

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 23, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on February 23, 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 Eisenhower, 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 – Approval of Minutes** – On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board approved the minutes from February 9, 2010 with corrections.

**Agenda Item # 4 – Public Comments** – None.

**Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda** – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an amendment to Old Business to include “g” – Discuss Barr Farm Road Abandonment and an amendment to New Business to include “d” – Discuss Request from Tax Assessors. Commissioner Eisenhower asked for an amendment to New Business to include “e” – Discuss Sand at Riverside Park. On motion (Allen) and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously agreed to accept these amendments.

**Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – a. Update on Fire Administration Facility – Kevin Hamby** – Mr. Hamby reported that the furniture was installed today for the EMA Headquarters. He also reported that the phone lines with AT&T were ordered several months ago but AT&T has been delayed in running these necessary communication lines. He stated that AT&T has reported that they must run a new line from Franklin to the

headquarters and it would not be complete for approximately 2 months. He also reported that after the final audit is complete with New South he will know the exact amount of money that was saved on this project. Commissioner Eisenhower asked Chief Blue if we were going to receive a piece of steel from the Twin Towers in New York. Chief Blue stated that we would be receiving a piece but he was not sure when or what exact piece we would be receiving.

**b. Approve Pay Request for Fire Administration Facility** - Commission Chair Jackson presented final pay request number 17905-16 from Clough Harbour & Associates in the amount of \$200.00 for engineering services related to the fire administration facility. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**c. Discuss Dug-Outs at Sports Complex – Kevin Hamby** – Mr. Hamby presented four options to the Board relating to the shade canopies and dugout canopies at the Sports Complex. The options were as follows:

- a. Reinstall the canopies over the dugout areas and the bleachers with additional bracing;
- b. Add a roof over the dugout areas (see attached handout) on each field and reinstall the canopies over the bleachers only;
- c. Install a roof over the dugout areas on each field and the bleachers;
- d. Leave as is with no covers at all.

He asked the Board which option they would like to pursue. Commissioner Eisenhower asked why this wasn't done before. Mr. Hamby explained that the shade canopies were in the original design of the complex and were installed but have since been taken down due to them falling from the weight of the rain and snow. He explained that they can be reinstalled but he would advise that they be reinstalled with more bracing. Commissioner

Crook expressed his concerns that this was going to be an additional cost to the County. He also stated that he felt this should have been in the original design. David Julien expressed his concern that the shade canopies offer no protection for the dugouts at all. He stated that for the safety of the children he would like an actual roof over the dugouts on each field except the t-ball fields. Mr. Julien and Mr. Hamby both stated that they did check the canopies for correct installation and they both felt that they were installed correctly but that there was not enough bracing included in the original design. After further discussion, on motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved option # 2. This motion also included asking the high school to build seven scorekeeper booths to be installed at each field with the exception of the t-ball field. Mr. Hamby will prepare the request for proposals for the roofs over the dugouts. There will be no design charge for this.

**d. Discuss Driveway Pipe Policy – Jerry Ann Conner** – County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner stated that after investigating the State law on driveways, she found it would be the County's responsibility to repair any existing driveways in the County's right of way that are causing damage to a County road. She stated that she would work on adding language to the County's existing permitting process to cover this for new driveways. On motion (Crook), and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously approved for Mr. Darold Wiggins to repair any existing driveway in the County's right of way that is causing damage to a County road..

**e. Discuss County Banking Business – Felicia Adams** – Finance Director, Felicia Adams presented the Board with a pledging report from First Georgia Banking Company. This report indicates that the County funds are insured with the FDIC insurance or

through pledged securities. She stated that Heard County's funds would be secure in the event of a bank closing.

