

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JULY 19, 2016**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman Clark Henderson called the meeting to order in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center. Commissioners present were A. James Nance, Wallace Mathis, Sam Farrow, and Larry Felton. Others present were County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett, and Clerk Linda Finch, with Administrator Patton absent due to his mother's illness. Sheriff Billy Hancock gave the invocation and 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 regular meeting held on June 7, 2016 and the called meeting held on June 28, 2016, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

REPORT FROM FIRE CHIEF JONATHAN WINDHAM

Fire Chief Jonathan Windham stated that the fire department had a donation of rubberized roofing from Harold Payne with Payne's Roofing; this is for the roofing on the fire tower. He wanted to thank Mr. Payne for his donation and his support of the fire department. In the fire report, they had 59 calls for the month of June, had one structure fire, two vehicle fires, eight motor vehicle accidents, 11 grass and woods fires, six medicals, and eleven alarms and others. Chairman Henderson thanked Mr. Windham and his employees in protecting the citizens of the county. Commissioners thanked Payne's Roofing and advised that they would like to send Payne's Roofing a formal thank you for donating the material.

APPROVE DOT REVISED EXISTING SPEED LIMITS ON ROUTES IN CRISP COUNTY

Mrs. Leverett reported that the Department of Transportation has requested commissioner's approval to revise the existing speed limits in Crisp County and stated that Carl Gamble, Public Works Director, was asked to review this. Mr. Gamble advised that there are some things that need to be tweaked on the county routes but he suggested they go ahead and approve the State Speed Zone Order. There are a couple of roads that we are going to request that they lower the speed limit because they are in subdivisions, plus there were a couple of misspelled words. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve the State Speed Zone Order subject to the changes, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

UPDATE ON COUNTY ROADS

Mr. Gamble reported that the Off System Safety striping and signage, which includes 41.57 miles, has been let by the Department of Transportation; the fourteen miles of paving projects has been let to Reeves Construction; we received the letter of acknowledgement of the request for shoulder paving on Drayton Road from CSX Railroad to Coney Road, DOT has accepted this and are going to give the county \$165,000 in additional L.M.I.G. funding; the DOT has closed the bridge on Slade Bridge Road, he will have a telephone conference with the DOT engineer on July 26th and he hopes they can open it

temporarily with some minor work, we are going to request the bridge be placed on the Low Impact Bridge Replacement Program; the DOT is going to extend the radius on the right side of the road at the Fish Hatchery Road and Hwy. 280 intersection so that the trucks can make the right turns in a safe manner, this will be done at no expense to the county; bid opening will be August 23rd for the CDBG 2014 sanitary sewer rehab project in the Newtown area; we will receive \$538,162 on our 2017 L.M.I.G.; we will hold some of our resurfacing projects until after July 26th to see what if we are going to have to use any of those monies for the bridge replacement; and they had a surprise inspection at the landfill in June and our present landfill received a perfect score.

UPDATE FROM SHERIFF BILLY HANCOCK

Sheriff Hancock gave the monthly check for housing inmates to Mrs. Leverett and advised that this will bring their yearly total to \$1,037,534, which is about a \$283,000 over in what they anticipated. A couple of weeks ago, they had a jailer that was assaulted in the jail, and while they were working that assault five police officers in Dallas Texas were killed, a Valdosta Georgia officer and a Tennessee officer were assaulted plus other officers have been assaulted since then, so they started looking at their facility and other buildings to make sure we are where we need to be. He stated that about three months ago they had reached out to Forsyth County deputies to come and do a training program at the courthouse, these deputies came and that brought some things to light regarding their liabilities; they met with the judges and they approved out of the Law Library Fund money to put additional cameras at the courthouse. He advised that the shot that took one of the officers out was from over 100 yards, we don't have but seven rifles that can shoot from 75 to 100 yards, so we were trying to find a way to buy seven more rifles, also they do not have any rifle vests and we needed some ballistic helmets to change out the current helmets that they have. He stated that they think it will take between \$15,000 and \$16,000 to get started in the right direction and be able to put the armor and helmets in patrol cars that hopefully we will never need. He had talked with Mr. Patton earlier about this and he had agreed with him, and since he is not here today, he thought it was important to bring it before the commissioners and answer any questions they might have. He thanked the commissioners and Sherrie for the work they do in helping him get what he needs to have and stated that he is proud of the community and the people that live here, how we get along and how we communicate as that is an important thing. Commissioners thanked the Sheriff and his deputies for what they do for the county and agreed to shift money around to be able to purchase the rifles, vests and helmets.

