

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 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. Carl Gamble 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 November 12, 2014 meeting, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF HANCOCK'S REPORT

Sheriff Billy Hancock introduced Melvin Jones, who has been with the Sheriff's Department for 23 years and prior to that he had experience with Cordele PD, and advised that he has been promoted to major and will handle the courts. Chairman Nance and Commissioners congratulated Mr. Jones on his promotion and thanked him for protecting our citizens. Mr. Hancock reported that November was a busy month as they served 139 warrants, 142 civil papers, and 174 subpoenas, and court was in session for 82.50 hours with 205 man hours to operate the courts. The traffic division/road patrol wrote 570 citations with an average cost per citation at \$224.03 and estimated fines due about \$127,695, and the accidents doubled last month from what they normally work at 41 accidents. The animal control report shows they picked up 52 animals with total assistance calls at 38. In the inmate report, they housed around 54 inmates a day for the US Marshals with 2,081 billable days, Cordele PD sentenced prisoners had 356 billable days, and Warwick PD had 20 billable days. Total estimated revenues for all services will be about \$229,921.25. He presented a check for \$86,042 for inmate housing last month. Sheriff Hancock advised that their budget is running about 38% where some of the areas should have been 33%, and one of those line items that were over was the Mid-South Narcotics Task Force where their overtime was up; he gave the finance director a reimbursement check from the drug enforcement administration for the overtime of \$1,399.30. He advised that they are still holding the contract for the commissary as they did not obligate any funding that belonged to the county; Stewart Distribution usually does not do a contract but they are going to get us something in writing so that we can be in compliance. He advised that in a good year the commissary has produced us about \$7,000 revenue a year, and last month our commissary report was \$4,800 just by renegotiating and changing vendors. He also stated that they have asked for a USDA grant as they were able to find some funding available through USDA for computers, brick and mortar, and vehicles, and since one of their most expensive items they have is their rolling fleet, they have filled out a grant for \$34,237 with \$9,237 being an in-kind match from the sheriff's office for an automobile. He just needs

Commissioners approval for the grant. **Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to approve the application for federal assistance, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

ANNA MCINTYRE'S RESIGNATION

Anna McIntyre, Crisp County 4-H Agent, reported that she has accepted a position with the Georgia Agribusiness Council; it was an opportunity that she could not turn down. She thanked the Commissioners for their support coming into this county along with all the support of Crisp County 4-H. She stated that it has been an absolute pleasure to work with the children of this county along with the county and administration. Her last day will be December 31, 2014. She advised that she will be traveling with her new position and will be in this area often. Chairman Nance and Commissioners thanked her for the magnificent job she has done for 4-H and the county, and wish her well in her future.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING AND RELATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE 2014 CDBG SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Administrator Patton reported that a requirement of the Community Development Block Grant is to approve the agreement for engineering and related professional services for the 2014 CDBG Sewer Improvements Project. The contract is with J. B. Faircloth and Lanier Engineering; the fees are \$39,048.75 which includes design, permitting, bidding, plus \$13,016.25 for construction administration. He advised that additional services needed but not included in those items will be billed at an hourly rate set forth in the proposed contract. He stated that this is the same CDBG we applied for in 2013 but was not approved. **Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to approve the Agreement For Engineering and Related Professional Services, Crisp County 2014 CDBG Sewer Improvement Project, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that the first report is of the revenues and expenditures for the County's General and three major Special Revenue Funds; combined these funds are reporting November revenues received at \$1,038,366 and expenditures at \$1,038,653. Year to date totals of \$4.7 million in revenue and \$6.8 million in expenditures leave us with a -13% shortfall of just over \$2 million. For the month of November, the Water Fund recorded monthly revenues of \$45,471 and expenditures of \$59,952; YTD revenues of \$262,840 and YTD expenditures of \$254,665, leaving the Water Fund with a small net gain of \$8,176. Water consumption billed for the month was 4,777,000 gallons, and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1.5 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting accrued revenue for the month of November at \$97,031 and accrued expenses of \$75,430 bringing year to date totals to \$635,782 in accrued revenue and \$557,447 in expenses leaving us with a year to date net income of \$78,334. The total tonnage received for the month of November was 3176.36 tons. Approximately 52% of that was received from Advanced under their commercial contract and 13% under the residential contract. The GEFA loans are current at \$4.2 million. In the Cash Report, the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds combined