**f. Discuss Yates Lane** – Commissioner Caldwell stated that he spoke with Mr. Barry Yates, a resident of Yates Lane about donating his right of way to Carroll County in order for this road to be paved. He explained that this resident stated he has not been contacted by anyone from Carroll County regarding his right of way. Commissioner Isenhower stated that she spoke with Carroll County Commission Chair Bill Chappell and he stated to her that all the right of ways has been obtained on this road for paving. Commissioner Caldwell stated that Mr. Yates has not been contacted by anyone from the Carroll County administration. Commission Chair Jackson stated that she would contact Commission Chairman, Bill Chappell and report back to the Board.

**g. Discuss Barr Farm Road Abandonment** – County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner stated that she needed the Board to reconfirm the owners on Barr Farm Road that would be receiving a piece of the previously abandoned portion of the old Barr Farm road. Commissioner Caldwell stated that he was concerned about abandoning a portion of this road if Forestar was involved. He explained that one of the residents needed access to a hayfield which could possibly be landlocked if Forestar receives a piece of the abandoned road. He asked County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner, to clarify with Forestar before he agrees to abandon this portion of the old road. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously agreed to transfer the previously abandoned portion to the McCormick family only.

**Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Discuss Safety Proposal from United Safety Solutions, LLC – Nathan Salls, President** – Mr. Nathan Salls, President of United

Safety Solutions. LLC presented to the Board a safety proposal for Heard County. He explained that he could provide Heard County with 32 to 36 hours a month for job site safety inspections, employee training and awareness, and monthly detail safety reports of his findings. Commission Chair Jackson stated that Heard County is provided a free safety service through Association County Commissioners of Georgia's (ACCG) property and liability fund. She stated she would like to check into this free service before the County makes a decision on Mr. Salls proposal. She stated she would report back to the Board of her findings.

**b. Discuss Appointment to Community Action for Improvement (CAFI) Board –**

Commission Chair Jackson stated that there is a vacancy on the Community Action for Improvement Board (CAFI) that Heard County needs to fill. There being no recommendations for this appointment, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

**c. Discuss Appointment to Workforce Investment Board (WIA) –** Commission Chair Jackson stated that there is a vacancy on the West Central Georgia Workforce Development Board to represent Heard County. On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously recommended Ms. Kathy Knowles be appointed to this Board.

**d. Discuss Request from Tax Assessors –** Heard County Board of Tax Assessors, Chairman, Mr. Johnny Kistler addressed the Board regarding the Tax Assessors need to contract with a company to up date the County's GIS database. Mr. Kistler explained that this service would update the County's maps for merges and changes per recorded deed or per County request. He presented the Board with four proposals for this service. The proposals were as follows:

Keck & Wood, Inc. - \$ 8,000.00

Southern Geographic - \$ 1,000.00 monthly base fee and \$35.00 per map

Sewall Company - \$13,000.00

Geofiny Technologies - \$ 7,310.00

After some discussion, Mr. Kistler and Ms. Dale Castillo, Chief Appraiser in the Tax Assessors office, both stated they were very impressed with Keck & Wood's knowledge and skill level of this project and recommended accepting the proposal from Keck & Wood. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**e. Discuss Sand at Recreation Department** – Commissioner Isenhower asked if the County received any test results on the possible contaminants in the sand at the recreation department. She stated she did ask for this information and received an email from the Department of Natural Resources but that the email did not include any test results. She stated she was concerned about the bacteria in the sand if it is going to be used on any recreation department ball fields. Mr. David Julien, Recreation Director stated that he and Mr. Darold Wiggins were told by the Department of Natural Resources that as long as the sand was stockpiled, the sunlight and cold weather would destroy any bacteria in the sand. Mr. Darold Wiggins stated that FEMA also told the County that they could stockpile the sand for their own use but that it could not be sold to anyone. FEMA did state that the County could give the sand to companies or businesses for use in a product such as blocks or concrete. Commissioner Isenhower stated she still felt that the sand should be tested for contaminants. Mr. Julien stated that she could call the Department of Natural Resources representative who sent the email and ask for any additional information.

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