

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on August 10, 2010 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. Chief Scott Blue gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Presentations – a. Mr. Reuben H. Poole – Commission Chair Jackson on behalf of the Board presented a plaque to Mr. Reuben Poole for 29 years of service to Heard County. The entire Board thanked Mr. Poole for his loyal and dedicated service to Heard County.

b. Mr. Thomas A. “Tom” Awbrey - Commission Chair Jackson on behalf of the Board, presented a plaque to Mr. Tom Awbrey for 20 years of service to Heard County. The entire Board thanked Mr. Awbrey for his loyal and dedicated service to Heard County.

Agenda Item # 4 – Public Hearings – a. Special Use for a Telecommunications

Tower – Mr. George Watkins, 600 Patterson Lane, Franklin - Commission Chair Jackson opened the public hearing for Mr. Jay Sanders from the American Tower Corporation. She read Mr. Sanders’ request for a special use for a 180 foot communication tower to be located at 600 Patterson Lane, Franklin. This property is owned by Mr. George Watkins. Mr. Sanders stated that this tower would be built for AT&T but other carriers would be able to co-locate on this tower. Commissioner Allen and Commissioner Caldwell encouraged American Tower Corporation to survey other

parts of the county for a possible tower, also. There being no further comments or questions, on motion (Allen) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

b. Review and Adopt Heard County's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance –

Commission Chair Jackson opened the public hearing. She read the request from Zoning Administration, Katrina Knowles advising the Board that in order to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, (NFIP), Heard County must have a Floodplain Management Ordinance that meets or exceeds the minimum NFIP requirements, and we must request approval from the FEMA Regional Office. The deadline for submitting this is August 19, 2010. There being no comments or questions from the board or the public, on motion (Boone) and second (Crook), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes – On motion (Allen) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from July 27, 2010 as presented.

Agenda Item # 6 – Public Comments – Commission Chair Jackson asked for a motion and second to move Public Comments down to the bottom of the agenda. On motion (Boone) and second (Crook), the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve this request.

Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell and Commissioner Boone voted for the motion. Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion.

Agenda Item # 7 – Amend Agenda – Commission Chair Jackson asked for an amendment to New Business to include “b” and “c” – Decision on Public Hearings. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 8 – Old Business – a. Update on CDBG Grant Project – Ms. Debra Smith, Allen-Smith Consulting – Ms. Debra Smith with Allen-Smith Consulting asked the board to approve addendum # 1, for \$5,000.00, to the agreement between Heard County and Allen-Smith Consulting, Inc. for professional grant administration services on the CDBG grant project Heard County is currently working on. She explained that this project required many additional services above and beyond the usual on a project of this size. She presented a breakdown of the additional services that were required in administering this grant (see attached). She stated that she was asking for this addendum in good faith and if she had known from the beginning the additional services that were required on this project, her fees would have been higher than the contracted amount of \$30,000.00. After some discussion, Commissioner Boone stated he would like to discuss this with the County Attorney before a decision is made on this issue. He asked that this matter be tabled until the next meeting. Ms. Smith asked Commissioner Boone how she should handle the resident phone calls in the mean time. Commissioner Boone stated that the residents should be dealing with the project manager on this project, Mr. Darold Wiggins. He apologized to Ms. Smith that she had to come to the meeting but would like to postpone a decision until they speak with the County Attorney. Commissioner Isenhower asked for the general conditions portion of the Southeastern Site Development contract. Commission Chair Jackson stated she would get the general conditions for Commissioner Isenhower. Commissioner Isenhower then made a motion to go ahead and approve the addendum for Allen-Smith Consulting in the amount of \$5,000.00. The motion died on the table for the lack of a second. Commissioner Boone made a motion to table a decision on the addendum until the August 24, 2010 commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Crook seconded. Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Crook, Commissioner Caldwell, and Commissioner Boone voted for the motion. Commissioner Isenhower voted against the motion. The motion carried 4 to 1.

Agenda Item # 9 – New Business – a. Decision on Financial Institution – Commission Chair Jackson stated that in a previous work session, the Board discussed moving the county funds to a new financial institution. On motion (Boone) and second (Allen), the Board unanimously voted to transfer all Commissioner’s accounts to The Bank of North Georgia, to leave a general fund account with Regions Bank and to leave the payroll account and SPLOST accounts with First Georgia Banking Company.

b. Decision on Special Use for a Telecommunication Tower – On motion (Crook) and second (Allen), the Board voted unanimously to approve this request.

c. Decision on Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance – On motion (Allen) and second (Crook), the Board voted unanimously to approve this request.

Agenda Item # 6 – Public Comments – Commission Chair Jackson opened public comments and reviewed the public meeting rules and regulations, item # 5, regarding public comments. Mr. Charles Cummings resident at 1206 Ferry Road, made comments regarding the Board’s decision on the CDBG grant project.

At this time, Commissioner Isenhower asked for an amendment to the agenda to add a discussion regarding the wrestling that was being held at the Heard County Sports Complex. On motion (Isenhower) and second (Boone), the Board unanimously approved this request. At this time, Mr. David Julien, Recreation Director, addressed the Board regarding wrestling that was previously held at the Sports Complex twice a month. He stated that he chose to postpone wrestling during football season. He explained that he

has 148 kids enrolled in football this year. He explained that with his small staff their time would be dedicated to football and he did not have the extra staff to commit to the wrestling events. He also stated that he had been working the wrestling events on his own time and not being compensated for this time. Commissioner Allen asked him if the wrestling was to be scheduled on a regular monthly basis. He stated, no, it was started on a trial basis and developed into a bi-weekly event. He stated that he just did not have enough staff to work them on a Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to possibly 11:00 or 11:30 p.m. He stated that he had a very good relationship with the wrestlers and their promoter and would not be opposed to scheduling wrestling events at a later date. Commissioner Boone and Commissioner Crook thanked Mr. Julien for his dedication and hard work as the Recreation Director.

Ms. Kristen Sumner, resident at 1378 Dowdy Road, commented to the Board that she appreciated the recreation department staff and their hard work. She stated she would like to see the recreation department staff increased. She also stated that she and her family enjoyed the wrestling events and was sorry it was cancelled.

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