

HARALSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 5, 2016
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Allen Poole called the meeting to order. Fire Chief Brian Walker offered the Invocation and Commissioner Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Poole noted for the record that Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Dobbs were absent due to personal reasons.

Chairman Poole stated that the minutes had been sent out to the commissioners to review prior to this meeting. He asked if there were any changes to be made to the minutes. There were none. Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2015 Regular meeting and the December 16, 2015 work session as written. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Public Participation on Agenda Items – None

Chairman's Report

Chairman Poole reported that he had suspended the department head reports until the next meeting, due to the length of the agenda for this first meeting of the year.

Item #1 – Lee/Jackson Birthday Proclamation

Commissioner Robinson read and presented the proclamation to Nathan Forrister and various members of the Haralson Invincibles Camp #673, who were dressed in clothing from that period in history. Mr. Forrister thanked the board and then presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Board of Commissioners and staff for their efforts in presenting these proclamations.

Item #2 – County Credit Card Ordinance and Resolution

Chairman Poole reported that this is the resulting Ordinance and Resolution required by O.C.G.A. 36-80-24 which went into effect January 1, 2016. This regulates the usage of credit cards and purchase cards of elected officials. They will be required to sign a user agreement and abide by the policies and procedures set forth within this ordinance. County Attorney, Julie Cain, has worked with the sheriff and the chairman set the terms of this agreement. Commissioner Bennett motioned to approve the new Credit Card Ordinance and Resolution. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Item #3 – IT Proposal

Chairman Poole stated that this item was discussed in the work session. After numerous complaints about IT problems, the commissioners were considering a proposal from Bill Brown to work as a part time county employee to meet the IT needs of the county. His proposal was \$50/hour for up to 800 hours a year. This equates to \$40,000 per year. This would be a savings to the county. Current IT provider charges \$95/hour. Chairman Poole motioned to approve Bill Brown as the new IT provider. Commissioner Robinson seconded. Commissioner Bennett stated she was abstaining. Chairman Poole asked County Clerk Alison Palmer to contact Commissioner Dobbs by phone to get his vote on this item. While Mrs. Palmer was contacting him, Commissioner Bennett stated that the reason she was abstaining had nothing to do with Mr. Brown, but it was because the board did not advertise and get bids for this work. Chairman Poole stated that this was because Mr. Brown would be acting as an employee, not a contractor. Commissioner Bennett stated that it would only have cost the price of an ad in the paper. When Mrs. Palmer had Commissioner Dobbs on the phone, she explained the question at hand and asked Commissioner Dobbs for his vote. He stated that he was in favor of hiring Bill Brown to take care of the IT. Chairman Poole stated the motion carried 3 in favor, 1 abstaining. A couple of people in the audience questioned the phone vote. Chairman Poole stated that we did not use it often, but had done it a limited number of times in the past. He stated that it had been cleared by the County Attorney.

Item #4 – Building Code Update

Chairman Poole asked Mrs. Palmer to give a quick overview of this item, which had also been discussed at the work session. Mrs. Palmer told the updates that were required by the state in order to keep the Building Code ISO at the current low level. Commissioner Bennett motioned to approve the Building Code Updates. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #3 – Revisited

Prior to moving on to the next item, County Attorney, Julie Cain, asked to make a statement regarding the phone vote on Item #3. She said she wanted to clarify that this had been discussed and approved through the previous county attorney, that she had not had a chance to review this for herself.

Item #5 – Board of Health Vacancy

Chairman Poole stated that there were two nominations for this appointment. They are Bobby Mehan and Zack Bush. He asked if there were any more nominations from the board. There were none. Commissioner Robinson motioned to close nominations. Chairman Poole seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Poole then asked for a motion to approve Bobby Mehan as the appointment to the Board of Health. Commissioner Bennett motioned; Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried 3-0. Chairman Poole stated that he would check with the Health board and find out if it is possible to add a position for Mr. Bush.

Item #6 – Superior Court Clerk Supplement

Chairman Poole had Mrs. Palmer explain that this was for the additional duties added to the Superior Court Clerk for being responsible for the Board of Equalization and handling these addition duties. It was explained that this was another mandate by the state. There was no guidance on what this amount should be. The Board had previously discussed \$1000 per year. Commissioner Robinson motioned to pay the Superior Court Clerk and additional \$1000 per year for handling the Board of Equalization. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Item #7 – FY 2015 Budget Amendment #2

Chairman Poole asked Mrs. Palmer to explain. She explained that this is the final budget amendment for FY 2015 to account for the TAVT funds, to account for the shortfall in the LOST funds due to the large reimbursement that was made to a Haralson County business that had overpaid for quite some time. It also allotted the funds to cover overages throughout the county for the year and ended with a balance of \$280,000 going to the fund balance. Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the FY 2015 Budget Amendment #2. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Item #8 – Transit Application Resolution

Chairman Poole stated that this is the resolution required to approve the application for state and federal funds to help the county support the transit program. Commissioner Bennett motioned to approve the resolution. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Item #9 – Reappoint County Attorney

Chairman Poole stated that Ms. Cain had done a very good job during her first year as the county attorney and motioned to reappoint her as the county attorney. Commissioner Robinson seconded and motion carried 3-0.

Item #10 – Reappoint County Clerk

Chairman Poole stated that appreciated the skills and experience Ms. Palmer brought to the county in different areas of handling county business. He stated she had a good relationship with ACCG and other counties. Chairman Poole motioned to reappoint Alison Palmer as County Clerk. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Public Participation on Non Agenda Items

Kathy Taylor spoke to the group regarding the upcoming West Georgia Crusade that is being put on with Go Tell Ministries and Evangelist Rick Gage. She stated that the event will be held April 24-27, 2016 at the Haralson County High School Stadium. She also stated that a Kickoff Banquet will be held January 25, 2016 at the West Georgia Technical College. She stated that seats or entire tables are available for purchase. All monies will go to cover the crusade costs.

David Tarpley spoke regarding a report that had a deadline that was missed by the commissioner's office and also spoke regarding the vote on the IT. He felt like that was not a proper vote.

Chairman Poole stated that the missed deadline was in the process of being corrected. Alison Palmer took responsibility for the missed SPLOST Expenditures report and stated that it would be in the newspaper this next week. She apologized for missing this deadline.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Submitted by Alison Palmer
County Clerk