

**MINUTES**

**Troup County Board of Commissioners**

**Regular Meeting**

**April 8, 2014**

**Troup County Government Center**

Troup County Board of Commissioners Chairman Richard Wolfe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Board Members Present:**

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

**News Media Present:**

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

**Staff Present:**

Tod Tentler, County Manager  
Jerry Willis, County Attorney  
Scott Turk, Finance Officer/ County Clerk  
Dexter Wells, Divisions Manager  
Valerie West, Executive Assistant  
Cheryl May, Accounting/ Deputy Clerk  
Andy Harper, Elections Supervisor  
Jay Anderson, Sr Building Official  
Nancy Seegar, County Planner  
James Woodruff, Sheriff  
Valerie Heard, Human Resources Director  
Dana Eaton, Property Appraisal  
Don Howell, Parks & Recreation Director  
Joy Burnham, Sheriff's Office  
Diana Evans, Purchasing Director  
Suzy Noles, E-911 Director  
Jerry Presnal, E-911  
Virginia Barnes, Building Inspections & Permits  
Dennis Knight, Fire Chief  
Jason Cadenhead, LaGrange IT  
Alan Slauganhaut, LaGrange IT

**OPENING:**

Chairman Richard Wolfe welcomed all in attendance.

**Invocation - Commissioner Buck Davis:**

Commissioner Buck Davis was recognized by Chairman Wolfe and asked to pronounce the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Commissioner Buck Davis led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

Chairman Wolfe requested to amend the Agenda by adding an item for discussion of the "Fire Chief Foster" facebook page. Commissioner Jones made a motion to add an item to the agenda and approve. Commissioner English seconded. The motion carried 3-1, Commissioner Foster opposed.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2014 work session and the March 18, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner English seconded. The motion carried 3-1, Commissioner Foster opposed.

**PEOPLE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

- None.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

**Discussion of "Fire Chief Foster" Facebook page:**

Chairman Wolfe expressed confusion among the commissioners regarding the purposed of the page, and among firefighters with regards to their reporting responsibility. Commissioner Foster explained that the page is intended to boost morale and provide educational resources for firefighters.

Discussion regarding the Facebook page, the county's organizational structure and reporting protocols ensued. Chairman Wolfe advised that many counties have adopted codes of ethics for their commissioners and asked the commissioners to consider the same for Troup County. The Chairman asked Commissioners Jones and English to serve on a committee along with County Manager Tentler and the County Attorney's office to develop a code of ethics for commissioners. Mr. Ron McClellan, a resident in District 3 (no address given), interjected and asked for residents to be appointed to the committee. Commissioner Jones advised the Chairman has authority to appoint committee members. Commissioner Davis motioned to establish the commissioners' ethics policy committee, Richard English seconded. The motion passed 3-1, Commissioner Foster opposed.

**Employee Recognition:**

Chairman Wolfe recognized Troup County E-911 Director Suzy Noles who was recently awarded the Georgia Communications Director of the Year.

**March 2014 Employee of the Month:**

Chairman Wolfe presented the "Employee of the Month" certificate to Ms. Virginia Barnes from Building Inspections & Permits.

**Maintenance Department Hiring Request:**

Divisions Director Dexter Wells announced a Maintenance Technician is retiring in May and is requesting the position be 'unfrozen' and that he further is allowed to convert the position to an Electrical Technician to assist with electrical trouble shooting and repairs. Commissioner Foster made a motion to approve an electrical technician. Commissioner Jones seconded. Unanimous.

**Property Appraisal Hiring Request:**

Chief Appraiser Dana Eaton announced the resignation of an administrative secretary effective April 18, 2014. Ms. Eaton stated this position is one of the upmost important to her office. In addition to clerical duties this secretary is the primary customer service contact person. She requested the position be 'unfrozen' to allow hiring a replacement. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the hiring of a replacement. Commissioner Foster seconded. Unanimous.

**Parks & Recreation Hiring Request:**

Parks & Recreation Director Don Howell is requesting to lift hiring freeze to hire 44 seasonal employees to fill positions such as maintenance, scorekeepers, and recreation center receptionists. Funds are budgeted in the FY14 operating budget. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the part time positions. Commissioner Foster seconded. Unanimous.

**Budget Amendment for Pool Repairs at Mike Daniel Recreation Center:  
(2014-27)**

Parks & Recreation Director Don Howell presented a budget amendment for an unforeseen need for repair has arisen at the Mike Daniel Recreation Center pool. The amendment increases the Recreation Endowment Fund expense by \$5,100 using fund balance of \$5,100 as offsetting revenue. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the budget amendment for

pool repairs at Mike Daniel Recreation Center. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

**Bid Award for Troup County Detention Center (Jail) Roofing:**

Purchasing Director Diana Evans announced bids were solicited and received for the re-roofing project at the Troup County Jail. The bid was awarded to the low bidder, Peach State Roofing for \$386,600. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the bid award for Detention Center re-roofing. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

**Sheriff's Office New Phone System:**

Sheriff James Woodruff announced the TCSO phone system is almost 20 years old and needs to be replaced. Mr. Woodruff is asking to approve the purchase of a replacement phone system for \$25,324.98 with A-Com, who provided the lowest quote. Funds are budgeted in the FY14 operating budget. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the purchase. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to go out of regular meeting into public hearing. Commissioner Davis seconded. Unanimous.

**Beer & Wine License - JTM Investments DBA J.T.'s Banquet Hall-  
Location: 7703 West Point Road, West Point  
Applicant: Tianna R. French**

Sr Building Official Jay Anderson presented an application for Beer & Wine license from Tianna R. French of JTM Investments, DBA J.T.'s Banquet Hall located at 7703 West Point Road, West Point. The application has been reviewed and signed by Sheriff James Woodruff certifying a GCIC background check has been completed and no criminal activity in the last five years has been noted. Chairman Wolfe asked if there was anyone who would like to speak in favor of or against the Beer & Wine License. No one responded. Commissioner English made a motion to approve. Commissioner Foster seconded. Unanimous. Commissioner Davis made a motion to go out of Public Hearing. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

**Subdivisions:**

- None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- None.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

**Presentation of New Rescue Vehicle:**

County Manager Tod Tentler announced Mr. Dennis Knight has been appointed the new Fire Chief. Fire Chief Dennis Knight welcomed the commissioners to view the new rescue vehicle.

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Richard Wolfe, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
G. S. Turk, County Clerk