

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD ON AUGUST 11, 2015**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman Clark Henderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioners Wallace Mathis, A. James Nance, Sammie N. Farrow, Jr., and Larry Felton in attendance. Others present were County Attorney Rick Lawson, County Administrator Tom Patton, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 21, 2015, and the called meeting held on July 31, 2015, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Billy Hancock stated that yesterday they had three jury trials going on at the same time, and that will continue for about two weeks. He reported that in the Warrants/Civil Division they served 181 warrants, 165 civil papers, 142 subpoenas, and had 66 prisoner court transports. In the Traffic Division/Road Patrol they wrote 809 citations with 25 written in the city limits of Arabi, 5 in the city limits of Cordele, and they worked 21 accidents. In Inmate Housing, they housed 252 billable days for the US Marshals last month 252, 1 day for Bureau of Prisons, 407 days for Cordele Police Department, 14 days for Warwick Police Department, and 31 days for Monroe County Sheriff's Department. He stated that they received 301 incident calls, they cleared 258 of these, property involved in thefts was \$24,556, and they recovered \$10,882 of that. In the Animal Control report, they picked up 29 animals, sent 24 to the animal shelter, and had 57 total calls for service last month. In the E-911 report, Crisp County Sheriff's Office had 1,344 calls for service with 825 traffic stops making total radio traffic at 15,440, Cordele PD had 1,616 service calls with 80 traffic stops for a total of 8,913, EMS had 486 service calls with 3,705 radio key-ups, Crisp County Fire Rescue had 49 service calls with 803 radio key-ups, and Cordele Fire Department had 28 service calls with 459 radio key-ups. In the Detention Center, they booked 203 prisoners, they released 186 prisoners, they had 19 federal transports, 7 court transports, 11 medical transports, 29 other transports, conducted 12 cell searches, and had 41 incidents inside the jail. He also presented a check of \$111,281 for housing inmates last month.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that the preliminary report for the first month of the new Fiscal Year shows the General and three major Special Revenue Funds, combined, are reporting revenues received for the month of July at \$215,271 while expenditures reached \$1.7 million leaving a \$1.5 million shortfall after the first 30 days. In addition to the lag time in revenue receipts; we are also approaching the window of our fiscal year when expenditures regularly exceed revenues on a monthly basis, which will continue until late December when the 2015 tax digest collections start to come in. In the Water Fund, recorded revenues of \$58,511 and expenditures of \$72,391, leaves the Water Fund with a net loss after one month of \$13,180.

Water consumption billed for the month was 7,836,000 gallons. The USDA Bonds are current at \$1,476,000. In the Landfill Fund, we recorded \$143,056 in accrued monthly revenue and \$110,471 in expenses leaving the landfill with a net gain after the first month of \$32,585. The total tonnage received was 4,550.31 tons. Approximately 50% of that was received from Advanced under their commercial contract, 12% under the city's contract and 9% under the County's residential curbside ordinance. The GEFA loans are current at \$3.9 million. In the Cash Report for July, the General and special revenue funds combined ended the month with \$6.9 million. The proprietary funds \$2.6 million, and the SPLOST funds \$8.3 million, leaving a County Wide total of \$17.9 million. For the 2000 SPLOST Issue, as of July 31st, we have spent \$17,567,702, leaving us with \$763,030 to complete the remaining projects under this issue. For the 2005 SPLOST Issue, total expenditures were \$20.8 million, leaving \$3.9 million to complete the projects as budgeted under this issue. For the 2011 SPLOST Issue, Distribution no. 42 in the amount of \$359,862 is up about 4% over June 2014; however, the monthly average remains about \$2,200 short of what is needed to meet the revised project plan. To date we have expended \$13,442,253 of the \$13,853,713 collected under this issue. SPLOST Expenditures for the month of July were \$290,351. Projects benefiting were Crisp County Solid Waste, E911, Fire & Rescue, Recreation, Public Works, Sheriff's Department, the Darton Project and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. In the Local Option Sales Tax Distributions, last month's distribution of \$172,723 is up about 5% over this time last year. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, the total number of loans remains at seven with a total balance due of \$1.6 million. The last report is extremely 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. Everyone should be at or below 8%. As of this report, overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined and the Water Fund are both at 11%, and the Landfill Fund is at 8%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Patton reported that 1) he attended several meetings and events last month; 2) he met with the engineer on airport improvements; 3) they had a workshop to discuss delinquent accounts. The number hovers around 800 consistently, about 10% of all accounts. They continue to look at possible solutions to this problem; 4) he met with Steve Rentfrow and Edward Beach to continue with the search for Bruce's replacement and reorganization of the IDA/IDC. The job has been offered and accepted from the applicant. They will present a contract for IDA approval; 5) ACCC's 2015 Legislative Leadership Conference will be October 7-9 at Jekyll Island/Glynn County; 6) He attended several IDA meetings to select a new attorney and discuss reorganization of the IDA/IDC. Tommy Coleman was selected as the IDA Attorney; and 7) ACCG 8th District Fall Meeting will be held on October 26th in Stewart County at the Florence Marina State Park.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation, personnel, and property, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously with all agreeing to go into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously with all agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

ENGAGE ATTORNEYS FOR BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to engage two firms for the appeals related to the Crisp County Board of Assessors, Hall Booth Smith, PC, and Smith, Welch, Webb & White, LLC, and giving Chairman Henderson the authority to sign the paperwork, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

RETAIN 10% OF IDA PROCEEDS FOR GOLDENS FOUNDRY RLF

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to designate 10% of the IDA proceeds from the ½ mill tax to go toward the payment of Goldens Foundry Revolving Loan Fund, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT ARTHUR PARKER TO THE TAX ASSESSORS BOARD

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to appoint Arthur Parker to the Crisp County Board of Tax Assessors to take the place of retiring Harold Jackson, term will be from August 31, 2015 through August 31, 2019, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS RECREATION DEPARTMENT FEES

Commissioner Felton stated that he thinks the fees of \$55 for recreation department activities is too high, fees in other counties are not as high as ours, and he would like to see if we could reduce those fees so we can draw more kids into the programs. Mrs. Leverett advised that they would check with other counties and see what they are charging and bring back the numbers next month.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m., seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Clark Henderson

Administrator Tom Patton