

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Business Meeting
7:00 P.M.

July 19, 2011

POST SUMMARY MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Eldrin Bell, Vice-Chairman Wole Ralph, Commissioner Sonna Singleton, Commissioner Michael Edmondson, Commissioner Gail B. Hambrick, and Clerk Shelby D. Haywood.

1. Chairman Bell called the meeting to order.
2. Invocation was led by Major Wally Woodcock of the Clayton County Police Department. Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Chairman Bell.
3. Amended the agenda by deleting item #6 "Clayton County Honors Mylon Craige of Jonesboro High School" (presented by Vice-Chairman Ralph) due to the inability of the honoree to attend tonight's meeting and adding a presentation to Executive Director Linda Summerlin of Arts Clayton in the form of a NACo award (presented by Commissioner Singleton). The agenda was adopted, as amended, as all commissioners had copies before them. Vote unanimous.
4. Approved the July 12, 2011 Regular Business Meeting minutes. Vote unanimous.
5. Motion by Vice-Chairman Ralph, second by Commissioner Singleton, to convene the Clayton County Governmental Finance Corporation in consideration of Resolution 2011-103 which resulted in the following action:
 - 1) Approved Resolution 2011-103 – Resolution of the Clayton County, Georgia Governmental Finance Corporation to provide energy savings and conservation measures in Clayton County pursuant to a Performance Agreement for Comfort from Trane and a Performance Agreement with Siemens. Vote unanimous.

Per Staff Attorney Christie Barnes, this resolution will allow the Clayton County, Georgia Governmental Finance Corporation to determine that the most efficient and effective means of financing the collective costs of certain equipment is to exercise its purchase option under the 2009 lease and enter into a lease addendum to the Master Lease Agreement (refinancing of equipment).
6. PRESENTATION of NACo Award to Executive Director Linda Summerlin of Arts Clayton (presented by Commissioner Singleton).

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Commissioner Singleton stated that Arts Clayton has been recognized nationally by the National Association of Counties (NACo) with an “Honorable Mention” for the ArtVan school program which Ms. Summerlin heads. As Vice-Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission for NACo, Commissioner Singleton admitted she was not one of the judges for this recognition because, otherwise, Arts Clayton would have won the top award. The actual judges, however, were so excited about this award since Clayton County has a history of getting outstanding awards. Erie County, Pennsylvania came out on top this time, but the judges acknowledged that Clayton County was very close to receiving the top award (by two points). NACo presents this award to counties that support arts programs in their county. She then deferred to Linda Summerlin, Executive Director of Arts Clayton, to give everyone more details about the program and this recognition.

Ms. Summerlin thanked Commissioner Singleton and the Board of Commissioners for their support. She learned a few years ago that Arts Clayton could apply for this award and make a presentation to NACo for its work supported by this Board for the arts. That work includes a mobile learning lab reading program (ArtVan) and, without the Board’s support, Arts Clayton could not touch the lives that it does. Currently, Arts Clayton is serving at-risk children in this reading program in ten (10) identified after school programs for the Clayton County School system. Her organization is working to extend that learning lab to all of the elementary campus kids programs. Ms. Summerlin acknowledged that this Board’s support allows Arts Clayton to hire qualified/certified instructors to sit down with lesson plans, have the most available tools, and be in compliance with State guidelines that will assist in providing a quality program for the students. Without the Board’s support, Arts Clayton could not have achieved what it has in the last twenty-five years in this program. Arts Clayton is presently doing a tremendous job and striving to raise awareness of the arts program so that elementary schools can be integrated in where the demand is greater. In celebration of Arts Clayton’s twenty-fifth anniversary, Ms. Summerlin stated for the record that this Board’s predecessors and business leaders in 1986 helped to launch the arts initiative in this county. Former Commissioner Carl Rhodenizer and others led the way for this county to apply for a \$10,000.00 grant from the Georgia Council of the Arts to start an arts program in Clayton County. J. Charley Griswell was the Board Chairman at that time and this grant had to be matched. From that point on, there was a bond

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between Arts Clayton and the Board of Commissioners. The bar has been raised every year for the Board to be a more viable partner and share knowledge to ensure that this community is a great place in which to live, work, and play. To celebrate this twenty-fifth year, the Board will be intricately involved because it already knows that Arts Clayton has been recognized by the Governor's Office as its "Georgia Gallery of Choice." Arts Clayton is proud to share with the Board and the community that it is doing something that makes the county look good and continuing to be a great partner to stimulate economic growth, tourism, and residency in Clayton County. On behalf of Arts Clayton, Ms. Summerlin expressed her love for Clayton County and appreciation for this Board's support.

Commissioner Singleton then presented the plaque from NACo to Ms. Summerlin which read:

The National Association of Counties – the Voice of America's Counties

NACo Arts and Culture Commission presents an *Honorable Mention* to Clayton County, Georgia for its program, *ArtVan*, in non-performing schools July 2011.

NOTE: After this presentation, a group photo was taken.

7. Rod Gray, Director of Central Services, presented three (3) items which resulted in the following actions. (NOTE: The Board voted on all of these items at once.)

1) Approved a Request to Rescind an Award to ICS Jail Supply for Inmate Uniforms and Bedding Supplies/Annual Contract (RFB Pkg. #10-49; 12/20/2010). Vote unanimous.

The revised recommendation is to rescind the award with ICS Jail Supply, located in Waco, Texas, as presented and approved by the Clayton County Board of Commissioners during a Regular Business Meeting on March 11, 2011. After the award, ICS Jail Supply was unable to provide the type of products required for the Jail.