APPROVE RESOLUTION TO JOIN OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL REGARDING 911 FEES AUDITED

Mrs. Leverett reported that they are asking for the commissioners' consideration on a resolution to join other local governments in the River Valley Regional Council in litigation to have the 911 fees audited. This is not the first time we have approached this subject, we actually did a cross check with GEMA and E-911 fee licenses a couple of years ago on our own, didn't result in very much revenue. She advised that this resolution allows us to partner with the other counties in a suit to audit these telephone companies. It will be no cost to the county, there will be a consultant and an attorney that will handle this for the counties and they will retain about 35% of any monies recovered. We recommend the commissioners approval. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt A Resolution Of Crisp County Requesting The River Valley Regional Commission To Provide Technical Assistance For The Auditing And Collection Of Unpaid 911 Fees; Authorizing The Employment Of The Barnes Law Group, LLC And Harris Penn Lowry, LLP As Attorneys And Expert Discovery, LLC As Auditors To Audit And Collect Any**

Unpaid 911 Fees Owed To Crisp County; Authorizing A Fee Arrangement For The Same; To Provide An Effective Date And For Other Purposes, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

TABLE ORDINANCE THAT REGULATES GOLF CARTS

Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to table the consideration of an ordinance to regulate golf carts until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF 2017 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

Mrs. Leverett reported that we need a resolution to authorize FY 2017 the public transportation contract, we have done this in the past as we basically pre authorize the resolution since they don't have the contract ready yet for the funding for the 5311. The amounts for the FY 17 funding is \$574,528, the state will pay \$9,100, the federal amount will be \$314,692, and the local match of \$250,716, which will be paid by our third party administrator, Resource Management. She does have a confirmation from Resource Management that they will absorb the local match. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the Resolution By The Board Of Commissioners Of Crisp County, Georgia, Authorizing Contracts With The Georgia Department Of Transportation For FY 17 Public Transit Capital And Operating Funds And Execution Of Contract Documents, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVED 2016 AD VALOREM TAX FIVE YEAR HISTORY AND PROPOSED MILL RATE FOR ADVERTISING

Mrs. Leverett reported that she has the proposed FY 2016 Ad Valorem Tax Five Year History and proposed millage rate for commissioners' review and approval for advertising. She advised that the real and personal assessed values are up about \$22 million, the motor vehicle values are down over \$8 million which is due to the new TAVT tax, the mobile homes is up \$1.5 million, and the timber is down \$1.5 million, gives us a gross digest increase of about \$12.6 million. She stated that the exemptions went up about \$6.7 million which gives us a net increase of about \$5.9 million on the net M & O Digest. Gross millage rate dropped from \$15.435 million to \$15.300; however the sales tax roll-back is less this year because of the decreased revenues which leaves us with a net M & O millage roll-back rate of 12.120, which will be no tax increase. We did have \$390,370 in negative inflationary growth which affects the mill rate as well. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the 2016 Ad Valorem Tax Five Year History and proposed mill rate for advertising and set the adoption of the mill rate at the next regular meeting on August 9, 2016, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that today's packet includes a very preliminary executive summary of the financial status on the major funds of the County as of June 30, 2016. We still have several accruals to make both on the revenue and expenditure sides. Based on information available at this time, the General and three major Special Revenue Funds combined show YTD revenues for these funds at \$17 million and expenditures at \$15.7 million. This leaves preliminary positive 9% revenue over expenditures of \$1.3 million. In the Water Fund, activity brings YTD numbers to \$650,037 for total revenue and \$536,619 in expenses leaving this fund with a preliminary net income of \$113,418 for the year. Customer usage billed for the month was 8,875,000 gallons and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1.4 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting \$1.9 million in year to date revenue; \$1.2 million in expenses, leaves this fund with a preliminary net income of \$773,994 for the fiscal year. The total

tonnage for FY 16 was up over 13,000 tons from the previous year. The total tonnage received for the month of June was 4928.09 tons, approximately 43% of that was delivered under the Advanced Environmental commercial contract, 12% under the free residential City contract and 7% under the County's residential curbside contract. The total tonnage for FY 16 was up over 13,000 tons from the previous year. The GEFA Loans are current at \$3.5 million. We ended the month with \$8.9 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds combined; \$3.3 million in the proprietary funds and \$7.1 million in the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds giving a county wide total of \$19.4 million at June 30th. Almost \$8 million of that balance is reserved or restricted for special projects or uses. In the 2000 SPLOST Issue, we have spent \$18.2 million, leaving us with \$124,755 to complete the projects associated with this issue. In the 2005 SPLOST Issue, we have total expenditures of \$21.8 million leaving us with \$2.9 million to complete the projects included in this issue. Distribution no. 53 representing May retail sales for the 2011 SPLOST Issue in the amount of \$302,513 is down 6% from June of 2015. To date we have collected \$17.2 million in revenue under this issue and expended or appropriated \$17.9 million. Our monthly average is running over \$12,000 per month short of what will be needed to meet the revised Budget. I am in the process of preparing Budget Adjustments for this issue to accommodate the shortfall. Hope to have those next month for your consideration. Projects benefiting from our Special Local Option Sales Tax penny for the month of June for a total cash outlay of \$368,327 were County Buildings, Crisp County EMS, Crisp County Recreation, the Darton Project and the cities of Arabi and Cordele. This month's distribution of \$145,196 for the L.O.S.T. distributions is also down 6% from June 2015. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, we closed the Synergy loan during the month bringing our total number of outstanding loans to ten with a balance due of \$2.3 million. The final report in your packet is the revenues by fund and expenditures by department preliminary report for the period of July 2015 through June 2016. As of June 30th, all departments and divisions should be at or below 100% of their annual allowances. Overall, the preliminary numbers indicate the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds at 104%, the Water Fund at 85% and the Landfill Fund at 92%.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to adjourn the meeting at 11:56 a.m., seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

Clark Henderson, Chairman

Linda Finch, Clerk