Nelms – Codes Enforcement Officer Robert Nelms asked the Board to approve a change to the ingress and egress permit for timber harvesters. The change would involve the installation of the driveway into and out of the property they are harvesting. He explained that the new driveway requirements were State requirements and the County should be requiring exactly what the State requires in order to maintain our County roads. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

f. Set Commission Meeting Dates, Time and Place for 2010 - On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously voted for the commissioner meetings to remain on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Heard County Courthouse.

g. Appoint Vice-Chairman for 2010 - On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve Commissioner Allen as Vice-Chairman for 2010. Commissioner

Boone, Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion.

h. Appoint County Clerk for 2010 - Commission Chair Jackson recommended that Patty Jiles be appointed as County Clerk for 2010. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously voted to approve Commission Chair Jackson's recommendation.

I. Appoint County Attorney for 2010 - Commission Chair Jackson recommended that Jerry Ann Conner of Glover & Davis, Newnan Georgia, be appointed as County Attorney for 2010. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to approve Commission Chair Jackson's recommendation.

j. Appoint County Auditor for 2010 – Commission Chair Jackson asked the Board if they would like to bid out for auditor services for 2010 or stay with Mr. Kim Kimmel.

Commissioner Boone asked Finance Director, Felicia Adams her opinion. She stated that she is very happy with Mr. Kimmel. On motion (Boone) and second (Crook), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve Mr. Kimmel as County auditor for 2010. Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion.

k. Appointment to Water Authority Board – Commission Chair Jackson stated that Mr. Alvin Gin's term to the Water Authority Board will expire at the end of January. He has agreed to serve on this Board again. On motion (Allen) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this reappointment.

Agenda Item # 10 – Executive Session – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session. On motion (Isenhower) and

second (Boone), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session. Commission Chair Jackson stated that the Board discussed pending litigation in Executive Session.

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