

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 2016**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman Clark Henderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center. Commissioners present were Authur James Nance, Wallace Mathis, Sam Farrow, and Larry Felton. Others present were County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett, and Clerk Linda Finch. Carl Gamble 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.

PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FROM OXFORD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Chairman Henderson opened the public hearing for a Special Use Permit request from Oxford Construction Company (with the property owner's authorization) to locate a Topsoil Stripping/Borrow Pit in an RR (Rural Residential) zone district. Property is located on South Dorough Road. In the absence of Planning Director Connie Youngblood, Mrs. Leverett stated that this is a public hearing and that a borrow pit is allowed in an RR zone district with a special use permit. Greg Bacon and Joe Tondera with Oxford Construction Company are here in case you have any questions. She read the ten standards for the Review Checklist for a Special Use Request. Chairman Henderson asked if there was anyone that would like to speak in favor of the request. Mr. Tondera advised that in their line of work they have to have a borrow source of material which was an issue on the first project in the area so they decided to follow the procedure and invest funds and time into getting a borrow pit approved and hopefully in turn purchase it and utilize it for growth in the city and county. Chairman Henderson stated he is right in that if we are going to grow we are going to need services such as this, and Standard #5 is if the roads are damaged you will repair them. Mr. Tondera advised yes they would repair the roads and that they have had similar situations in various other locations. Commissioner Farrow asked if they were aware of a twenty foot buffer zone and maintain trees around the area. Mr. Tondera advised that on the layout of the property they specifically requested a forty foot easement to get access to the back of the property when we put it in front you won't be able to see down aesthetically as our roadway only needs to be about ten or twelve feet wide. They also specifically hope to make existing fence line and tree line with as minimal clearing as possible. Commissioner Farrow asked if they were going to have any problems with the stipulations on the road use repairs, and Mr. Tondera replied no and what they have done in the past is when operations start they will get in touch with whoever is in charge of the roadways to assess it and work together so that there are no issues. Chairman Henderson advised that our public works director can work with your people if we have any damage, we can work it out on an ongoing basis. Public Works Director Carl Gamble asked what they were going to do about the existing damage that has already been caused by the first project they have done, and that he called and changed their routing because no one had contacted them as they were coming up Dorough Road and across Hwy. 280 and then coming down Old Penia Road straight into the Industrial Park and there are several places that are torn all to pieces. Mr. Tondera advised that he knew there was some road damage in the Industrial Park. Mr. Gamble advised that there is damage on Old Penia Road and Dorough Road all the way into Old Nesbitt Road. Mr. Tondera advised that he would have to go and see as he doesn't know the life of the roadbed, etc. He advised that they should have done more research and contacted them as to the requirements of the county as each county has their own regulations; we will go and assess that and see what we have to do to get that right. Commissioner Farrow asked is this was going to be set up like an

affidavit agreement, and Mr. Gamble advised that it needs to be. Mrs. Leverett advised that the Commissioners can stipulate anything you want as part of the motion; you can stipulate that they assess and repair any current damage to Penia Road plus the items in Checklist #5, that they continue to maintain any future damage, and that they coordinate with the public works director in setting up designating haul routes. She advised that they can make a decision on this today, if they choose. Chairman Henderson advised that we certainly need borrow pits but we wouldn't be doing our job if we don't protect the roadways of the county and also allow him to conduct their business. Commissioner Mathis asked how far the business would be off of Hwy. 280. Mr. Tondera advised about one mile but he does not want to get into a situation where we end up owning a road or rebuilding a road. Mr. Gamble advised that they take into consideration what is there and look at it when they begin the haul routes. Commissioner Farrow asked if they were required by EPD or somebody to have a Reclamation Bond. Mr. Bacon advised that before they issue a permit they will have to send in a bond. Chairman Henderson asked if Attorney Lawson needed to draw up this agreement. Mr. Lawson asked if we had ever had an agreement like this before. Mr. Gamble advised that we have had one in the past with Archer Weston when they were doing the I-75 project. Mr. Lawson advised that he can work with Administrator Patton and try to get an agreement together if we need one. Commissioner Felton asked if we didn't make the agreement today can we have a called meeting as there is too much today that he didn't know about, and he thinks we need to look at this further; he will get with Carl and look at the roads as he wants to be fair about this. Chairman Henderson asked if there was anyone that wanted to speak against the request and there was none. He stated that the general consensus is we need to have a written agreement on what would happen as far as road damage and until we get that agreement we might want to wait on approving the request. Chairman Henderson closed the public hearing. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to table the decision for the request until all the specifics that were discussed are settled and follow the same format as the county did with the Archer Weston agreement, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FROM SYNERGY SOLUTIONS

