

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2009 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on October 13, 2009 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. Larry Hooks gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes - On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved the minutes from September 22, 2009 as presented.

Agenda Item # 4 – Public Comments – Mr. Larry Hooks expressed his appreciation to the Board for the paving of Puckett Drive, Pamela Court, Pinsky Drive, and Minardi Drive in the Corinth community. He stated that many residents in this area have also expressed their appreciation of this project.

Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an amendment to Old Business to include “b” Approve Pay Request for EMA Headquarters. Commissioner Isenhower asked for an amendment to New Business to include “c” Discuss Heard County Public Library. On motion (Isenhower) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously approved these requests.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – a. Update on Heard County Sports Complex, EMA Headquarters, and the Roosterville Fire Station – Kevin Hamby – Mr. Kevin Hamby with Clough Harbour & Associates reported that everything is looking well at the Sports Complex. He stated that the concrete repairs are complete and the sidewalks look

great. David Julien, Recreation Director stated that after the heavy rains recently, there are no leaks in the gymnasium roof and the outside drains are draining well. He also commented that the concrete repairs look great. He stated that he met with Coca-Cola regarding the scoreboards and they should be installed within the next 2 weeks.

Mr. Julien also stated that he has had numerous problems with the sewage system. He stated that the company who installed it has been very responsive in making needed repairs and the system has been working properly for the last 2 weeks. Mr. Hamby stated that the Board did a walk through on the EMA Headquarters earlier today. He reported that the Board needed to make a decision on two issues concerning the EMA Headquarters. He stated that Heard County Water Authority has made a request that a water meter vault be installed to house the water meter, pressure regulator and backflow. He stated that this would be an additional cost of \$11,000.00. He stated that the current plans to install the meter without a vault would cost \$500.00 and does meet code.

Commissioner Caldwell stated he would like to hear from the Water Authority Director, Jimmy Knight regarding this vault before a decision is made. Mr. Hamby stated that this just came up in the walk through earlier today and therefore Mr. Knight would not have known to come to the meeting tonight. All agreed to postpone this decision until further discussions with the Water Authority. Mr. Hamby explained that if the Board wishes to install drywall on the exterior walls inside the building, this would be an additional cost of \$20,000.00. He explained that this would not increase the insulation inside the building; it would only change the look inside the building. He explained that the sheetrock was taken out of the original design as a cost saving device and was approved by the Board. Commissioner Allen stated, yes, she did remember approving the design

without the sheetrock. Mr. Hamby stated that the current design includes sheetrock in the common areas only, not the private areas. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to not include the additional sheetrock at the EMA Headquarters.

Mr. Hamby reported that the Roosterville Fire Station is nearing completion. He stated he anticipated the completion to be within 2 weeks.

b. Approve Pay Requests for EMA Headquarters – Commission Chair Jackson presented pay request # 3 from New South Construction for the EMA Headquarters in the amount of \$386,315.52. On motion (Allen) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Accept Deed for Minardi Drive, Pinsky Drive, Puckett Drive, and Pamela Court – County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner presented the right of way deed from Mr. Harvey Flax on Minardi Drive, Pinsky Drive, Puckett Drive and Pamela Court. She explained that this right of way was purchased from Mr. Flax in order to use the CDBG grant funds to pave these roads. Commissioner Caldwell stated he did not feel that Heard County should have to purchase any right of way to pave any road. He stated he felt this should have been donated property. Commissioner Boone stated that the money for this right of way came from the CDBG grant funds not general funds. On motion (Isenhower) and second (Boone), the Board voted 4 to 1 to accept this deed and include these roads into the County road system as County roads.

Commissioner Isenhower, Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Crook, and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. **Commissioner Caldwell voted against the motion. He stated he voted against the motion because he felt that these roads were**

a subdivision on private property that did not meet the County ordinance and we were accepting them without them meeting the County ordinance and because the County had to purchase the right of way.

b. Discuss Ordinance Authorizing Judicial in Rem Tax Foreclosures – Commission Chair Jackson presented an ordinance from Tax Commissioner Sandra Nolen regarding tax foreclosures for delinquent taxes. County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner explained that this is another procedure for the sale of property for delinquent taxes. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

c. Discuss Public Library – Commissioner Isenhower stated that on several occasions she has visited the Heard County Public Library in order to use their public computers and printers. She has encountered problems with the printers not working and the library staff has indicated that they need new printers. She requested that the library receive new printers. Commission Chair Jackson stated that Mr. Jim Cooper of the West Georgia Regional Library called Finance Director, Felicia Adams today regarding a new printer he received today for the Heard County Public Library. Commission Chair Jackson stated she would follow up with Mr. Cooper on this issue.

Agenda Item # 3 – Personnel Hearing – Mr. Daniel Kelly – Commission Chair Jackson explained that a firefighter, Mr. Daniel Kelly has been asked to reimburse the county for damage done to a rescue truck at Station 1 and is appealing this decision. She stated that Chief Scott Blue would speak first with a report of the incident and Mr. Kelly would speak following Chief Blue. Chief Blue indicated that on August 13, 2009, Mr. Kelly was washing windows at Station 1 and stood on the cab of the rescue truck to reach the windows in the bay area. In doing this, he dented the top of the rescue truck cab.

Chief Steve Wirth investigated this incidence and Mr. Kelly was given a written reprimand and required to pay back the cost of the repairs to the truck. The truck was repaired at a cost of \$560.00 which Mr. Kelly has paid. Mr. Daniel Kelly spoke stating that he felt he should not be penalized for doing his job. After further discussion, the hearing was completed with a decision to be made by the Board in Executive Session.

Agenda Item # 8 – Executive Session – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board entered into Executive Session. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board returned to Open Session. Commission Chair Jackson stated that a personnel issue was discussed in Executive Session. On motion (Boone) and second (Isenhower), the Board voted 4 to 1 to refund Mr. Kelly one half of the \$560.00 repair bill he paid for the damage to the rescue truck. Commissioner Isenhower, Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Crook voted against the motion.

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