

## DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

### WORK SESSION MINUTES

January 14, 2008

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 120 of the Central Square Government Center on January 14, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Jeff Sinyard called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Muarlean Edwards, John Hayes, Lamar Hudgins, Chuck Lingle, Art Searles, and Jack Stone. Also present were Richard Crowdis, County Administrator; Spencer Lee, County Attorney; Barbara Engram, County Clerk; and Nancy Hillsman, Administrative Secretary. Representatives of the media were present.

The Chairman recognized Dougherty County Police Chief Don Cheek who introduced Officer Russ Snow, Officer of the Year. Officer Snow was a corpsman in the US Navy for ten years prior to joining the force. Officer Clayton Bryant was awarded the "Top Gun" Award for his firearm proficiency. Administrative Specialist Lataria Candidate was awarded Support Staff Officer of the Year; she is an invaluable asset both on the job and in the community, and is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree at Albany State University.

Chairman Sinyard called for review of the minutes of the January 7 Work Session and January 7, 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes for approval at the next meeting.

The Chairman called for discussion of the Fiscal Year 2006/2007 audit. Meredith Lipson, Partner, and Craig Moye, Associate, Mauldin & Jenkins Certified Public Accounts, LLC, addressed the details and gave a brief overview. Ms. Lipson stated the audit was unqualified, which indicates a clean opinion.

- Total Assets = \$ 227.2 million
- Total Liabilities = \$ 25.0 million
- Total Net Assets = \$ 202.2 million
- Total Revenue = \$ 77.4 million
- Total Expenses = \$ 75.6 million
- Total Capital Assets, net = \$160.0 million
- Total Debt = \$22.9 million

In the General Fund, total revenues were \$44.3 million and total expenses were \$43.4 million. The positive cumulative effect on the General Fund was \$ 959,094. The County spent \$ 93,352 less than it had budgeted and County revenues were \$309,341 in excess of amount budgeted.

The Chairman called for discussion of a proposed resolution approving speed limits in Dougherty County to comply with the Department of Transportation regulations. County Police Chief Don Cheek stated that this is necessary in order to obtain an updated radar

permit for the County allowing concurrent jurisdiction when passing through certain areas of the City.

The Chairman called for discussion of a proposed resolution setting qualifying fees for the 2008 Election. County Administrator Richard Crowdis stated that all counties in the State of Georgia are required to do this.

The Chairman called for discussion of a one-day alcohol license for Phil Cannon, Downtown Merchants Association, Inc., for the hospitality area at Riverfront Park for the Snickers Marathon Finish Line on March 1, 2008.

The Chairman called for discussion of a one-day alcohol license for Lakeisha Bryant, Girls, Inc., for a fundraiser at Stonebridge Country Club on March 8, 2008.

The Chairman called for discussion of a proposed resolution declaring the attached list of vehicles and equipment surplus and authorizing sale of same on GovDeals.com. County Administrator Richard Crowdis reviewed the items on the list.

The Chairman called for discussion of a recommendation by KADB Board to appoint Eric O’Cain for a three-year term ending December 31, 2010. County Clerk Barbara Ingram stated that Benjie Cravey had declined re-appointment.

The Chairman called for discussion of two appointments to the Economic Development Commission for three year terms ending December 31, 2010. Incumbents Chris Hatcher and Lamar Hudgins desire reappointment. There were no new applicants. County Clerk Barbara Ingram stated this was inadvertently omitted from the December board appointments.

The Chairman called for discussion of an upcoming recommendation for one appointment to the Joint Development Authority of Baker, Dougherty, Lee and Terrell counties to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Lamar Clifton. County Administrator Richard Crowdis added that Mitchell and Worth counties will be included in this Authority.

The Chairman called for discussion of a possible third ex-officio appointment to the ATI Board. County Administrator Richard Crowdis added that this may be a staff member or a commissioner. He suggested that Thomas Thomas serve due to his role as Assistant County Administrator.

The Chairman called for discussion of the proposed renewal of the annual employment agreement for County Administrator Richard Crowdis. The proposed new contract expires January 21, 2009 and is the same language as the current agreement except for revised dates and salary. The County Administrator stated he will also include information regarding a vehicle allowance request.

The Chairman called for discussion of the annual employment agreement for County Police Chief Don Cheek. The proposed new contract expires January 21, 2009 and is the same language as the current agreement except for revised dates and salary.

The Chairman called for discussion of recommended reallocations in SPLOST III Downtown Improvements. County Administrator Richard Crowdis stated that ATI had defaulted on a grant for the Oxford Trailhead; therefore, balances of completed projects are being reallocated to complete that project.

The Chairman called for discussion of recommended reallocations in SPLOST IV Animal Shelter. County Administrator Richard Crowdis stated there was a \$2,395 expenditure over budget which is being paid for by a reallocation from contingency.

The Chairman called for discussion of recommended reallocations in SPLOST V Project Budgets. County Administrator Richard Crowdis stated the cost of a new Public Works facility has increased requiring an additional allocation of \$300,000. The Department of Corrections has advised that they can start the project in late summer or early fall of 2008. In order to meet this schedule, funds budgeted for Road Resurfacing in 2010 and 2011 will be moved into the 2008 Public Works budget.

The Chairman shared a letter of praise for our EMS staff and their performance at a recent emergency. He reviewed Committee appointments for 2008 and advised that he will be out of town on January 23, 2008. He also reminded the Commission of the cancellation of the Special Called Meeting on that date.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned to a Special Called meeting at 10:55 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK