

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 10, 2009 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on November 11, 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. Commissioner Allen gave the invocation.

**Agenda Item # 3 – Presentation to Mr. Phillip Spradlin – Postponed.**

**Agenda Item # 4 - Approval of Minutes – Postponed.**

**Agenda Item # 5 – Public Comments – None.**

**Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda –** Commission Chair Jackson asked for the following amendments to Old Business: “g” – Discuss Safer Grant – Chief Scott Blue; and “h” – Discuss Abandonment Procedures on Barr Farm Road. Commissioner Isenhower asked for an amendment to New Business to include “d” – Discuss Posting Warning Signs on the Chattahoochee River. On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved these requests.

**Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – a. Update on EMA Headquarters and Heard County Fire Station #2 – Mr. Kevin Hamby -** Mr. Kevin Hamby with Clough Harbour & Associates reported that the EMA Headquarters was on schedule and expected to be finished by mid-January with the move in set for February or March, 2010. He stated that he worked on the furniture request for proposal (RFP) today, which would be in the newspaper next week. Mr. Hamby reported that he had received a letter from the roof

manufacturer stating that the roof was installed to specifications. He presented a example of the roofing system. Commissioner Isenhower asked Mr. Hamby when the awning, at the Coroner's entrance and exit, was taken out of the building design. He explained this was done in a work session in the beginning of the building discussions. Commissioner Boone explained that it was taken out as a cost savings measure. Chief Scott Blue stated, yes, it was taken out in the very early stages of this project.

Mr. Hamby also reported that a walk through was done at Heard County Fire Station # 2 last week. Everything is complete and looks great on this project. Commissioner Isenhower stated that she was very impressed with Mark and Mickey Cook's work on this facility.

**b. Approve Final Pay Request for Heard County Fire Station # 2** – Commission Chair Jackson presented the final pay request from Mark and Mickey Cook for the retainage fee on Heard County Fire Station # 2 in the amount of \$33,900.00. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**c. Discuss Sign Reimbursement Request for Heard County Fire Station # 2** – Commission Chair Jackson presented a pay request from Mark and Mickey Cook for remaking the fire station sign at Station # 2 in the amount of \$1700.00, Commission Chair Jackson stated that this sign was remade to correct the name from Roosterville Fire Station to Heard County Fire Station # 2. Mr. Mickey Cook stated that all his paperwork from the beginning of this project has stated "Roosterville Fire Station". He had the sign made to read that and was then told it should read "Heard County Fire Station # 2". He stated the original sign cost him \$2,000.00 even though he only charged Heard County \$1,070.00 and this sign cost him \$1,700.00. He is asking the Board to reimburse him the

\$1,700.00. Commissioner Caldwell stated he felt this was miscommunication on the sign wording. Commission Isenhower expressed her concern that all Mr. Cook's paperwork did state, Roosterville Fire Station, not Station #2. She made a motion to reimburse Mr. Cook his \$1,700.00. The motion died on the table for the lack of a second.

Commissioner Boone stated that he felt this was an honest mistake on Mr. Cook's behalf. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board voted 4 to 1 to reimburse Mr. Cook for ½ of the \$1,700.00 invoice or \$850.00. Commissioner Isenhower, Commissioner Boone, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Crook voted against the motion.

**c. Approve Pay Request for Fire Administration Facility** – Commission Chair Jackson presented pay request number 17905-12 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 this request.

**d. Approve Pay Request for Local Culvert Replacement Projects** – Commission Chair Jackson presented pay request number 19047-14 from Clough Harbour & Associates in the amount of \$19,308.06. Mr. Hamby explained that all the project documents are complete and this project is ready to bid out. He stated this is the last invoice from Clough Harbour on this project unless they are authorized to move forward with the bid process. Commissioner Boone recommended that these documents be submitted to Three Rivers Regional Commission to try and obtain any grant monies available for this type of project. All agreed. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this pay request.

**f. Discuss Amendment to Arena Facility Use Guidelines** – Commission Chair Jackson stated that Mr. Sammy Noles, Arena Director, has had a lot of requests from people wanting to rent the arena on Tuesday, both during the day and the evening. He is recommending that the County offer the citizens more options for using the arena during the week. She stated Mr. Noles is recommending that the guidelines be amended for the arena to be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for residents of Heard County. (see attached guidelines). On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**g. Discuss Safer Grant – Chief Scott Blue** – Chief Scott Blue asked the Board for permission to apply for a grant that if awarded, would allow Heard County to hire several new firefighters and provide their salaries and benefits for the next two years in the amount of \$250,000.00. Commissioner Caldwell asked Chief Blue what would happen with these firefighters if the grant was not renewed in the future. Chief Blue explained that the employees could actually lose their positions or possible be moved to any open full time position or part time as needed position. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**Agenda Item # 8 – New Business – a. Discuss Non-Conforming Use Application – Sharon Loyd, 2373 Nutt Road** – Commission Chair Jackson stated that Ms. Sharon Loyd has requested to replace her flooded 1987 doublewide mobile home with a completely remodeled 1983 doublewide mobile home that is in Thomaston, Georgia. Commission Chair Jackson explained because the mobile home is over 20 years old, the Board would need to approve this as a non-conforming mobile home. Ms. Loyd explained to the Board that the 1983 mobile home is in extremely good condition and has

been completely remodeled. She presented photos of this mobile home. After some discussion, on motion (Boone) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request stating that a current certified inspection would be necessary on the 1983 mobile home as well as conforming to all other current zoning ordinances.

**b. Discuss Request from Heard County School Board** – Commission Chair Jackson stated that the Heard County School Board is requesting that Heard County pave the entire length of PeaRidge Road. After some discussion, Commissioner Crook suggested that Commission Chair Jackson contact the property owners on this road about obtaining the needed right of way before any decision is made about paving. All agreed.

**c. Discuss Warning Sirens** – Commission Chair Jackson stated that Motorola has inspected all the warning sirens in Heard County and found several problems. Chris Cumbie with Heard County EMA stated that there were issues with four different sirens in the County and to repair them would cost approximately \$8,251.25. He stated that the 911 dispatch center does check these sirens each year and these problems occurred in the last year. He stated that there is currently no money to pay for these needed repairs in the EMA budget. He stated there is a maintenance line item in the tower budget that could be used for this maintenance if the Board would like to use it. Chief Blue stated he did not anticipate this money to be used on the tower this year. Commissioner Boone stated he felt this should be a tower budget item. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved for these repairs to be funded from the tower budget and the contingency line item from the general fund budget.

**d. Discuss Abandonment Procedures on Barr Farm Road** – Commission Chair Jackson stated that County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner recently had a request from the

McCormick family on Barr Farm Road regarding abandoning a small portion of the old Barr Farm Road between the landowners property and the new road. Commissioner Caldwell stated he would like to postpone this item until he has a chance to speak with the McCormick family and adjoining landowners on Barr Farm Road. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously agreed to postpone the abandonment procedures.

**e. Discuss Posting Warning Signs on the Chattahoochee River** – Commissioner Isenhower stated that she would like to Heard County to post warning signs on the Chattahoochee River warning people of possible contamination in the water. Commission Chair Jackson stated she would contact the Corps of Engineers regarding this request. All agreed.

**Agenda Item # 9 – Executive Session** – None.

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