2) Approved a Request to add item #4 to the existing contract with Robinson Textiles, located in Gardena, CA, for Inmate Uniforms and Bedding Supplies/Annual Contract

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(RFB Pkg. #10-49; 12/20/2010), as requested by the Sheriff's Office. Vote unanimous.

This vendor was awarded items #1, #2, and #3 on March 11, 2011 and is the lowest responsive bidder for this item. Funds are available through the General Fund. (NOTE: Item #4 is for inmate pillows at \$4.80 each; items #1 -- #3 are already approved for inmate coveralls, inmate v-neck shirts, and inmate mock fly pants, respectively.)

10. Approved a Request for Clayton County Telecommunications and Data Services, Annual Contract (RFB Pkg. #11-08; 6/4/2011). Vote unanimous.

This annual contract is to procure data and telecommunications services to conduct business operations and to allow for expansion of the voice and data network, as requested by the Information Technology Department. The recommendation is to issue a dual award to the following firms, AT&T located in Atlanta, Georgia (responsible solely for Centrex technology), and Windstream Nuvox, Inc. located in Atlanta, Georgia (responsible for all voice services, with the exception of Centrex technology).

8. Approved Resolution 2011-104 authorizing the refinancing of a certain equipment lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2009 with respect to the acquisition, purchase, financing, and leasing of certain energy savings and conservation equipment; Authorizing the execution, delivery and performance of a lease addendum to provide for such refinancing of the purchase of equipment and the leasing of such equipment to the County; Authorizing the execution, delivery and performance of an escrow agreement; Authorizing the execution and delivery of certain other related documents required in connection therewith; Authorizing the taking of all other actions necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this resolution; and for other purposes. Vote unanimous.

9. Approved Resolution 2011-112 authorizing Clayton County to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections on behalf of the Clayton County Prison for the care and custody of State inmates. Vote unanimous.

10. Approved Resolution 2011-113 authorizing the acceptance of vehicles to be assigned to the Clayton County Sheriff's Department's fleet in a manner as will be in the best interest of the County (1 van; 1 bus; and 2 military trucks). Vote unanimous.

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11. Approved Resolution 2011-114 authorizing Clayton County to amend its PY-2008 and PY-2009 Annual Action Plans as required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to document reallocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding provided to the City of Forest Park (\$23,735.00 from two Starr Park projects to Burks Road project and \$116,265.00 for Burks Road project to acquire R-O-W for Burks Road project, totaling \$140,000.00). Vote unanimous.

12. Approved Resolution 2011-115 authorizing Clayton County to approve and adopt the State Court Judges, Juvenile Court Judges, and Solicitor General of State Court retirement contributions to the Georgia Judicial Retirement System as Employer “Pick-Up” Contributions. Vote unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Sandra Griffin, a Clayton County resident, thanked Chairman Bell for taking the time to address some of her subdivision concerns following the millage rate public hearing today. She looked forward to resolutions regarding her community on the north end of unincorporated Clayton County. Her subdivision has been working closely with Clayton County Police Chief Greg Porter and Chief Chris Butler on some of those community issues/concerns. Ms. Griffin hoped to continue those communications with the Police Department and to establish communications with her district commissioner, Commissioner Sonna Singleton.

2. Wayne Madden expressed that he is a proud Clayton County resident. In 1992, he had a conversation at the Convention Center with then Independent presidential candidate H. Ross Perot. According to Mr. Madden, even Mr. Perot knew at that time the value of Clayton County. Mr. Madden next addressed two (2) subjects: 1) the Public Comment section should really be heard up front during the Regular Business Meeting instead of after the agenda items have been discussed. A case in point is the county’s financing of Southern Regional Hospital for \$45 million with no hospital collateral in case of a default. He opined that this was not a sound transaction; and 2) an apology for inviting the Board to a recent meeting in his subdivision when the property manager pulled an “okeydokey.” Mr. Madden affirmed that this property manager and the whole property board will be removed.

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3. Linda Slagle, a 25-year county resident, acknowledged that this Board has its challenges on personal, community, and county levels. She was here for the recent budget adoption meeting and saw firsthand the Board's plans; i.e., property tax increases. One of the problems Ms. Slagle pointed out is that this county's property values have gone straight downhill. She believed Clayton County is worse than some other counties in the State of Georgia and there are reasons for that too. Any one riding around this county will see numerous houses that are vacated and boarded up with waist-to-shoulder-high grass growing in the yards. Although Ms. Slagle admitted she did not know who owned those properties, these houses make the value of other properties in the neighborhood go down. Fortunately, the road she lives on is not bad; however, her home value has been reduced to more than one half of its original value in the last three to four years and that really hurts. Ms. Slagle stated she had received an electric bill last month for \$426.00 and had never received such a bill that high. Everything is going up for the citizens so, when property taxes are increased, the Board has to consider that everyone else is taking money out of the citizens' pockets also. She specifically requested to hear some "good ideas" from this Board regarding what it can do to make the property values go up in the county so that the citizens can do better. Those ideas would not incorporate raising taxes, but they would foster the rise in property values. As a result, some citizens may want to sell their homes and some persons may actually want to buy homes in Clayton County. Ms. Slagle admitted that it is a tough task, but she appreciated the work that the Board does for the county.

4. Stella Gorman, a Jonesboro resident, was not present when her name was called.