

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2012 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on February 23, 2012 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 Jacob Cammon, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Frank Crook, District 5 Commissioner Sandi Allen, and Attorney John Taylor. Commission Chair Jackson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Mr. Johnny Kistler gave the invocation. Commission Chair Jackson introduced Mr. John Taylor serving as County Attorney for Jeff Todd who is out of town. She also introduced the Heard County Youth Leadership Group.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes - On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from January 26, 2012 with changes.

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda –Commissioner Isenhower requested to amend the agenda to “discuss mold in the courthouse.” On motion (Isenhower) and second (Cammon), the Board voted 2 to 3 against this request. Commissioner Isenhower and Commissioner Cammon voted for the motion. Commissioners Allen, Crook and Caldwell voted against the motion. Commissioner Isenhower requested to amend the agenda to add “discuss bond issue.” On motion (Isenhower) and second (Cammon), the Board voted 3 to 2 to approve this request. Commissioners, Isenhower, Cammon and Caldwell voted for the motion. Commissioners Crook and Allen voted against the motion. This issue was added to Old Business as “a – Discuss Bond Issue”. Commissioner Cammon requested to amend the agenda to add a discussion of the weather sirens to new business.

On motion (Cammon) and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously approved this request. Commissioner Isenhower made a motion to discuss “use of county credit cards” This motion died for the lack of a second. Commissioner Isenhower made a motion to discuss “100% audit of county books”. This motion died for the lack of a second.

Agenda Item # 5 – Public Comments - Commission Chair Jackson opened public comments and reviewed the public meeting rules and regulations, regarding public comments. There were no public comments.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – a. Discuss SPLOST Bond Issue – Commissioner Isenhower stated that she felt that before a bond is backed with SPLOST funds in the future, the County needs to make sure the County finances are in compliance. Mr. Taylor explained the reasoning behind a SPLOST bond validation hearing and stated that the county has a yearly fiscal audit to make sure they are in compliance each year.

Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Discuss Habitat for Humanity Project in Heard County – Mr. Steven Brown, Executive Director – Mr. Brown stated that the Habitat for Humanity Project is underway and a piece of property was recently donated to them and was now being surveyed. He stated that he wanted to keep the board up to date on this project and hope to see Habitat partnering with Heard County in the near future.

b. Approval of Heard County Transit 5311 Program for 2012 – Commission Chair Jackson read the authorizing resolution between Georgia Department of Transportation and Heard County regarding the Heard County Transit 5311 Public Transportation Program. On motion (Allen) and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously approved this resolution and gave permission for Commission Chair Jackson to sign.

c. Discuss Arena Event – Mr. Chuck Stephens – Mr. Chuck Stephens, local business owner and member of the Heard County Development Authority asked the Board to partner with the Development Authority in helping to promote tourism in Heard County by providing financial support for an event to be held at the Heard County Arena. He explained that this event, Cowboys Ways, was modeled after an event he visited in Cartersville, Georgia. He presented a budget to help get this project going and asked the County to approve funding for half of the \$6,850.00. After further discussion, on motion (Crook) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously approved this request to pay \$3,425.00 from the contingency line item.

d. Discuss Weather Sirens – Commissioner Cammon asked Chief Scott Blue to discuss the weather sirens and how they work in Heard County. Chief Blue explained that currently there are eight sirens in Heard County. He explained that they are tested the first Wednesday of every month if the weather allows. He also stated that Heard County currently has a two year maintenance contract on these sirens with Metropolitan Communications. He also stated that a new siren is \$25,000.00 and that to upgrade the monitoring with new technology would cost approximately \$1,500.00 a siren. After further discussion, the Board stated they would like for him to proceed with an official quote for more maintenance on these sirens.

Commissioner Isenhower again asked the Board to amend the agenda to discuss mold in the courthouse. Commissioner Cammon seconded. On a vote of 3 to 2 the motion failed. Commissioners Isenhower and Cammon voted for the motion. Commissioners Crook, Allen, and Caldwell voted against the motion. Commission Chair Jackson stated she was not aware of any mold currently in the courthouse. She stated that the County did spend

approximately \$8,000.00 for mold removal a few years ago and recently installed air purification filters in each system in the courthouse.

Agenda Item # 8 – Executive Session – Commissioner Caldwell asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Cammon), the Board unanimously voted to go into Executive Session. On motion (Cammon) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session. Commission Chair Jackson stated that personnel were discussed in Executive Session with no decisions made.

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