are reporting cash on hand of \$5.5 million, the proprietary funds at \$2.5 million, and the SPLOST funds at \$7.8 million, leaving a County Wide total at 11/30/14 of \$15.9 million. As of this report, we have received about 13% (\$700,000) of the current year ad valorem tax revenue projections. In the 2000 SPLOST Issue, as of November 30th, we have spent \$17.7 million leaving us with \$584,560 to complete the remaining projects associated with this issue. For the 2005 SPLOST Issue, total expenditures to date of \$20.4 million leaves us with \$4.3 million to complete the projects budgeted under this issue. Distribution No. 34, in the amount of \$320,540, representing October retail sales is up approximately 3% from this time last year. It brings the issue to date collections to \$11.2 million; we have expended \$9.6 million. We expended a total of \$452,367 in SPLOST dollars during the month of November. The Local Option Sales Tax distributions pretty much mirrors the SPLOST numbers in that this month's distribution is up, about 3% over last year. We have six active loans in our CDBG Revolving Loan Fund with a total balance due of \$1.6 million. The last report is the preliminary 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. Expenditures should be at 42% or below. As of this report, overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are at 45%; the Water Fund is at 44% and the Landfill fund ended the month at 45%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Patton reported that 1) he attended several meetings and events last month; 2) he attended the Crisp County Fire Department annual Christmas dinner; 3) he attended the ACCG DB and DC Board of Trustee meeting. Our Defined Benefit plan is solvent and exceeding our benchmark for returns; 4) he attended the ACCG District meeting in Talbatton. They went over our legislative agenda for the upcoming General Assembly session; 5) we were notified that Direct and Dish Cable Companies plan on dropping our local TV channels from their line-up. He will write a letter from the County urging them not to do so as they are a key partner in getting timely information out to the citizens of Crisp County; and 6) he wrote a letter of support for Synergy, Inc., and they thanked us for our support.

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, motion carried with all Commissioners voting in favor of going into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners voting in favor of coming of out Executive Session.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to go back into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners voting in favor of going into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners voting in favor of coming out of Executive Session.

APPOINT JEROME OUTLAW TO CRISP REGIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to appoint Jerome Outlaw to the Crisp Regional Hospital Authority to a full five-year term ending December 31, 2019, second by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

REAPPOINT CATHERINE MCGILL TO THE REGION 6 MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BOARD

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to reappoint Catherine McGill to the Region 6 Mental Health Developmental Disabilities Board for a three-year term ending December 31, 2017, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

REAPPOINT KATHERINE KELLY TO THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to reappoint Katherine Kelly to the Crisp County Board of Health for a six-year term ending December 31, 2020, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

REAPPOINT MARK CRENSHAW AND HARRY FOX TO THE CRISP COUNTY RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to reappoint Mark Crenshaw and Harry Fox to the Crisp County Recreation Advisory Board for three-year terms ending December 31, 2017, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

FOLLOW RECOMMENDATION OF REVOLVING LOAN FUND COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to follow the recommendation of the Revolving Loan Fund Committee regarding the request to fund an \$800,000 shortfall on the Darton project, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS A.S.CLARK SCHOOL

Commissioner Felton stated that he heard that the school board had talked with some of the previous county commissioners and administrator about taking over A. S. Clark School when the school system moved out of the building. Chairman Nance advised that he could recall discussions they had and indicated to the board that we would be interested in it, but we never officially voted on anything. He advised that he talked with Scott Forehand, and Mr. Forehand said that one of the reasons they invested money in that facility is they thought the county was going to take over the facility. Commissioner Henderson asked if they wanted the county to take over the entire facility or just the gym and auditorium, and Chairman Nance stated that in his conversations, they said they would do whatever the commissioners saw fit; he thinks that would be an asset to the county and we could utilize the rent. He advised that his office in Fort Valley is in an old school building. Commissioner Felton advised that he thinks we need a gym in that area, and he thinks we need to take it. Commissioner Henderson asked how much that would impact the recreation department budget if we took on just the gym and auditorium, and Administrator Patton replied around \$200,000 a year to monitor the building, electricity, ground maintenance, and insurance; he does agree that we need another gym but the problem is how we are going to pay for it. Commissioner Henderson stated that, if we are going to consider it at all, we need to know how much it is going to cost, but he doesn't think the county could take over the entire facility as there is just no way that we could financially do it. Commissioner Farrow stated that he thinks it would be hard to draw the line between the school and the gym/auditorium. Administrator Patton advised that he will get a closer number of cost estimates. Chairman Nance stated that he thinks we need to look at the whole school, and see what it can be utilized for as probably we could get some grant money for rehabilitation of the buildings. He will talk with the Mayor of Fort Valley and see how they worked their situation out and ask if they are making money or not. Commissioner Henderson asked if Mr. Nance would approach Mr. Reeves and see if the city would help the county with this because if we do something we have got to be able to fund it. **Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to allow Chairman Nance and Administrator Patton to work together to come up with a letter to send the school board advising them that the county is still looking at the option of taking over the school campus and/or gym/auditorium and will be exploring the options and costs, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Henderson to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 p.m., seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

Authur James Nance, Chairman

Tom Patton, Administrator