

MINUTES

Troup County Board of Commissioners

"Work Session Meeting"

March 14, 2014

Troup County Government Center

Troup County Board of Commissioners Chairman Richard Wolfe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Davis led the group in prayer.

Board Members Present:

Richard Wolfe, Chairman
Richard English, Vice-Chairman
Buck Davis, Commissioner
Morris Jones, Commissioner
Claude F. Foster III, Commissioner

News Media Present:

Matt Strother, LaGrange Daily News
Tommy Camp, Troup County News
Wayne Clark, West Point News

Staff Present:

Tod Tentler, County Manager
Mark DeGennaro, County Attorney
Scott Turk, Finance Officer/ County Clerk
Cheryl May, Accounting/ Deputy Clerk
James Emery, County Engineer
Jay Anderson, Sr Building Official
Diana Evans, Purchasing Director
Andrew Harper, Elections Supervisor
Nancy Seegar, Planning Director
Charles Nixon, Deputy Sheriff

District Attorney FY 14-15 Budget Proposal:

District Attorney Pate Skandalakis requested an estimated 897,814 to fund the Coweta Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office for the FY14 budget. The request is to hire an additional attorney, investigator and support staff and to give a five percent merit increase to employees. The Coweta Judicial Circuit, which includes Troup, Heard, Carroll, Coweta and Meriwether counties has the fifth highest caseload in the state with about 300 cases per assistant DA. Mr. Skandalakis stated they have really fallen so far behind that it's impossible to keep up. We are at the point that we have to make a decision to either cut services or continue to do the best we can, piece-milling what we are doing. He recommended splitting the circuit but the State is against such a move. Simply adding another judge is

cheaper for the state than splitting the circuit. Chairman Wolfe responded that there is a serious problem and since the State isn't going to do anything, then it's up to the county commissioners to figure out a way to support the District Attorney's office.

Parking on County Right-of-Way:

Sheriff Deputy Charles Nixon discussed problems reported associated with parking on the county's right-of-way on Kia Parkway, Gabbettville Road and Sandtown Road in north West Point. The sheriff's department has increased its patrols in the area and it has improved. The Sheriff's department has issued a number of warnings and some citations. Chairman Wolfe asked for this list to be sent to Mr. Randy Jackson at the Kia plant.

Update on CDBG Grant for Fire Hydrants:

County Planner Nancy Seegar discussed a CDBG grant for purchasing of fire hydrants in Southeast Troup County neighborhoods for S Oak Drive, Pine Hill Road, Maple Lane, Ash Drive, Mills and Hale Drives. The grant is for \$350k requiring a \$17,500 match from the county. The water supplied to those areas is along two-inch pipes and have poor water pressure. Fire Hydrants require a six-inch pipe. Ms. Seegar also stated is grant is an extremely competitive grant. Chairman Wolfe questioned if increasing the local match would give us a better chance of getting the grant. Ms. Seegar responded it would. The grant requires a five percent match, but adding more would indicate good faith and a commitment on the part of the county. Chairman recommended the commissioners considering doubling the amount to \$35,000, or 10 percent.

Discuss Airport Resolutions:

County Manager Tod Tentler announced the Airport Authority recently voted to turn the facility over to the Troup County Government and the legislation was approved by the General Assembly. There are two resolutions: One resolution is to abolish the Airport Authority which involves divided ownership of airport property (land & buildings) 50/50 with the City of LaGrange. The assets will be maintained by the County

as part of the new airport department. The second resolution will create the Airport Advisory Board with periodic meetings.

Fiscal Year-End 2013 Budget Amendment:

Finance Officer Scott Turk presented a resolution of fiscal year-end 2013 budget amendment. During FY13, two unbudgeted expenses occurred which caused budget overages. One expense resulted from the prior Sheriff's administration when a vehicle was ordered without a purchase order and accounts payable was unaware of the order. The Sheriff's office took delivery of the vehicle, but did not process it for payment. The second issue results from needing to recognize both expense and revenue to carry the former Airport Director position on the county payroll. The total budget amendment to balance specific categories is \$44,583.

Consideration of March 18, 2014 Agenda Items:

County Manager Tod Tentler discussed agenda items for March 18, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further matters to discuss, Chairman Wolfe adjourned the meeting.

Richard Wolfe, Chairman

Attest: _____
G.S. Turk, Clerk