

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2009 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on February 24, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Heard County Courthouse. In attendance at the meeting were Commission Chair June Jackson, District 1 Commissioner Karen Isenhower, District 2 Commissioner Lee Boone, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Frank Crook, District 5 Commissioner Sandi Allen, and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner. Commission Chair Jackson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Mr. Jimmy Knight, Executive Director, Heard County Water Authority gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes – On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously approved the minutes from February 10, 2009 with one change to page 7.

Agenda Item # 4 – Public Comments – Mr. Paul King, resident at 1206 Ferry Road, addressed the Board with concerns regarding the county audit. Ms. Patty O’Brien, resident at 1405 Happy Hollow Road, addressed the Board with concerns regarding an equine ordinance. She encouraged the Board to adopt an ordinance that would stipulate how many equine someone can have on each acre of their property in Heard County.

Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an amendment to Old Business to include “d” – discuss Water Authority SPLOST projects. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business – a. Discuss Purchasing Furniture for Sports Complex – Mr. David Julien, Director, Heard County Recreation Department –

Mr. David Julien presented three bids to the Board for office furniture at the new sports complex. The bids were as follows:

Riddle Office Supply	-	\$4,956.00
Loy's Office Supply	-	\$5,299.00
National Furniture Center	-	\$7,149.00

Commissioner Caldwell asked why Loy's Office Supply was not the low bidder this time.

Mr. Julien explained that after reviewing the bids that Loy's did not quote the same brand of office furniture as Riddle Office Supply. He also stated that these prices do include delivery and setup. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Boone), the Board voted 4 to 1 to purchase the office furniture from Riddle Office Supply at a cost of \$4,956.00.

Commissioner Boone voted for the motion, Commissioner Caldwell voted for the motion, Commissioner Crook voted for the motion, Commissioner Allen voted for the motion and Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion. Mr. Julien also presented three bids on a floor buffer that will be used to clean the gym floor and tile floors in the gym. The bids were as follows:

FloorBuffers.com	-	\$846.30 – includes pads and cleaner
Kent	-	\$695.00
CleanFreak.com	-	\$735.95

Mr. Julien stated that the buffer comes with a two year warranty. On motion (Allen) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously voted to purchase the floor buffer from FloorBuffers.com at a cost of \$846.30.

b. Discuss Proposal for Frolona Road Landfill Groundwater Investigation, HDR

Engineering, Inc. – Commission Chair Jackson presented a proposal to the Board from

HDR Engineering, Inc. to conduct a groundwater investigation at the Frolona Road Landfill. She explained that this proposal is intended to assist the County in addressing concerns of potential off-site groundwater impacts which were discussed by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) in their letter dated October 28, 2008. This proposal will include a work plan submittal to EPD, that will provide EPD with the scope of work and methodology to conduct a groundwater investigation, the field investigation, drilling, and laboratory analysis, and reporting to the County of their findings. The total proposal fee is \$7,950.00. This proposal includes several assumptions that the County will provide. On motion (Allen) and second (Isenhower), the Board unanimously agreed for the Board to approve this proposal and to include the assumptions.

c. Report from Arena Committee – Commissioner Lee Boone – Commissioner Boone stated that he had nothing to report at this time and would report back to the Board at a later meeting.

d. Discuss Water Authority SPLOST Projects – Mr. Jimmy Knight, Executive Director, Heard County Water Authority, asked the Board to allow the Water Authority to use SPLOST III monies to make permanent modifications and additions to the rock quarry on Old Field Road, which would allow this site to be a permitted raw water storage facility and would help supplement the Centralhatchee and Hillabahatchee Creeks in a drought situation. He also asked the Board to allow the Water Authority to use SPLOST III monies to proceed with Year One of a Reservoir (see handout attached). The total requested funds from SPLOST III monies is \$143,100.00. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously agreed to this request.

Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Discuss Road Condition, Ms. Rhiana McGuire, Resident, 615 Yates Lane – Ms. Rhiana McGuire, a resident at 615 Yates Lane asked the Board to consider paving Yates Lane. She explained that there are approximately 25 houses on this road. She expressed the residents’ concerns that the road is in very bad condition when it rains and that the County constantly has to gravel the road. She stated that she understands that part of the road is in Carroll County and that she spoke with a Carroll County District Commissioner who expressed Carroll County’s desire to help out with the Carroll County side of this road. Commissioner Caldwell stated that he spoke with a Carroll County District Commissioner, Mr. George Chambers regarding this road. He stated that in their conversation both he and Commissioner Chambers agreed, that each resident would need to give right of way to Heard and Carroll counties in order for this road to be considered for paving. Commissioner Caldwell stated that he and Commissioner Chambers both agree that Heard and Carroll County would not condemn any property on this road just for paving purposes. A resident from the audience spoke up and said that he felt that each homeowner would be willing to sign the right of way for paving. Another resident asked the Board if Heard County would be willing to purchase the portions of this road that are in Carroll County from Carroll County so the entire road would be in Heard County. Jerry Ann Conner, County Attorney explained that this is difficult to do and that an intergovernmental agreement between the two counties would be more feasible. Commissioner Caldwell asked each resident to sign their name and address before they leave stating they wish to see this road paved. All residents agreed to sign. Commissioner Caldwell stated that he would look into this further and report back to the residents.

b. Discuss Request for Road Abandonment – Commission Chair Jackson stated that Mrs. Kelly Mantle, Mr. Justin Mantle, and Mrs. Katie Kirk have requested that the County abandon the south side of Mt. Zion Road from Sissie Kirk Loop to the end of their property (see attached maps). She explained that this section of Mt. Zion Road is only passable at the present time due to the efforts of the Kirk family. The section just past their property is overgrown and no longer accessible by vehicle. She also stated that the bridge on this road has been out for several years and there is no through traffic on this portion of the road. She explained that Forestar Realty does own property on this road but they have access from the other end of the road. The Kirk family is requesting that the County abandon this section so that this area may be considered private property. Commission Chair Jackson asked the Board if they would like to proceed with the abandonment procedure. Jerry Ann Conner, County Attorney explained the abandonment process to the Board. After further discussion, on motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously agreed to this request.

Agenda Item # 8 – Executive Session – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel. On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously agreed to return to Open Session. Commission Chair Jackson stated that the Board discussed personnel in Executive Session. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen) the Board unanimously voted to approve the salary adjustment for a Recreation Department employee to have the Finance Director prepare a budget amendment stating this adjustment, and for the Board to approve this budget amendment at the next meeting.

There being no further business, on motion (Caldwell) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to adjourn.