

**CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2015**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chairman Clark Henderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with Commissioners A. James Nance, Wallace Mathis, 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 Henderson welcomed all in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2015 regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVE REQUEST FROM IDA TO REZONE PROPERTY FROM RR TO I FOR GEORGIA TOP CHOICE  
PEANUTS, LLC**

Chairman Henderson reported that this is the decision meeting of the request from Cordele-Crisp County Industrial Development Authority (with the property owner's authorization) to rezone 70 acres of property from RR (Rural Residential) to I (Industrial) for the purpose of constructing a Peanut Shelling and Warehouse/Storage Facility for Georgia Top Choice Peanuts, LLC. Property is located east of 3543 Old Penia Road. Connie Youngblood, Planning Director, reported that we had the Public Hearing last regular meeting to rezone the property, and she then read the Standards that the commissioners consider when they have a rezoning request. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to rezone 70 acres of property from RR to I for the purpose of constructing a Peanut Shelling and Warehouse/Storage Facility for Georgia Top Choice Peanuts, LLC, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Tankersly thanked everyone for the efforts that have been put forward for their business, and stated that they appreciate the opportunity to be in Crisp County, look forward to being here and the regional impact that this will make. He introduced several board members and construction team members present.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT**

Sheriff Billy Hancock reported that they served 147 warrants, 154 civil papers, 73 subpoenas, and they had 74 prisoner court transports last month. Commissioner Nance commended the sheriff and his staff on how they coordinated to help make sure the murder case was solved last month. The Sheriff thanked Commissioner Nance for his comments and advised that in the Traffic Division/Road Patrol they wrote 556 citations and 61 warnings with 24 being Arabi citations, 3 City of Cordele citations, and 518 Probate Court citations; they issued 3 DUI's, 6 drug arrests and worked 40 accidents. In Inmate Housing, they billed US Marshals 1875 days, Cordele PD 364 days, Warwick PD 31 days, and Monroe County SO 30 days. In the E-911 report Crisp County Sheriff's Office had 1179 service calls, Cordele Police Department had 1923 calls, EMS had 449 calls, Crisp County Fire/Rescue had 46 calls, and Cordele Fire Department had 32 calls. In the Detention Center they booked 159 prisoners, released 169 prisoners, had 14 federal

transports, 8 court transports, 19 medical transports, 33 other transports, 54 cell searches, 17 jail incidents, and one use of force report. Deputies also traveled a total of 4519 miles for transports and training. In the Animal Report, they picked up 41 animals, sent 30 animals to Cordele Animal Shelter, picked up 12 animals inside the City of Arabi, and had 50 animal assistance calls. He turned over a check for \$86,689 in revenue from last month services. He also stated that they had applied for an EMPG grant and have been awarded \$50,000 for this grant; this has a 15% local cash or in-kind match and they intend on matching that with either drugs funds or in-kind labor. That will go to upgrading the Operations Center, and an Early Warning Lightning Detection Device for the school system that will warn them when lightning is in the area.

#### **APPROVAL OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE DELIVERY OF ECONOMIC SERVICES**

Administrator Patton reported that with the re-organization of the Industrial Development Council and the Industrial Development Authority, this is one of the things that they had previously approved is that we would split the cost evenly between the county, city and power commission in support of the IDA. The City of Cordele has had their first reading and have approved the paperwork, and we need a motion and second to support the agreement. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Delivery of Economic Services, seconded by Felton, motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Patton advised that it does have a claw back if either party wishes to not equally fund the IDC.