Chairman Henderson opened the public hearing to consider a request from Synergy Solutions for a Special Use Permit to operate a Solid Waste Transfer Station in an I (Industrial) zone district. Property is located at 155 Landfill Road. Mrs. Leverett reported that this permitting process is primarily with EPD so that the Synergy Solutions can get permitted to do a transfer station; a public hearing is required by EPD as part of that process. This is allowed in the Industrial zone district with a Special Use Permit. She read the ten standards for the Review Checklist for a Special Use Permit and advised that the decision can be made today. Chairman Henderson asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of the request. Matt Piell with Synergy Solutions advised that they appreciate everything that they have been involved in thus far with the county, they have been able to employ about 60 people now, they purchased the site in November, 2013, and they have cleaned it up and overhauled the recycling center and are ready to get started and open up that part of the operation. Commissioner Felton advised that he has visited there and thinks they are doing a good job and have local employees. Chairman Henderson asked if anyone wanted to speak in opposition, there was none, and he closed the public hearing. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Special Use Permit to operate a Solid Waste Transfer Station in an Industrial zone district, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried with Mr. Mathis abstaining.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2016 regular meeting and the September 27, 2016 called meeting, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RED RIBBON PROCLAMATION

Chairman Henderson stated that we have a red ribbon proclamation and Monica Simmons and Randy West are here to accept the proclamation. Mrs. Leverett read the Red Ribbon Proclamation stating that the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by Congress in 1988 to promote the belief that one person can make a difference and it encourages a drug-free lifestyle and involvement in drug prevention efforts and proclaiming October 24-28th 2016 as "Red Ribbon Week". **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the Red Ribbon Proclamation, seconded by Mr. Farrow, motion carried unanimously.** Mrs. Simmons advised that they work with the school system, 4-H, hospitals, etc. and they all come up with activities to help teach our kids to say no to drugs as well as bullying; their goal is to educate our community. The kickoff for events will be on October 24th at 8:30 a.m. at the Middle School. Mr. West thanked the commissioners and staff as they now have a new paint job on 4-H van. He also reported that the district office has selected a candidate to fill the family consumer agent and she should begin December 1st, and they are in the process of selecting a candidate for the Ag agent in the near future.

ADOPT RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A SECOND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Mrs. Leverett reported that this is routine action as a couple of years ago our Clerk of Court requested that we establish an additional Board of Equalization to help handle appeals. This is above the minimum standard that the county has to provide so in order for her to do that, we have to present the resolution establishing the second board each year. Mrs. Leverett read the resolution. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the Resolution to Establish a Second Board of Equalization, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR TSPLOST HWY 280 BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Lawson reported that the Department of Transportation needs this right-of-way easement to make the improvements on the Hwy. 280 Bridge; the power commission and the county will need to sign the paperwork even though it is on the Sumter County side as Crisp County does have some interest in this. **Motion was made by Mr. Farrow to approve the Right-of-Way Easement for TSPLOST Hwy. 280 Bridge Improvements and giving the chairman the authorization to sign the agreement, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE 2017 CRISP COUNTY EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the 2017 Crisp County employee Holiday Schedule, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that included in the financial report section of their packet is the preliminary report for the first quarter of FY 17. In the General and three major Special Revenue Funds, combined

