



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session

Minutes

February 4, 2016

10:00 a.m.

Commission Conference Room – Ste. 168

Chairman Jones called the Work Session to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Jerry Barnes was present; Commissioner Becky Denney was not present due to a family vacation.

Items discussed:

- 1. Bid for Pickens Watershed Protection Plan Monitoring**
Chairman Jones read a Memo from Planning and Development Director Richard Osborne which was addressed to the Board regarding a Water Monitoring Bid by Fox Environmental. Based on the EPD suggestions for revising the Watershed Protection Plan long-term monitoring for Pickens County, CCR Environmental and Fox Environmental prepared revised bid proposals. Fox Environmental submitted the lower bid at \$9,900 for 2016. Both proposals appear to be in order and both companies are reputable Georgia companies with experience in this type of work in North Georgia. Water Department Director Larry Coleman has reviewed the proposals and agrees with the Planning and Development recommendation of Fox Environmental as the lowest and most qualified bidder. The Planning & Development staff requests that this item be placed on the February 18 Board of Commissioners meeting agenda.
- 2. Preparation of the 2015 Audit**
CFO Faye Harvey stated that she and Assistant Finance Director Connie Turcotte had a prep meeting with the Auditors last Friday. The Auditors plan to begin field work the 1st week in March with Elected Officials and will also conduct testing of transactions. They plan to have the final draft by the end of May. There will be additional costs due to a single audit regarding the Tate Depot since it was over \$250,000; as well as a fee to set up GASB 68 which is to improve accounting and financial reporting for pensions. Mrs. Harvey explained that there will still be unfunded liability but with our new retirement plan it will level off.
- 3. Discussion concerning Pickens County being fiscal agent for Family Connection 2016-2017**
Mrs. Harvey said that Family Connection is fully funded. Pickens County or the Board of Education can act as fiscal agent. Pickens County has been the fiscal agent since 2012 or 2013. The County gets the funds back and it is exact when

we receive it. It is a \$45,000 Grant. Mrs. Harvey stated that she has no objection to being Fiscal Agent. This item will be on the February 18th BOC agenda. Chairman Jones asked Mrs. Harvey if all Grant monies come back to our Finance office. Mrs. Harvey said that VOCA and VAWA funds come here, but Judicial Grants are handled by Stacy McClure. They receive the funds, and they are audited.

4. Upgrade of 9-1-1

Fire Chief Sloan Elrod spoke regarding the 5 year upgrade of 9-1-1. He said they have signed a contract with AT&T and Xybix System for the ergonomic work stations. As far as the remodel, they have to finish the carpeting, and then put in consoles and equipment. Then it should be fully functional. \$320,000 was set aside from SPLOST for this purpose. Computers are being replaced. The cost for consoles – equipment – CAD system is right at \$300,000. The other \$20,000 is for remodeling. The Operations Chief, Kristy Easterwood, will have an office with an exterior door. Anyone going into her office does not go into the 9-1-1 center. The old furniture will be used in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Chief Elrod said that everyone is excited about the upgrade. Chairman Jones said that after it is all completed he will take the media on a tour.

Commissioner Barnes complimented the employees for all their hard work during the flooding.

There being no further discussion, the Work Session was adjourned.

These Minutes were approved at the February 18, 2016 BOC meeting.

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