

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MINUTES**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, April 8, 2013, beginning at 11:00 a.m. with Chairman Gwen Flowers-Taylor presiding. Commissioners Raymond Ray, Rita Johnson, Samuel Gardner and Bart Miller were present. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson Jr., Attorney Jim Fortune and County Clerk, Ex-Officio Ricky L. Clark Jr. to record the minutes.

A. Call to Order

Invocation – **led by Commissioner Miller**
Pledge to the Flag – **led by Commissioner Ray**

B. Agenda Items

1. Discussion relative to FY'14 Budget Priorities as submitted by Commissioners & the Budget Review Committee.

Chairman Flowers-Taylor questioned the amount of revenue that will be lost with the FY' 14 Budget. Mr. Wilson stated that dependent upon the tax digest, it's really too early to tell. Chairman Flowers-Taylor noted that the County has cut everything it can but employees. She noted that we are one of the few counties that have not implemented furlough days.

Chairman Flowers-Taylor questioned the number of positions that are currently frozen. Mr. Wilson advised that there are about 20 positions that have not been filled due to the hiring freeze.

Mr. Wilson informed the Board of the top three priorities as submitted by the Commissioners. Respectfully, these priorities are: 1) no increase in taxes, 2) no use of fund balance and 3) no reduction in services.

In response to a questioned raised by Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Ray stated that the Budget Review Committee is only researching the feasibility of curb side garbage pickup. No final decision has been made.

Commissioner Miller requested that Mr. Wilson take a look into unused real property for possible sale. Commissioner Miller also requested that Mr. Wilson research whether or not there was a 5% increased imposed on beer sales to pay for the operation of the recycling centers.

The following were some budget priorities set by the Commission:

1. ***Maintain current level of service***
2. ***No increase in taxes***

2. Discussion relative to the Spalding County Smoking Ordinance.

Commissioner Ray noted that at this time he is fine with the ordinance as is.

No change in current Smoking Ordinance as adopted on July 16, 2012.

3. Discuss programs and allocations for FY' 14 CSBG Grant.

Major Jack Butler- 725 Meriwether Street- Major Butler stated that the downturn in the economy has directly affected the Salvation Army. He further noted that the Salvation Army is a vital part of this community and they would not be able to withstand another budget cut. Additionally, Mr. Butler noted that the \$26,000 that comes from the CSBG grant is valuable to their program and operations. Furthermore, Mr. Butler noted that the program, itself, currently has 43 children.

Chuck Copeland- 136 Four Oaks Drive- Mr. Copeland serves as Treasurer of the Salvation Army and noted that even when the Salvation Army had upwards of 90 kids, they were still operating in a deficit. Mr. Copeland noted that the funding of the Salvation Army has been made possible due to generosity of so many community organizations. Additionally, Mr. Copeland noted that the program has been in existence for over 30 years and the kids are taught invaluable lessons.

Commissioner Ray noted that he does not want to see funding taken from the Salvation Army and requested that the CSBG grant be approved.

Chairman Flowers-Taylor thanked both Major Butler & Mr. Copeland for giving the information on the Salvation Army Program. She requested that the Board also approve the contract.

After substantial information presented by Major Jack Butler of the Salvation Army & Aronda Smith, Three Rivers Grant Administrator there was a motion/second by Ray/Gardner to amend the agenda to add approval of the FY'14 CSBG Grant. Motion carried unanimously carried by all.

- 4. Consider approval of Project Application Plan (PAP) and Resolution to contract with the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) to receive \$119,190 in CSBG grant funds. The contract shall have an effective beginning date of October 1, 2013 and shall terminate on September 30, 2014.

Motion/Second by Ray/Gardner to approve Project Application Plan (PAP) and Resolution to contract with the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) to receive \$119,190 in CSBG grant funds. The contract shall have an effective beginning date of October 1, 2013 and shall terminate on September 30, 2014. Motion carried unanimously by all.

C. Adjournment

Motion/Second by Gardner/Ray to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

/s/ _____
Chairman

/s/ _____
County Clerk

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