year to date revenues received are \$2.1 million and YTD expenditures at \$4.6 million leaving a 15% net shortfall after the first 90 days of fiscal year 2017 of -\$2.5 million which is up over \$800,000 from this time last year. Ad Valorem Tax Billings were mailed a little over a week ago so hopefully we will begin to see collections on some of that revenue by the next reporting period. With \$188,928 in YTD revenue and \$133,387 in YTD expenses, the Water Fund ended the quarter in a slightly better position than a year ago, with a current net profit of \$55,542. Water consumption billed for the month was just under 7.1 million gallons and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1.4 million. In the Landfill Fund, accrued YTD revenue at \$429,933 and YTD expenses at \$383,829 leaves this fund with a net income at 9/30/16 of \$46,104, short about \$120,000 from this time period last year. The total tonnage received for the month of September was 4,162.13. The principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$3.4 million. In the Cash Report, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined ended the month with \$7.8 million, the proprietary funds with \$3.5 million and the SPLOST funds at just over \$7.3 million bringing County wide total to \$18.8 million. Of that amount over \$14.0 million is reserved for special projects or purposes. As of September 30th, we have we have spent just over \$18 million on projects associated with the 2000 SPLOST Issue, and Distribution no. 56 of the 2011 SPLOST Issue in the amount of \$282,847 is down over 8% from September, 2015. It brings issue to date collections to \$18.2 million but drops our monthly average down to over \$26,000 short of what is needed to meet the revised budget. To date, we have expended and/or appropriated \$18.2 million. In the detailed list of all the SPLOST Expenditures, we have spent \$199,676 in Special Local Option Sales Tax dollars during the month, and projects benefiting were the Cordele-Crisp County Airport, the Darton College Project and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. The Local Option Sales Tax Distribution for the month of \$135,759 took a big drop down, over 8% from this same period last year. The CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report shows nine loans with a total outstanding balance of \$2.3 million. In the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report, which shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund, the General & Special Revenue Funds combined were at 28%, the Water Fund were at 21% and the Landfill Fund finished the month at 22%. All funds should be or below 25%.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Leverett advised that she is not going to read Mr. Patton's report since they have it in their books but she did want to add that the General Election schedule gives you the dates of advanced voting, which is October 17th through November 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Room 103 in the Crisp County Government Center, the last week of advanced voting you can vote at the Ag Center as well and also Saturday, October 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the General Election will be November 8th.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Mr. Gamble reported that the contractor has been let and given their notice to proceed on the fourteen miles of subdivision paving; they have a contract out for bid now on the shoulder paving for Drayton Road and we must have this project secured by the end of December to receive the funding; we are still waiting to see how much money we are going to get on the bridge project, if any at all; the contractor started moving equipment in on the sewer project on Hannah Road; a notice to proceed was given last week for the airport crack, seal, markings, and striping; and they are working on the campsites at the state park.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session; Commissioner Mathis was only present in certain parts of the Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH SYNERGY SOLUTIONS FOR POST CLOSURE TIPPING FEES

Commissioner Henderson reported that we have discussed an agreement with Synergy Solutions for Post Closure Tipping Fees. Mr. Lawson stated that they were under the impression that Synergy is required to get a bond, and he asked Matt Piell if the county could get a copy of the bond, and how soon would the bond be secured. Mr. Piell advised that the bond will be secured in conjunction with the permit, the permit is supposed to be issued around November 8th and the bond is permanent record with the permit. Chairman Henderson stated that his understanding is that with the county entering into this agreement that their bond costs will be less, and Mr. Piell replied that was correct. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the agreement with Synergy Solutions in substantially this form to be finalized by county administration and to be executed by the Chairman and Clerk, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously with Mr. Mathis abstaining.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m., seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

Clark Henderson, Chairman

Tom Patton, Administrator