

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on January 26, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Heard County Courthouse.

In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Lee Boone, District 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks, District 2 Commissioner Keri Denney, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner Joe Adams and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner. Chairman Boone called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. Commissioner Hooks gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Presentation of Service Award – Chairman Boone and the Board presented a service award plaque to Robert Nelms for 35 years of continuous service to Heard County. Chairman Boone stated that Mr. Nelms is currently the longest term employee still working for Heard County. The entire Board thanked Mr. Nelms for his loyal and dedicated service to Heard County.

Agenda Item # 4 – Public Hearing – Rezoning Request – Jimmy Green, West Ferry Road – Chairman Boone opened the public hearing stating that Mr. Jimmy Green is requesting to rezone 1.77 acres on West Ferry Road from rural development to residential for the purpose of building a house. Chairman Boone stated that the Planning Commission did recommend approving this request. Mrs. Jan Green stated that she and Mr. Green have owned this property for 15 years and would like to build a weekend cabin on this property if the Board approves her request. There being no public comments or further comments from the Board, on motion (Denney) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing

Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes – On motion (Adams) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approved the minutes from December 22, 2015.

Agenda Item # 6 – Amend Agenda – Chairman Boone asked for an amendment to item “h” in New Business to include a discussion to purchase a new dozier for the road department. On motion (Denney) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Chairman Boone also asked to amend New Business to include item; m – Discuss Concession Stand at the Glover Road Recreation Facility. On motion (Adams) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Decision on Rezoning Request – On motion (Denney) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously voted to approve this request.

b. Appoint Vice-Chairman for 2016 – On motion (Hooks) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to appoint Commissioner Denney as Vice-Chairman for 2016.

c. Appoint County Clerk for 2016 – Chairman Boone recommended appointing Patty Jiles as County Clerk for 2016. On motion (Adams) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

d. Appoint County Attorney for 2016 – Chairman Boone recommended appointing Jerry Ann Conner as County Attorney for 2016. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

e. Appoint County Auditor for 2016 – Chairman Boone recommended appointing Mr. Kim Kimmel as County Auditor for 2016. Chairman Boone stated that Felicia Adams, Finance Director recently spoke with Mr. Kimmel who stated his fee would remain the same fee as 2015. On motion (Hooks) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

f. Set Meeting, Date, Time and Place for 2016 Commissioners Meeting – On motion (Caldwell) and second (Hooks), the unanimously voted for the commissioner meeting date, time and place to remain the same as 2015; the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Heard County Courthouse.

g. Discuss 2016 Road Projects – Darold Wiggins, Public Works Director – Darold Wiggins, Public Works Director asked the Board to approve the amount of \$1,100,000.00 for 20.01 miles of road paving projects for 2016. After some discussion, on motion (Denney) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request.

h. Discuss Purchasing Bush hogs – Darold Wiggins, Public Works Director – Mr. Wiggins asked the Board to approve the purchase of two new Rhino bush hogs for the road department. These bush hogs would replace two current bush hogs. He stated that he recently asked for bids and received three. The bids were as follows:

Georgia Deere Farm - Rhino Model 4150 - \$13,622.00

SunSouth - Rhino Model 4150 - \$13,622.00

SunSouth - JD Model CX-15 - \$16,035.00

After some discussion, Mr. Wiggins recommended purchasing the two bush hogs from Georgia Deere Farm at \$13,622.00 each. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approved this purchase. Mr. Wiggins also recommended purchasing a new John Deere 650 dozier. He stated that he would like to trade in the current D8 dozier and recently received a trade-in value of \$85,000 for the D8. He explained that this would bring the purchase price of a new John Deere 650 down to \$53,611.10 with the trade-in of the D8. On motion (Denney) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approved the purchase of a new John Deere 650 dozier to be paid from SPLOST funds, agreed to declare the current D8

tractor as surplus in order to trade it in for \$85,000.00 towards the new John Deere 650, for a total purchase price of \$53,611.10.

i. Discuss WARRS Memorandum – Chief Steve Wirth/Chief Jim Short – Chief Wirth asked the Board to approve the memorandum of understanding between the Western Area Regional Radio System Authority (WARRS), Carroll County, Haralson County and Heard County for the allocation of costs for the relocation of the 800 MHz prime site. Chief Wirth explained that Heard County’s portion of this upgrade was allocated in the last SPLOST and that Heard County’s cost is \$80,569.06. On motion (Hooks) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously voted to approve this request to be paid from SPLOST funds and to allow Chairman Boone to sign the memorandum of understanding.

j. Discuss Contract with City of Franklin for Codes Enforcement – Chairman Boone stated that he was approached by City of Franklin Mayor Joel Rogers regarding Heard County entering into a contract with City of Franklin for Heard County to provide codes enforcement services in the City of Franklin. Mayor Rogers stated that he felt that if Heard County took over codes enforcement in the City of Franklin that it would make things more uniform between the City and the County. County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner asked if anyone had discussed this with Chief Magistrate Judge Jennings. Chairman Boone stated, no, to his knowledge, no one had discussed this with Judge Jennings. Ms. Conner stated that Judge Jennings would have to approve this first before any decision could be made between Heard County and the City of Franklin about Heard County enforcing city ordinances. After some discussion, it was agreed to table this item and take no action until all parties have discussed it further.

k. Discuss Appointments to Heard County Development Authority – Chairman Boone stated that there are three Heard County Development Authority Board appointments that expired on December 31, 2015. Each member has expressed their desire to be reappointed. The appointments are as follows:

Mrs. Hazel Reeves

Mr. Chuck Stephens

Mr. Leighton Alston

On motion (Hooks) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approved to reappoint each member.

l. Discuss Appointment to Heard County Water Authority – Chairman Boone stated that Mr. James Ray Gosdin’s appointment to the Heard County Water Authority Board will expire on February 14, 2016 and the Water Authority Board has requested that he be reappointed to this board. Mr. Gosdin is willing to be reappointed. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approved this reappointment.

m. Discuss Concession Stand at the Glover Road Recreation Facility – Chairman Boone gave the Board an update on the concession stand/bathroom building at the Glover Road recreation facility. He explained that this facility has been frequently vandalized, repaired, and then vandalized again. He stated that the building, including the bathrooms have not been operational for almost 3 years. He recommended tearing the building down completely. After further discussion, it was decided that Chairman Boone would check into what electrical issues may remain for other areas of the park, if that building is torn down. On motion (Denney) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to table this item.

Agenda Item # 8 – Old Business – a. Approve Text Amendments to Commercial Shooting Range Ordinance – On recommendation of County Attorney, Jerry Ann Conner, this item was postponed until it is advertised as a public hearing.

Agenda Item # 9 – Public Comments – Mr. Donald Mirinoff, 131 Main Street, Franklin - stated that the Republican Party meetings will be held on February 16th and March 15th and he invited everyone to attend and to become an active member of the Republican Party.

Agenda Item # 10 – Executive Session – Chairman Boone asked for an Executive Session to discuss litigation. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session.

On motion (Denney) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session. Chairman Boone stated that in Executive Session the Board discussed litigation with no decisions made.

Commissioner Adams asked the Board to reenter into an Executive Session to discuss possible land acquisition. On motion (Adams) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible land acquisition.

On motion (Hammond) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session. Chairman Boone stated that in Executive Session the Board discussed possible land acquisition with no decisions made.

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

Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Patty A. Giles
County Clerk

Lee Boone
Chairman

Date 2/23/14