

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
JULY 14, 2009 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on July 14, 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. Darold Wiggins gave the invocation.

**Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes** – On motion (Caldwell) and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously approved the minutes from June 23, 2009 with changes to page 3.

**Agenda Item # 4 – Public Hearing – a. Abandonment of a Portion of Old Providence Road -**

Commission Chair Jackson opened the public hearing for abandonment of a portion of Old Providence Road. She explained that the County received a request from Mr. Ricky Walston and Blossman Gas regarding abandoning a portion of Old Providence Road that runs in front of Mr. Ricky Walston’s house and shop. Mr. Walston stated that he did understand that there would be no maintenance done on this portion of the road if abandoned. County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner stated that the County would need to measure the distance to be abandoned and specify this distance in the minutes. There being no further comments or questions from the Board and no further public comments, on motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

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

**Agenda Item # 6 – Amend Agenda** – Commissioner Isenhower asked for an amendment to New Business to include “g” – Discuss Hiring a Commercial County Inspector for Heard

County. On motion (Isenhower) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously voted to approve this request.

**Agenda Item # 7 – 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 the fields at the Sports Complex look good, the front entrance fence needs some touch up paint and there are still some fencing that needs brackets and paint. He stated that there are some warranty issues being addressed with Headley Construction and their sub contractors. He stated that the dividing curtain in the gym needs some center supports and a bracket repaired and the heating and air sub contractor is addressing the condensation problem in the gym offices. Mr. Hamby and David Julien stated that the heating and air sub contractor, the engineers and the architect are all discussing the condensation problem so they may come to a resolution soon. David stated that he and his staff covered all the electronics in the office with plastic to prevent any water damage resulting from the condensation. Commissioner Isenhower asked David if the goal posts for the multi-purpose field were included in the original contract price. David stated, no, they were not included and he would be getting together bids on the goal posts to present to the Board.

Commissioner Isenhower asked about the condition of the grass in the common areas. David stated that there is a grub problem in this grass and he is trying to treat for the grubs and hopefully the grass will recover but it may not. Mr. Hamby stated that Sports Turf is aware of this problem and will be looking into it also. Commissioner Isenhower also asked if the retention ponds are going to be fenced. David stated he would be getting bids on fencing these ponds. Mr. Hamby stated that the State fire marshal did approve the Sports Complex and has

issued the certificate of occupancy. **Commission Chair Jackson stated she should have this paperwork in her office.**

Mr. Hamby also gave an update on the EMA Headquarters and the Roosterville Fire Station. He stated that he estimated the EMA Headquarters to be complete sometime around December or January. He stated the Roosterville Fire Station footings and foundation blocks have been constructed and the project is moving along.

**b. Discuss Arena Wiring – Sammy Noles** – Mr. Sammy Noles gave an update on the arena.

He explained that when the arena hosted the rodeo there was a problem with there not being enough power for all the vendors that set up on the backside of the arena at the concession stand. He stated that breakers were tripped and reset continuously during the rodeo. He stated that he asked Hannah Electric to give a price on adding some additional outlets and wiring.

Mr. Tim Ertzberger of Hannah Electric presented a price of \$5,992.00 for this additional wiring and labor. He explained that the price of copper wire is extremely expensive right now. After some discussion, Mr. Ertzberger explained that he could do this job as a time and material job and it could possibly be less than the \$5,992.00. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved for Hannah Electric to do the additional wiring with the stipulation that the cost does not exceed \$5,992.00 and for this to be paid from the contingency line item from the general fund.

Commissioner Boone asked Mr. Noles to give an update on the sound system at the arena.

He expressed his concerns that the sound is not clear when you are in the arena and the audience has a difficult time hearing an announcer. Mr. Noles explained that he has asked a sound technician to analyze this problem and he will get back to the Board with his recommendation.

