



Fannin County Board of Commissioners
Workshop
Jury Assembly Room
June 27, 2017

OPENING REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Stan Helton called the meeting to order at 5:15pm

Meeting for the Fire Department.

Chairman Helton asked that items presented by Chief Larry Thomas and Robert Graham, be looked at and selected items be moved to a consent agenda in two weeks. Helton stated with SPLOST Funds approximately 75% of cost would be covered and what the county would have to cover would be the balance of \$500,000 of the awarded contract on the new Public Safety Complex.

Chief Thomas and Robert Graham were called to present their revised SPLOST request for the Fire Department.
The requests read as follows:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Total Estimated 6 year SPLOST Collections | \$2,100,000 |
| Of that amount, 75% was requested for departments under EMA | \$1,573,200 |
| EMA (Voted to Consent) | \$ 49,000 |
| EMS (Voted to Consent) | \$ 152,800 |
| 911 (Voted to Consent) | \$ 113,000 |

Amount Requested for Fire Department
Prioritized as follows:

1. Fund the balance of the awarded contract for Public Safety Complex \$ 500,000
 2. Provide funding to complete the Add-Alternate #2 - Inside completion of the add-alternate #1 area of the Public Safety Complex \$ 240,000
 3. Tanker 7 – Remount \$ 77,800
 4. Tanker 3 – Remount \$ 77,800
 5. Station 2 – Station 2 Purchase property and build 3 bay station \$ 225,000
 6. Station 5 – Build new 2 bay station with training area \$ 60,000
 7. Tanker 5 – Remount – Late model used chassis \$ 77,800
- Replacement of Tanker 13 and Engine 9 will be accomplished by purchasing a good used tanker and engine with money in the 2017 budget along with insurance proceeds from Engine 9 (Approx. \$125,000).
 - Tanker 8 and Engine 14 will be replaced with an existing truck from another station when the 3 new engines on order are put in service.
 - Station 13 upgrades will be accomplished with existing and promised donated funds which were earmarked for this project.
 - Stations 7 and 11 upgrades (add one bay each) can be accomplished with general fund budget monies within the next 6 years @\$19,000/station.
 - We will apply for a FEMA AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) to purchase SCBA equipment. Current SCBA equipment is still operational and was purchased through this same type grant 9 years ago.

Station 2 – Mineral Bluff – Station has outgrown its location. Fire fighters must have a spotter to back into the facility with only an inch of clearance on each side and it is very difficult to back trucks up off Hwy 60. Trucks have been updated but the station doesn't work with the department anymore. Chief Thomas said that the Mineral Bluff Station is the busiest volunteer station in Fannin County. Commissioner Sosebee mentioned that there is no land to expand at that location. Commissioner Johnson asked where the fire station would need to be located in Mineral Bluff and Chief Thomas explained that he did not want to get out of the 5-mile radius from the old station, because this could affect citizen's insurance rates. Chief Thomas said the Mineral Bluff station would be looking at possibly having a full-time staff at some time in the future.

Station 5- Epworth Station needs to be rebuilt. Chief Thomas and EMA Director Graham explained that bays are too small, roof leaks and the station has no restrooms or running water. Commissioner Johnson stated that if the county was going to rebuild he didn't believe anything should be spent unless the station could have a restroom and running water.

Chairman Helton asked for item 2 to be explained more in detail. Director Graham stated that if there was enough savings that the plan was to finish the add on for the new complex without having to raise any additional funds. Chairman Helton explained that the contractors wouldn't have to be notified until they were at 80%-85% complete to go ahead with the completion of the add on and still not be charged a premium.

Director Graham stated they were already looking for ways to save on the fire station. Helton stated that if item 2 was not moved forward to the consent agenda that there would be time to decide on the matter later.

Chairman Helton asked the Post Commissioners which items they would like to move forward to the consent agenda.

Item 1 Passed to consent agenda.

Item 2 did not pass. However, it would be addressed at a later time.

Item 3 and 4 passed to consent agenda.

Item 5 passed to consent agenda.

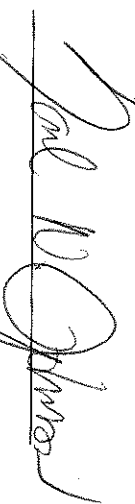
Item 6 is contingent on whether the facility can support running water and restrooms.

Item 7 passed to consent agenda.

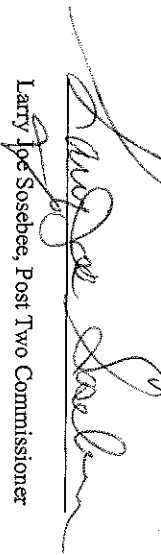
Workshop was dismissed at 5:40pm.



Stan Helton, Chairman

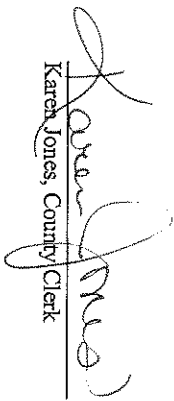


Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Larry Joe Sosebee, Post Two Commissioner

Attest:


Karen Jones, County Clerk