



ELBERT COUNTY
Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2010 - 4:30 P.M.

A public hearing was held for the purpose of informing the public and receiving public comments concerning a proposed amendment to the Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan, to include in that Plan an energy-from-waste solid waste disposal facility proposed to be located in Elbert County by Plant Granite, LLC. Prior to any of the public speaking, County Administrator Bob Thomas highlighted the changes to the Solid Waste Plan for clarification. There were approximately nine citizens to approach the Board and express their concerns about this amendment.

A second public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving public comments and input concerning the Board of Commissioners' determination of consistency of the energy-from-waste solid waste disposal facility proposed by Plant Granite, LLC. There were approximately eighteen citizens to approach the Board with concerns about decision by the Board.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOC - MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2010 - 5:30 P.M.

Chairman Tommy Lyon called the meeting to order. After the Pledge to the United States Flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Frank Eaves.

Those present for the meeting were Chairman Lyon, Vice-Chairman Horace Harper, Commissioner W.D. Albertson, Commissioner Frank Eaves, Commissioner John Hubbard, Commissioner Jerry Hewell, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Clerk Judy Vaughn, County Attorney Bill Daughtry and Finance Director Daniel Goode.

Adoption of Agenda: Before adopting the agenda, Chairman Lyon asked to amend the agenda by adding an "Executive Session" for pending litigation. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to amend the agenda for the Executive Session to be added. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Eaves then made a motion to adopt the agenda with this amendment. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of minutes for January 11th and January 25th, 2010: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Ernest DePascale, Attorney, representing landowners of Elbert County: Mr. DePascale came before the Board on behalf of several landowners of Elbert County that are concerned about the proposed incinerator to be built in Elbert County. He agrees that the Commissioners are trying to do something good for Elbert County, but asks that they not do so in such a rush. People are afraid and feel threatened by the “unknown”. He asks that the Board table this item and get our own independent study.

Kevin Lewis, CPA representative: Mr. Lewis came before the Board representing the Citizens for Public Awareness. He reminded the Board of the “Right to Vote Petition” that has been circulated. He asked that the Board consider a six month moratorium. He stated that at the last meeting he was told by the Chairman that there would be plenty of time for community involvement. Voting for this project in February does not give them that promised time. He asks that the Board delay voting for this project.

Approval and Adoption of proposed Host Agreement between Elbert County and Plant Granite, LLC: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt this agreement with Plant Granite, LLC. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval and Adoption of resolution for proposed Amendment to Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan and transmittal of approved Plan as amended to Northeast Georgia RDC. Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Solid Waste Plan. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of a determination of “consistency” of proposed energy-from-waste facility with Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan as amended, and Plan “consistency” letter to Georgia EPD. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the determination of “consistency” of the proposed energy-from-

waste facility with Elbert County Solid Waste Management Plan as amended. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Consideration of authorization for Chairman Lyon to provide a letter of land use compliance for proposed Plant Granite, LLC, facility to Georgia EPD:

Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve Chairman Lyon providing this letter to the Georgia EPD. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Second Reading of proposed changes to Chapter 54 of the Elbert County Ordinances by the Planning Commission: County Attorney Bill Daughtry read the proposed changes. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt and approve these changes to Chapter 54 of the Elbert County Ordinances. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chuck Almond, EMS Director, to come before the Board to request approval to purchase computer upgrades for EMS laptops grant award: Chuck explained that we have a State grant in the amount of \$8670. These laptops will help in providing information to the hospital while on calls. \$8850 is the County's portion in this year's budget. An additional \$4800 will come from next year's budget. This will be taken from the Contingency Fund. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Code Enforcement and Planning and Development request approval to purchase a new pick-up truck: An "Invitation to Bid" on a 2010 F-150 Ford 4x4 Super Crew was advertised by Patrick Hopp, Code Enforcement Officer. He received four bids. The low bid was from Ed Murdock for \$25,175. This will be paid from SPLOST Funds. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve this purchase from Ed Murdock. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval to declare three vehicles as surplus property: The vehicles are a 1987 Mac truck, 1994 Explorer (from Solid Waste) and a 1983 Ford Bronco (from Code Enforcement). These vehicles will be taken to Christian's Auction in March to be sold. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to declare these vehicles surplus. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of proposed wording of the Referendum Ballot for the July general primary election on the question of whether Elbert County should levy a new ad valorem tax of two mills for the benefit of Elbert Memorial Hospital: There was a request to table this to February 17th, 2010. Commissioner Eaves approved the request to table. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Jennifer Downer to Action Board: Jennifer Downer has agreed to serve on the Action Board in the vacancy left by Laura Evans. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve Ms. Downer to represent Elbert County on the Action Board. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Rick Mewborne, Elbert County Fire Chief, requests approval to advertise for bids for fire department equipment: The County Fire Department has been awarded a Federal grant in the amount of \$219,000. The County's match is 5%. Chief Mewborne is requesting approval to put out bids only for equipment. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to give approval to put out bids. Commissioner Hewell seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report: County Administrator Bob Thomas reported that the County is still about eight per cent under budget. There are still two departments that are slightly over budget, but they should even out before the end of the year.

Public Comments on agenda items: Again, we had citizens to come forward to speak on the proposed incinerator project. They are upset that the Board went ahead and voted to proceed with this project. They feel that their requests were completely disregarded. The Board will be held accountable for their actions.

Executive Session: Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. There was no action taken.

Adjournment: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.