

**MINUTES**

**Troup County Board of Commissioners**

**November 3, 2009**

**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  
Morris Jones, Commissioner  
Ken Smith, Commissioner  
Buck Davis, Commissioner

**News Media Present:**

Matthew Strother, Valley News  
Judy Murphy, Troup County News  
Joel Martin, LaGrange Daily News  
Annie McCallum, Columbus Ledger & Inquirer

**Staff Present:**

Mike Dobbs, County Manager  
Jerry Willis, County Attorney  
Tod Tentler, Parks & Rec Director, Assistant County Manager  
Stewart Mills, Finance Officer / County Clerk  
James Emery, County Engineer  
Valerie West, Executive Assistant  
Jerry Heard, Fire Chief  
Dexter Wells, Warden  
Frank Kirby, Chief Deputy / Sheriff's Department  
Jeanette Little, State Court Judge

**Others Present:**

Allen Doyle, Chairman of First Tee Program  
Michelle Griffith, Executive Director of First Tee Program  
Jerry Fulks, President, West Georgia Health System  
Paul Perrotti, Vice-President, West Georgia Health System

**OPENING:**

All in attendance were welcomed by Chairman Richard Wolfe.

**Invocation - Dr. Doug DeCelle - First Presbyterian Church:**

Dr. Doug DeCelle of First Presbyterian Church was recognized by Chairman Wolfe and asked to pronounce the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

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

**Comments by the Chairman:**

Chairman Wolfe mentioned the procedural changes outlined by Sheriff Turner during the most recent Board Work Session. The Chairman indicated that those changes, which included methods of collecting

delinquent taxes, were solely decisions for the Sheriff to make. The Board of Commissioners had no recommendation or input to the decisions the Sheriff made. Furthermore, by the nature of the Sheriff's elective office, it would have been unethical and illegal for the Board of Commissioners to have made a recommendation or input in those matters.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2009 regular meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous.

**PEOPLE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

- None.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

**West Georgia Health System Construction Update:**

President of West Georgia Health System, Jerry Fulks and Vice President Paul Perrotti updated commissioners on the hospital's South Tower project, which is scheduled to be completed at the end of March 2010 with grand opening in May 2010. Mr. Fulks indicated the project was on schedule and on budget. The project includes a new main entrance, an intensive care unit, a cardiac care clinic, a labor and delivery unit and an emergency department. Mr. Fulks stated 11 new doctors have been recruited to join the hospital staff, including two interventional cardiologists who can help Dr. Brennan with angioplasty and stent procedures. Mr. Paul Perrotti, CFO of West Georgia Health System, reviewed the balance of the project financing which is currently a \$20M line of credit with CB&T. This will be refinanced to a bank-qualified tax-exempt loan. Loan terms will be a 4.75% fixed rate for five years.

**Recognition of Allen Doyle and Michelle Griffith for GRPA State Athletic Award:**

Assistant County Manager Tod Tentler recognized Mr. Allen Doyle and Ms. Michelle Griffith for a prestigious award for best athletic program in District 4 from Georgia Recreation and Park Association. Mr. Doyle serves as the Board Chairman and Ms. Griffith serves as the Executive Director of the First Tee Program. The First Tee Program teaches golf and life skills to youth ages 8 to 18, free of charge. The program has served an estimated 850 children since it started in April 2005, growing 10 percent to 15 percent each year. It raised \$42K in grant money to get the program into physical education classes at all 15 of the county's elementary schools, and has started classes with the Troup County Senior Center, West Georgia Home School Association and Twin Cedars Youth Services. Mr. Tentler stated Mr. Doyle uses his passion for golf to donate his time, energy, and money to the First Tee Program making him a very positive influence within the community.

**Employee Service Awards for 3rd Quarter of 2009:**

Chairman Wolfe recognized the following individuals during the employee service award ceremony:

- Twenty Years of Service

Sergeant Kenneth Hardy, Correctional Institute

Lieutenant Norman Robinson, Fire Department

- Fifteen Years of Service

Parks Maintenance Supervisor John Martin, Parks & Recreation

Payroll/Benefits Administrator Valerie Heard, Board of Commissioners

Construction Foreman Jimmy Parker, Roads & Engineering

Secretary Bridget Barber, State Court

Engineering Technician Ricky Littlefield, Roads & Engineering

- Ten Years of Service

Lieutenant Cindy Jones, Jail

Administrative Assistant Sybrenna Thornton, Parks & Recreation

Captain Patricia Walker, Correctional Institute

- Five Years of Service

Firefighter Andreas Harrilson, Fire Department

Deputy Sheriff Benjamin Sams, Sheriff's Office

Assistant Shift Sergeant LaShanta Gray, Correctional Institute

\* Chief Registrar Donna Williams, Registrar's Office

\* Indicates employees unable to attend the awards presentation.

Chairman Wolfe thanked each of the honorees for their years of dedicated service to Troup County.

**Consideration of Resolution for Troup County Rural Transportation Program Stimulus Grant:**

Assistant County Manager Tod Tentler presented a resolution for Troup County Rural Transportation Program Stimulus Grant that will be used to purchase a new vehicle. Mr. Tentler commented the grant is for \$42K and the county does not have to provide any matching funds. The vehicle will be a van for Troup Transit, which provides transportation services for the elderly and disabled. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the resolution for the Troup County Rural Transportation Stimulus Grant. Commissioner Davis seconded.

Unanimous.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**REZONING:**

- None.

**Subdivisions:**

- None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- None.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- None.

**OTHER:**

- None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL MATTER:**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

Following the Executive Session, Commissioner English made a motion to go back into regular meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous. Chairman Wolfe announced that during Executive Session a personnel matter was discussed. No action on the matter was required at that time.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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Richard Wolfe, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stewart P. Mills, Clerk