

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 24, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on November 24, 2015 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. Heard County resident, Jerry Nixon, gave the invocation.

**Agenda Item # 3 – Invited Guests – a. Amy Weaver, Georgia Forestry – Postponed.**

**Agenda Item # 4 – Public Hearing – Request to Change Special Zoning Conditions for Go Kart Tract, Jimmy & Terri Thomaston, 10 Knight Road, Franklin, GA –** The Board approved for the rezoning of 6.62 acres on Knight Road to build a go-kart track on July 28, 2015 with the attached special conditions. Mr. and Mrs. Thomaston recently came back to the Planning Commission to ask that zoning condition #1 and #2 be changed. The Planning Commission voted 4 to 2 to approve this request. Mrs. Thomaston explained that she could not meet condition #1 on the back side of her property. Her property would not allow her to meet the setbacks of 300 feet but she could meet a setback of 100 feet if the Board approved it. She also asked that zoning condition #2 be changed to a vegetative buffer of 40 feet instead of 100 feet. Commissioner Hammond asked Mrs. Thomaston how long she had owned this property and had it been resurveyed at some point. She stated she has owned it for 18 years and it has not been resurveyed. Commissioner Caldwell asked what will be the loudest car at the track.

Mrs. Thomaston stated 65 decibels. There being no further comments or questions, on motion (Adams) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

**Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes** – On motion (Hooks) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved the minutes from October 27, 2015 as presented.

**Agenda Item # 6 – Amend Agenda** – Chairman Boone asked for an amendment to New Business to include item; f – Discuss Surplus Property and item; g – Discuss Holiday Gift for Employees. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously approve this request.

**Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Decision on Request to Change Special Zoning**

**Conditions for Go Kart Tract** – On motion (Denney) and second (Caldwell), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve this request and to accept the Planning Commission recommendations.

Commissioner Hooks, Denney, Caldwell and Adams voted for the motion. Commissioner Hammond voted against the motion.

**b. Approve Resolution Regarding Qualification Fees for Elected County Officials** –

Chairman Boone stated that the Board will need to set the qualifying fees for the elected county officials for 2016 primary and/or election. He read the resolution into the minutes as attached. On motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously approved this resolution as read and written.

**c. Approve Contract for Pictometry Intelligent Images** – Chairman Boone stated that the last time aerial photography was done in Heard County was in 2002 for Heard County 911. He stated that 911, Tax Assessors, EMA and Sheriff's Office recently discussed having a new aerial of the county done. He stated that recently he and the other offices were included in a presentation from Pictometry Intelligent Images for this service. Pictometry's proposal was

presented to the Board and after further discussion, on motion (Hooks) and second (Adams), the Board unanimously voted to table this item until Chairman Boone can have Pictometry clarify some items in their proposal.

**d. Discuss Closing Brush Creek Park for Winter Months** – Chairman Boone stated that he would like to close Brush Creek Park from December 6, 2015 – March 6, 2016 for yearly maintenance. On motion (Adams) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved this request.

**e. Approve Amendments to Heard County Government Employee Substance Abuse Policy (Drug & Alcohol Policy) Regarding Post Accident Testing** – Chairman Boone stated that recently the Heard County Drug & Alcohol Policy was amended regarding post accident testing. He read the changes, by resolution, into the minutes. On motion (Hooks) and second (Denney), the Board unanimously approved this change.

**f. Discuss Surplus Property** – Chairman Boone asked the Board to declare a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria as surplus and allow him to advertise and take sealed bids on this vehicle. On motion (Adams) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approve this request.

**g. Discuss Holiday Gift for Employees** – Chairman Boone stated that in recent years the County purchased hams for employees as a holiday gift. He stated that this year he has purchased rounds of cheese from the Heard County Pilot Club for the employees. He stated that he would like to purchase some other food item(s) to go with the cheese for each employee. After some discussion, on motion (Denney) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved for Chairman Boone to purchase other food items to go with the cheese, not to exceed \$25.00 per person.

**Agenda Item # 9 – Old Business** – None.

**Agenda Item # 10 – Public Comments** – Mr. Bob Moore, 158 Deer Creek Circle, Franklin spoke in public comments regarding non-working fire hydrants throughout Heard County. Commissioner Caldwell asked Chairman Boone to report this to the Water Authority and report back to the Board with an update.

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

On motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to return to Open Session. Chairman Boone stated that in Executive Session the Board discussed litigation and personnel.

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

Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Patricia A. Giles  
County Clerk

Lee Boone  
Chairman

Date 12/22/15