

PUBLIC HEARING
ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2010 - 5:00 P.M.

The hearing was call to order by Chairman Tommy Lyon. The purpose of the hearing was to make the public aware that the Board of Commissioners is applying to USDA Rural Development for a loan of \$390,119 to construct three new volunteer fire stations under their Community Facilities Loan/Grant Program. There were three citizens present for the hearing. Each building will be 82' x 42', a total of 3,440 sq. ft. There will be three bays in each building. There will be a meeting room, kitchen, one office, one handicapped restroom, closet and storage space. Each station must have a minimum of ten volunteers. Having these three new stations is most important. State regulations require us to have a station within five road miles of every business or residence in order for us to keep a five rating. If not, the rate will increase to 10, and property insurance will increase tremendously. There being no public comments, the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES
ELBERT COUNTY BOC - MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 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 Albertson.

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

Adoption of Agenda: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of Minutes: Commissioner Eaves made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion

carried 5-0.

Approve and adopt a proclamation recognizing “Census Week”: County Administrator Bob Thomas read the proclamation. The goal is to provide as accurate a census as possible. Commissioner Harper made a motion to adopt the proclamation recognizing “Census Week”. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval to purchase a weather warning device: Chuck Almond, EMA Director, came before the Board requesting approval to purchase a weather warning device. At this time, we have only one device. This device is not adequate enough to provide a warning notice. Chuck has found a company that he thinks is cost reasonable with their price. The equipment will meet our needs and is FEMA grant compliant. He is requesting that the County, City of Elberton, City of Bowman and the Board of Education each buy one device. The City of Elberton has already approved the purchase of one warning device. The cost for each is \$13,171. The County’s warning device will be paid for from SPLOST funds. These are custom built, so it will take approximately six weeks to construct. Commissioner Albertson made a motion to approve the purchase of one weather warning device. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval to declare two vehicles as surplus property: The two vehicles are a 1969 Chevrolet Flatbed Truck and a 1995 Grand Jeep Cherokee. We will salvage parts from the Jeep and sell the rest for metal. We will add the flatbed to the three vehicles already approved as surplus. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to declare these two vehicles as surplus. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

First Reading on amending Ordinance 2008, Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance: The purpose of this amendment will be to clarify what constitutes “minor land disturbing activities” under Georgia Law. County Attorney Bill Daughtry read the ordinance. The wording is fairly uniform statewide. DNR has constituted new guidelines, and the language should be identical to the State. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to accept this amendment to the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of joint purchase of a GIS Program with the City of Elberton: GIS stands for Geographical Information System. This program allows us to create a database to assemble, store, manipulate and display data relevant to departments and functions of Elbert County and Elberton. It will improve operational efficiency and effectiveness for both governments.

Approval of an “Intergovernmental Agreement” with the City of Elberton on the operation and maintenance of a Geographical Information System (GIS): This agreement provides for the City of Elberton and the County to share in the cost of the license, which will be \$25,000 annually. Each government entity will then share in the costs of installing the equipment and the maintenance thereof. County Administrator Bob Thomas stated that we could pay our share out of the Election Budget. Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to enter into this “Intergovernmental Agreement” with the City of Elberton. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of county road list to be posted as “No Thru Trucks Over Six Wheels”: Administrator Thomas has gone over the County looking at roads and noting those roads that are too narrow for trucks with over six wheels. There will be signs posted on these roads prohibiting trucks with over six wheels to use. Delivery trucks with documentation will be allowed. This will aid the Sheriff’s Department in enforcement once the roads are posted. Commissioner Eaves made a motion to approve this road list. Commissioner Hubbard seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of proposed 2011 SPLOST Projects: The 2006 SPLOST will come to an end as of June, 2011. We have to have projects on the ballot to re-up the one cent sales tax. This should be on the November, 2010 ballot. Administrator Thomas has contacted the cities of Elberton and Bowman to be working on their list. He has asked the County department heads to come up with needed projects. The lists will be compiled and then narrowed down. We will have to advertise a public hearing, preferably ninety days before the election.

Discussion and adoption of an Elbert County Internet Policy: We have nothing specific in place on this subject. A policy is needed to protect the County. All files on the internet and e-mails are subject to disclosure. The policy states acceptable and unacceptable uses. Each employee will be given a copy of the policy to read and sign. The copies will be kept in the Commission office in the personnel files.

Commissioner Hubbard made a motion to adopt the Internet Policy. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report: We have only four months left in this year. We are 7% under budget. The Fire Department is over 1.7% , and the Rec Department .9%. Overall, we are in good shape. Fuel is a concern as the price continues to rise. The auditor's report is late due to the change in software, and the problems that created. We have gotten an extension from the State.

Public Comments: Tim Case asked if we are going to lose the 4H office here. Mr. Thomas could only say that the State is dealing with this, and we are all anxious to hear about this. He feels they may cut some funding but no the program.

Executive Session: Commissioner Hewell made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Eaves seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. After returning to the meeting, Commissioner Harper made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Albertson seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0. There was no action taken in Executive Session.

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