**c. Approve Pay Request for Fire Administration Facility** - Commission Chair Jackson presented a pay request from Clough Harbour and Associates for the engineering services related to the fire administration facility in the amount of \$2,000.00. On motion (Allen) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**d. Discuss AC Unit at Heard County Jail** – Dena Thifault, Jail Administrator explained to the Board that a new compressor was installed at the jail approximately 2 weeks ago and it has gone out again. She asked the Board if they wanted to replace the compressor or the entire unit. Keith Knowles with Merrill & Associates explained to the Board that this unit was not designed for the different application and controls that were installed with the system. He explained that when talking to the Trane Tech Services it was explained that the system would not last with the way it was being controlled. He explained that the system is being controlled with low voltage controls and should have high voltage controls. He explained that there should have been a pump down valve installed with the system and there was not. He stated there was an attempt to install a pump down valve but the current controls will not allow it to work. The Trane Tech Services advised the best way to make the unit work properly with the current controls, but did not guarantee it to be successful. The controls were changed to the advice of Trane Tech Services. The repairs that are being made to the unit are only fixing the symptoms and are not fixing the problem. He did advise that the compressor would be covered under warranty but not the labor. After further discussion, on motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted for Merrill & Associates to replace this compressor under warranty and to pay their labor of \$2,000.00 to install the new

compressor and for this to be paid from the repairs and maintenance line item in the jail budget.

**Agenda Item # 8 – New Business – a. Decision on Public Hearing – Abandonment of a Portion of Old Providence Road** – On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to abandon a portion of Old Providence Road and for the portion to revert back to the original property owners.

**b. Discuss Expansion of Heard County Animal Control – Robert Nelms & Kevin Hamby** – Robert Nelms presented a preliminary drawing and estimated budget amount for the additions to the animal control center that were discussed in a previous budget work session. Mr. Nelms explained that the animal control center is overcrowded and does need more space especially for animals that he must quarantine by State law. Mr. Hamby suggested that the contract on the EMA headquarters could be amended to include the project if the Board would like. After much discussion, on motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the motion failed on a 2 to 3 vote. Commissioner Boone and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion, Commissioner Isenhower, Commissioner Crook and Commissioner Caldwell voted against the motion.

**c. Discussion of Pets and Animals in Public Places – Robert Nelms** – Mr. Nelms explained that during the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration that there were four altercations involving animals. He explained that he; City of Franklin Mayor Yates and Franklin Police Chief Hannah have discussed having the County and City ordinances changed to read no pets are allowed at these types of functions. County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner stated that this would be more of a City issue and that Mr. Nelms would need to address this as a City issue. She explained that he could currently enforce this rule on the County

Recreation Department property because the Recreation Department does have a no pets allowed policy already.

**d. Discuss Quality Control Testing for Fire Admin Building – Kevin Hamby – Mr.**

Hamby explained that he asked for a bid for construction material testing on the fire admin building. He stated that he received a bid of \$7,217.00 from GeoImage, LLC. He stated that \$10,000.00 was budgeted in the Fire Admin budget for this service. He asked the Board to accept this bid and to move the savings of \$2,783.00 to the overall project contingency line item in the budget. On motion (Allen) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

**e. Appointments to West Georgia Regional Library Board – Commission Chair**

Jackson stated that the terms of two Heard County Library Board members expired on June 30, 2009. She stated that the two appointees, Ms. Glovis South and Ms. Sandra Nolen have both agreed to be reappointed to this board. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously reappointed these two appointees.

**f. Discuss Purchase of Equipment for Public Works Department – Darold Wiggins –**

Mr. Darold Wiggins asked the Board to approve the purchase of a Gradall excavator for the Road Department previously discussed in a work session, at the cost of \$317,645.00. On motion (Boone) and second (Isenhower), the Board voted 3 to 2 to purchase this equipment. Commissioner Isenhower, Commissioner Boone, and Commissioner Allen voted for the motion. Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Crook voted against this motion. This equipment will be paid from the Roads line item in the SPLOST budget.

**g. Discuss Hiring a Commercial County Inspector for Heard County – Commissioner**

Isenhower stated that she felt that Heard County should consider hiring a commercial county inspector to oversee the County construction projects such as the fire admin building and the Roosterville Fire Station. Commission Chair Jackson stated that the County pays an engineer and an architect to oversee these types of projects.

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

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