

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2014**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman Authur James Nance called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with Commissioners Wallace Mathis, Clark Henderson, Sam Farrow, and Larry Felton in attendance. Others present were County Administrator Tom Patton, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett, and Clerk Linda Finch. Chairman Nance gave the invocation, and Administrator Patton led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Chairman Nance welcomed all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 12, 2014, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF HANCOCK'S REPORT

Sheriff Billy Hancock reported that the homicide that occurred last week was the first homicide in the unincorporated area of Crisp County since 2009; they have put in 265 man hours since Sunday night at 5:00, and the GBI has been assisting them with this. The project they started at budget time with the certified officers being in the detention facility is going well, they will have five from the detention facility to graduate September 19th. It will mean a lot to the safety and security of our community. He advised that they served 154 warrants, 169 civil papers, and 119 subpoenas last month along with 88 prisoners transported from the detention center to the courthouse. The deputies wrote 588 citations with estimated cost per citation of \$241.52, 65 citations were made in Arabi, and they worked 20 accidents last month. In the detention facility they housed 1710 billable marshal days, they housed 468 billable Cordele PD days, 48 billable Warwick PD days; estimated revenue for last month for marshal service was \$71,820, Cordele PD was \$13,104, and Warwick PD was \$1,440. Total revenue anticipated for last month with traffic citations, commissary and phones should be \$234,376. The commissary packet has been changed from 7% going up to 40%, and that should generate a good bit more money for the county. They are also going to offer a hot grill inside the detention center as the food service will take orders from the inmates during the week, and they will have an opportunity to buy a premium hamburger, a pizza, or something of that nature on the weekend that will be made inside the kitchen by the kitchen staff; the county will get a percentage of that fee as well. Sheriff Hancock stated that they have assigned someone to work with different organizations in the community so that they can see these officers in a different light as we want to reach out to them prior to them becoming high school dropouts and help them realize an education is important. We want to encourage these young adults that what they are doing now is the basis for their future. They have purchased a second live scan electronic fingerprint terminal through SPLOST and drug funds plus they have implemented Project Lifesaver which is a special bracelet for people to wear that have dementia, Alzheimer's, or a special needs patient. If a person that has a bracelet is missing, they can locate them quicker than usual because of a couple of receivers it will have in it. He would also like a civic organization to take over the administration of this project. Also, he advised that they picked up 24 dogs and 25 cats last month, and

they have put between \$80,000 and \$100,000 worth of kitchen equipment inside the detention center from Crisp County School Board, and he appreciates this as it did not cost the citizens anything.

APPROVAL OF THE FY 15 FTA 5311 OPERATING CONTRACT BETWEEN GDOT AND CRISP COUNTY

Administrator Patton advised that this is routine annual action to accept and approve the 5311 Operating Transit Grant Contract between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Crisp County. There is a 50% match, and the service company, CART, picks that up so it is no cost to the citizens; nothing has changed from last year. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve the FY 15 FTA 5311 Operating Contract between GDOT and Crisp County, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CRISP COUNTY CLERK OF COURT AND THE GEORGIA SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S COOPERATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrator Patton reported that this is a memorandum of agreement between the Georgia Clerk's Cooperative Authority and our county clerk of court. There is an update to the 2006 contract. The agreement authorizes the Authority to retain proceeds, sums, reimbursements, payments, grants, or awards payable to the County for data and services which are provided by the Clerk; the Clerk can expend such proceeds, etc. for technological and record management projects within the office of the Clerk of Superior Court for the purpose of establishing, maintaining or improving networks, systems and/or hardware essential for providing access to data within the Clerk's Office. Funds not used during the fiscal year will be held by the Authority and carried over to the next fiscal years for future technological and record management improvements within the Clerk's Office. At such time the amount of unexpected funds retained by the Authority reaches \$10,000, the proceeds shall be paid to the Clerk of Superior Court for distribution to the County's general fund. **Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Crisp County Clerk of Court and the Georgia Superior Court Clerk's Cooperative Authority and authorize the Chairman to sign the Agreement, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

ACCEPT \$500,000 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Chairman Nance advised that he and Administrator Patton went to Savannah to receive a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant. Only 71 communities were successful in receiving grants this year, and this grant will be for a sewer project below the Newtown area to assist people with the overflow of septic tanks and running water on the ground, along with having good safe drinking water. He thanked the Commissioners and especially Commissioner Felton for being hands on in that area walking the neighborhood helping with the grant information