#### **APPROVAL OF BY-LAWS FOR THE CORDELE/CRISP INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.**

Administrator Patton reported that this is approval of the By-Laws for the Cordele/Crisp Industrial Development Council, Inc., which is also part of the re-organization of the IDC and the three entities becoming equal partners. This will give equal voting for the county, city, and power commission and a few other small changes. The county attorney has reviewed the documents and they are in order. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to approve the By-Laws for the Cordele/Crisp Industrial Development Council, Inc., seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **ADOPT NEW STATE REGULATIONS REGARDING COUNTY CREDIT CARD USAGE BY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Mrs. Leverett reported that we have to adopt the new state regulations regarding the county credit cards. During the 2015 Legislative Session, the General Assembly changed the regulations regarding the use of county credit cards by elected officials, and in order for elected officials to continue to use the county credit cards after January 1, 2016, the Board will have to adopt specific policy that aligns with this new law. She advised that there is really not a lot of change in the language as we already had most of this language included in our Financial Policy; it basically just formalizes it and it does add the User Agreement where each elected official will have to sign a User Agreement that basically says that they agree with the policies and will comply. The first thing we need to do is approve the Resolution, then we will adopt the Ordinance, and then approve the User Agreement. Attorney Lawson has reviewed all the paperwork and everything is in order. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Resolution of the Crisp County Board of Commissioners Regarding County Issued Purchasing and/or Credit Cards for Elected Officials, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously. Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the Purchasing Card and Credit Card Ordinance for Crisp County Elected Officials, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously. Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the User Agreement, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that included in the financial report is a preliminary report for the period of July through November, 2015. The first page includes the report of revenues and expenditures for the County's General and three major Special Revenue Funds. Combined, these funds are reporting YTD revenues received of \$5.6 million and YTD expenditures at \$6.2 million leaving us with a -4% net shortfall after the first five months of the fiscal year of \$581,008. We have received 13% of the revenue projections of the 2015 Ad Val. Tax payments to date. With \$275,644 in YTD revenue and \$246,487 in YTD expenses, the Water Fund ended the period with a small net profit of just over \$29,000. Water consumption billed for the month was 4.8 million gallons and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1.4 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting accrued YTD revenue of \$1,014,572 and YTD expenses at \$516,653 leaving this fund with a net income of \$497,919. The total tonnage received for the month of November of 7,920.28 is up, considerably over last year but again, mostly attributable to a one time specific project. Of the total tonnage received, 25% was received from Advanced under their commercial contract, 7% under the city's residential contract and 4% under the county's curbside contract. The principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$3.8 million. In the Cash Report, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined ended the month with \$7.6 million, the proprietary funds just over \$3 million and the SPLOST funds at \$7.4 million, bringing our County wide total to \$18 million which is up, just over \$2 million from this time last year. In the SPLOST reports, we have about \$165,000 left to spend on projects included in the 2000 Issue and about \$3.3 million available for budgeted items included in the 2005 Issue. Distribution no. 46 of the 2011 Issue in the amount of \$304,728 is down 5% from the November 2014 distribution. It does bring issue to date collections to \$15.1 million but drops our monthly average down another \$500 to \$328,409, \$-9,200 short of the monthly average needed to generate the adjusted budget for this issue. That equates to a total shortfall of over -\$240,000. To date, we have obligated or expended \$17.3 million. We spent \$886,303 in Special Local Option Sales Tax dollars during the month. Projects benefiting were Crisp County Buildings, Recreation, County Roads, E911, Public Works, Darton College and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. This month's distribution of \$146,253 in LOST is down 5% from this same period last year. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, we remain at seven outstanding loans with a total balance due of \$1,546,886. The last report is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report. This report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund. Expenditures should be below 42%. As of this report, the General & Special Revenue Funds Combined are at 38% and the Water and Landfill Funds both finished the period at 39%.

### **APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF IDA DIRECTOR TO CRISP-DOOLY JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Administrator Patton reported that since Bruce Drennan has retired and Grant Buckley is the new IDA Director, we need to formally approve him on the Crisp-Dooly Joint Development Authority as these joint development authorities are getting more active. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to appoint Grant Buckley to the Crisp-Dooly Joint Development Authority, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

### **DISCUSS REID PARK**

Commissioner Felton asked Mr. Patton if he had any other information about Reid Park that they discussed in the last meeting. Mr. Patton reported that basically SPLOST was approved by referendum with specific items and the baseball and soccer fields were specific items, and the balance in the SPLOST for recreation is \$711,000 but for the eight parks there is only about \$86,000 left. He advised that they are doing some work at Reid Park now as they have repaired all the lights but the lights for the field itself

they would have to get the power commission to do those. We can do some work on the field but we won't be able to get it to the same level as the other baseball fields. Commissioner Felton stated that we are eventually going to have to fund a new gym since the A.S. Clark gym has been sold. He also advised that the 7-8 years olds will be playing next Saturday in the state football tournament, and he invited all to come out and support them. He would also like a cost of what it would cost to get Reid Park baseball field back in operation.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Patton reported that his report is included in the Commissioner's packet, and since it is more detailed they can read and if they have any questions please let him know.

### **GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion was made by Mr. Felton, seconded by Mr. Farrow to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session.**

### **COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance, seconded by Mr. Felton to come out of Executive Session with all Commissioners agreeing to come out Executive Session.**

### **SETTLE ARABI FEED & GRAIN TAXPAYER CASE**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance to accept the Tax Assessor's recommendation to settle the Arabi Feed and Grain taxpayer case, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried with Mr. Mathis abstaining.**

### **APPOINT GRANT BUCKLEY TO CRISP-SUMTER COUNTY JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance to appoint Grant Buckley to the Crisp-Sumter County Joint Development Authority, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m., seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

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**Clark Henderson, Chairman**

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**Tom Patton, Administrator**