

**HARALSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Haralson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Allen Poole. Ms. Sandi Couch offered the Invocation and Commissioner Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Poole noted for the record that all commissioners were present.

Chairman Poole stated that the minutes had been sent to the board to review in advance. He asked if there were any changes or corrections. There were none.

Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the minutes from the following meetings:

August 4, 2015 Regular Meeting

August 6, 2015 Special Called Meeting

August 19, 2015 Work Session

August 25, 2015 Special Called Work Session

Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Poole asked the board if there were any changes they wished to make to the agenda. Commissioner Bennett motioned to add Partnership between Swift Transportation and West Georgia Technical College. Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Robinson motioned to add a portrait presentation by a veterans association to the county. Commissioner Bennett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the agenda including the 2 additional items. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman Poole thanked everyone for the calls and prayers following his surgery.

He reminded everyone that WacoFest is Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and the Buchanan Fair on the Square is Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Greg Dewberry gave an update on the SPLOST recreation project. He said the sod work is finished and the concrete will be starting in the next couple of weeks. Outside work should be finished by November 1, 2015. He urged everyone to go look at it and stated that it is looking wonderful.

Commissioner Bennett thanked the citizens for voting in favor of the SPLOST which allows the county to build these projects. She also urged them to continue to support SPLOST in the future.

**Public Participation on Agenda Items**

None

**Item #1 – Tallapoosa Rebels Baseball Proclamation**

County Clerk Alison Palmer read the Proclamation. Chairman Poole presented it to Coach Mike Wright and his team and coaches. Chairman Poole stated that the county was very proud of their accomplishments this season.

**Item #2 – Sara Jean Karickhoff Proclamation**

Commissioner Bennett read the Proclamation and Libby Smith, Haralson County DFACS

Director, accepted on behalf of Ms. Karickhoff. Ms. Smith said that Ms. Karickhoff had served on the DFACS board for 50 years and had only missed one meeting in all those years.

Commissioner Bennett urged her to tell a little more about DFACS and their needs. Ms. Smith

stated that the board was looking for 2 people to serve in vacant spots. She said there are certain requirements to be on this board. She also said they are desperately in need of foster parents in Haralson County. There is a foster parent recruiting session in Tallapoosa on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Possum Snout Arena.

### **Item #3 – GEMA / Homeland Security Grant Recipient, Haralson County Fire Department**

Alison Palmer read the award letter. Chairman Poole thanked Deputy Chief Entrekin and Lieutenant Dave Wade of the fire department for their work and congratulated them on being awarded this grant.

### **Item #4 – Consent Agenda**

#### **- Joint Development Authority Resolution**

Haralson County is a member of the West Georgia Regional Development Authority. This is a requirement to be eligible for certain state and federal funds. Coweta County is joining the JDA, therefore all the member counties have to approve a new resolution including Coweta.

#### **- Probation Director Approval**

Chris Simpson introduced himself and told the commissioners about his background. He was recommended by Chairman Poole after interviewing of all the applicants had taken place. Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda items. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

### **Item #5 – Reappoint Steve Gine to Board of Assessor's**

Chief Appraiser Hubert Sparks read a letter from Mr. Gine asking to be reappointed to the Board of Assessor's. Mr. Sparks stated that Mr. Gine had been elected Vice Chair in January and had been a very dedicated, conscientious member of the board. Chairman Poole asked if there were any more nominations. There were none. Commissioner Robinson motioned to close nominations. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to reappoint Steve Gine to the Board of Assessors for a 6 year term beginning on September 4, 2015 and ending September 3, 2021. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

### **Item #6 – Partnership between WGTC and Swift Trucking**

G.W. Rogers and Laura Gammage from West Georgia Technical College were in attendance to officially request the county's assistance in site prep and grading the property at the college to put in a truck driver training course. Ms. Gammage stated that this would be a benefit to the whole county. She stated that Swift is asking for the county to help at cost. They would reimburse the county for fuel and the expense of the employees. Ms. Gammage went on to explain that Swift is sending 200-250 Georgia residents out of state per month for this training. This would keep them here locally if the facility is built. The county businesses would benefit from money spent on motels, gas, food, etc. The county and cities would receive the benefit of these additional sales tax revenues.

Greg Dewberry, county surveyor, stated that this needs to be completed before the wet weather starts. He thought that if the county started by October 1, 2015, the grading could possibly be complete within a month. He also informed the commissioners that the project had been scaled back considerably since the project had first been brought up.

Chairman Poole stated that the board would take this new information and discuss it with the Public Works director before making a decision.

### **Item #7 – Presentation of Portrait of Ray McKibben**

Commissioner Robinson made a presentation on behalf of the Heritage Park Veterans Museum in McDonough, Georgia to Haralson County. It consists of a portrait of Ray McKibben, along

with the Medal of Honor document and a Medal of Honor for his bravery and service in the Vietnam War. Commissioner Robinson stated that it was to be hung in the County Courthouse. He went on to report that he is trying to get one of these made for Paul Cheatwood also.

**Public Participation on Non Agenda Items**

Linda Crowder spoke regarding the process of getting the Right of Way deeds needed to get Henry Lewis Road paved.

Commissioner Robinson motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dobbs seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Alison Palmer  
County Clerk