APPROVE THE 2015 CRISP COUNTY EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Administrator Patton reported that is routine action to set the holiday schedule for 2015. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve the 2015 Crisp County Employee Holiday Schedule, seconded by Mr. Henderson, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that included in their packet is a preliminary report for the first two months of FY 15. The first report is the report of revenues and expenditures for the County's General and three major Special Revenue Funds. Combined, these funds are reporting August revenues received at \$794,087 and expenditures at \$873,675. Year to date totals of \$921,294 in revenue and \$2.4 million in expenditures leaves the county with a \$1.5 million shortfall after the first 60 days of the new year. It's pretty normal for expenditures to exceed revenues during this window of our fiscal year, and we expect it to remain this way for the next two to three months. Cash reserves remain tight but should be sufficient to get us through. The Water Fund recorded monthly revenues of \$55,736 and expenditures of \$56,185; YTD revenues of \$114,243 and YTD expenditures of \$109,236, leaving the Water Fund with a small net gain after two months of just over \$5,000. Water consumption billed for the month was 7.6 million gallons. The USDA Bonds are current at \$1.5 million. In the Landfill Fund, monthly revenue was \$123,743 and accrued expenses of \$90,257 bringing year to date totals to \$284,001 in accrued revenue and \$230,900 in expenses leaving the landfill fund with a small net gain after two months of \$53,101. The total tonnage received for the month of August was 3,919.09 tons. Approximately 43% of that was received from Advanced under their commercial contract, 15% under the residential contract and 7% under the county's curbside contract. The GEFA loans are current at \$4.3 million. In the Cash Report, the General Fund and special revenue funds combined ended the month with \$4.5 million; The proprietary funds with \$2.7 million and the SPLOST funds at just over \$8 million, bringing our County wide total to \$15.1 million, which is down about \$1.0 million from 8/31/13. In the 2000 SPLOST Issue, we have spent \$17.4 million on projects associated with this issue, and \$20,320,831 on the 2005 SPLOST Issue projects. Distribution no.31 of the 2011 Issue in the amount of \$364,836 is up, 5% over August of 2013, and brings the issue to date collections to \$10.3 million. To date, we have expended \$8.8 million. We have spent \$445,485 in Special Local Option Sales Tax dollars during the month of August. Projects benefiting were Crisp County Roads, the Detention Center, Crisp County Recreation, the Crisp County Sheriff's Department, the Darton Project and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. Following that is an updated spreadsheet on the Local Option Sales Tax Distributions. This month's distribution of \$175,097 is up, 4.76% over this same period last year. For the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, the payout of Cordele IDA, # 5, this month drops our active loan total down to seven with a total outstanding balance due of \$2.1 million. The last report is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report. The summary report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund. Because this report is very preliminary, expenditures should be below 17%. As of this report, overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are at 16%; the Water Fund at 19%, and the Landfill Fund at 18%.

CHANGE REGULAR MEETING DATE IN NOVEMBER

Chairman Nance reported that the November meeting date of the 11th will be on Veterans Day, which is a holiday, so we need to change our meeting day. Administrator Patton recommended that we move it to the next day. **By common consent, Commissioners moved their regular meeting date of November 11th to Wednesday, November 12, 2014 due to the 11th being a holiday.**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Patton reported that 1) he attended several meetings and events last month; 2) he attended the DCA Community Development Block Grant Recipients workshop in Savannah; 3) he attended Darton College progress meetings. Project is on time and below costs. We have completed the demolition of the buildings on Wall Street as we had agreed to do as in kind work for the college

project; 4) he met with our consulting engineers to correct issues found at the landfill. We are making progress with most of the issues at the landfill. Many improvements have been made to move traffic in and out without having to tow them in and out; 5) he met with perspective customer for landfill use; 6) he met with Synergy, Inc. to discuss possibilities for septic system locations. This is an ongoing project; 7) due to better weather conditions we are catching up on our road work and repairing roads damaged over the winter. New mowers are out working the right of ways and cutting back line of site at intersections; 8) he attended the Empowerment Zone Banquet in honor of 20 years of service to the community; 9) he attended the Defined Benefit pension Board of Trustees meeting; and 10) he signed paperwork to take over some of the playground equipment from the school system. On the Blackshear Trail campus, we are getting a large climbing/slide combo and a blue swing set, and on the O'Neal campus, we are getting a small climbing/slide combo, mountain climber, and an individual yellow slide for our recreation department. This will really be helpful to us, and we really appreciate the school board for giving us this equipment.

DISCUSS PHONE SYSTEM AT COURTHOUSE

Administrator Patton reported that we had a lightning strike over the weekend, and the phone system has been out since the weekend, and we are working with the phone company diligently to get that system back up and running.

LANDFILL RECEIVE SCORE OF 100 LAST MONTH

Commissioner Felton thanked the employees at the landfill and Carl Gamble for their hard work in receiving a score of 100 at the landfill last month.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, personnel, and real estate, seconded by Mr. Felton with Commissioners Nance, Mathis, and Farrow voting to go into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Henderson, motion carried with Commissioners Nance, Mathis, and Farrow voting to come out of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m., seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

Authur James Nance, Chairman

Tom Patton, Administrator