

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
AUGUST 20, 2013**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**BECKY HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
CHAD STEWARD, VICE CHAIRMAN  
NORRIS SEXTON, COMMISSIONER  
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER  
JEFF GAZAWAY, COMMISSIONER**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**RANDALL DOWLING, ADMINISTRATOR  
SUZANNE SMITH, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
12 GUESTS**

Chairman Hood called the meeting to order.

The Board met with four architectural firms offering their services for design of the George Chambers Resource Center. The Center will be submitting an application for a Community Development Block grant and if awarded the grant, an architectural firm will be hired to design the restructuring of the existing facility.

The Board heard presentations from Killian Clark Partnership, Gardner Spencer Smith Tench & Jarbeau, Moreland Altobelli Associates, and Sutton Architectural Services. Board members completed a score sheet on each firm and their presentation. Following the presentations, the scores were compiled, and the firm determined to have the highest scores was Killian Clark Partnership.

There was a consensus of the Board to add an item to the Agenda to consider awarding the design services for the George Chambers Resource Center facility.

County Attorney Smith discussed with the Board the three options available to implement a Local Bidder Preference Policy revision. The Board had previously requested information about changing the County's current policy. The first option the County Attorney explained is to offer a price match opportunity to the local vendor whose bid is within a designated percentage of the lowest non-local bid. This allows the local vendor to come down in price to match the non local bid within a specified time frame. In order to have that option, the local vendor has to be within a certain percentage. The second option is when the local bid is within a certain percentage of the non-local bid, then the contract is awarded to the local vendor at the higher price. The third option is the tied bid preference; under this option, the local vendor is awarded the contract if a non-local vendor and a local vendor's bids are equal in price. The key to option one or option two is defining what is a local vendor and then deciding on the percentage.

There was a consensus of the Board to ask the County Attorney to prepare a written policy for consideration at the next meeting, but to leave the percentage blank, and to include the description of a local vendor to be, "a business located within Gordon County".

The Board then discussed each item on the agenda and made no changes; one item had been added to the Agenda before the agenda discussion. Another item was added to the Agenda later in the meeting.

The Board heard from Judge Lane Bearden concerning his ADJUST program and his use of the Newtown Road facility. During the discussion Judge Bearden was asked by the Board if he would be willing to oversee and be responsible for the building. He would have the keys and would be responsible for coordinating the use and space of the facility by outside agencies. He and his staff would be responsible for unlocking and locking up of the facility, and any other instances of requests for use of the facility such as space needed or occasional use for meetings. Judge Bearden agreed to this arrangement.

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There was a consensus of the Board to add this item to the Agenda for Board consideration of authorizing Judge Bearden to use the building for his program and to be responsible for the coordination of the use of the facility, authorize the Healing Hands program's use of the facility, the M.A.T.S. program's use of the facility, and the Dr. H program's use of the facility. County Administrator explained that Dr. H evaluates residences to determine if they are eligible for disability through Social Security. All these services will meet the requirements of the grant.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to adjourn the Work Session, Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and all voted aye.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Chairman

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**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 20, 2013**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**BECKY HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
CHAD STEWARD, VICE CHAIRMAN  
JEFF GAZAWAY, COMMISSIONER  
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER  
NORRIS SEXTON, COMMISSIONER**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**RANDALL DOWLING, ADMINISTRATOR  
SUZANNE SMITH, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
10 GUESTS**

Chairman Hood called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation was led by Dwayne Jackson. The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Hood.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Hood asked if there were any additions, omissions, or deletions to the Minutes for the Work Session August 6, 2013, and the Regular Meeting August 6, 2013. Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and all voted aye. Minutes approved.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Dowling reported that he had met with a geo-technical engineer and a structural engineer today concerning the problem with the cracks in the parking deck. They will have a proposal for the Board at the next meeting to tell us what is wrong and how to fix it.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

Commissioner Gazaway commented that he had met with the NW Georgia Regional Council, College and Career Board and had attended the Community Government Affairs meeting. Commissioner Cunningham commented that he had attended the City Council meetings of both Fairmount and Ranger.

**CONSIDERATION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE 2013 TAX LEVY**

Administrator Dowling advised that this is a resolution to establish the 2013 tax levy for both the County and the County School System. The County will remain at 9.8 mills and the schools will be 19.406. Including the State, the total mills will be 29.356

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve the resolution establishing the 2013 tax levy. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Steward, Gazaway, and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

**SELECTION OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRM FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE GEORGE CHAMBERS RESOURCE CENTER**

Administrator Dowling advised that this is selection of the architectural firm for the Community Development Block grant for the George Chambers Resource Center. All four architectural firms made their presentations to the Board earlier today and the highest ranking is Killian Clark with a ranking of 528, the others were 532 - a tie for two firms, and one at 517. That ranking recommends the approval of Killian Clark to complete the architectural section of the grant application.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve the selection of Killian Clark for the architectural firm for the architectural section of the CDBG for the George Chambers Resource Center project. Commissioner Sexton seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Sexton, Steward and Gazaway voted aye. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF GRANT WRITER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE GEORGE CHAMBERS RESOURCE CENTER**

County Administrator Dowling advised that this is the selection of a grant writer and administrator for the CDBG George Chambers Resource Center of the sole source Northwest Georgia Administrator Services, Dave Ronnigan. Both Killian Clark and Dave Ronnigan will write the grant at no charge, on the condition that if Gordon County is awarded the grant, Gordon County will hire them at a negotiated rate.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve Dave Ronnigan as the grant writer for the CDBG Georgia Chambers Resource Center project. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Sexton, Gazaway, Cunningham, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF SERVICE PROVIDERS' USE OF THE NEWTOWN ROAD COUNTY OWNED FACILITY**

County Attorney Smith advised that this is consideration of the RFP that was solicited for use by social service agencies for the former Tallatoona building. Gordon County received several proposals and the Board met and discussed with those applicants at a previous meeting. After discussion today at the Work Session the recommendation comes to the Board that the Board assign the usage of the facility to Judge Lane Bearden and the new juvenile justice program that he is being required to operate pursuant to State mandate. This program needs to be up and running by October 1<sup>st</sup>, so he needs to occupy the facility immediately in order to get his program in place. This program will serve low to moderate income families in Gordon County. Therefore, this program would be eligible to be an occupant of the building pursuant to the terms of the grant that was received for renovation of the building. Judge Bearden will also serve as the coordinator of that facility and anyone that wishes to use the building, or reserve the building, would work with Judge Bearden and his staff to schedule a meeting there or reserve a room there.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve Judge Lane Bearden to use the facility and to be the Coordinator for the use of the facility. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Gazaway, Sexton, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and all voted aye. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Annette Berry, County Clerk

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Becky Hood, Chairman