

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 1980

The regular meeting of County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with the invocation by Robert Gaillard. The only Member absent was Mr. Frady.

Minutes of the October 21st meeting were unanimously approved, Motion by Mr. Crain second by Dr. Earle.

Mr. Bob Gaillard, Director of the Oconee County Planning Commission advised the Council that eight firms had submitted portfolios to conduct a county wide water feasibility study. He stated that after interviewing all firms, that he and his Board unanimously recommend that the Firm of Russel and Axon, Anderson, S.C. be awarded the study contract. Mr. Gaillard's presentation was for information only and no action was taken at this time.

Mr. Chris Trabookis from COG presented an informal briefing on a public transportation study that was being done for the COG 6 county region. He advised the Council that COG was under contract with the Governor's Office to conduct the study and that his Agency would do Oconee, Pickens and Cherokee Counties. He stated that approximately \$275,000 would be available for the 6 county COG Region. Any grant applications would have to be submitted by a county or a municipality; however arrangements could be made for the county to enter into an agreement with an individual or private company should such an arrangement be requested. Further that should a grant be submitted and approved and a public transportation system be established that the bus or busses provided under the grant agreement would have to be made available for the use of all citizens of the county. The funding formula is such that the federal grant would pay 80% and the County 20% for procurement of the busses and that the federal government would also pay 50% for the operating deficit after the deduction of revenues derived from the fees charged to ride the busses. Mr. Trabookis stated that at this point the study had finished inventories of all county assets in the 6 county region and the next step would be to develop study goals, objectives, and barriers. He encouraged input from the County Council on goals, objectives, needs, etc. and stated the next study group meeting will be held on December 8th.

Mr. Lay provided background information to Council reference to a grant for a sewer line extension to be constructed in 1981-82 to the Fairfield Manufacturing Co. He stated that a grant application was submitted to COG for this project which totals \$86,000 and that at this point a grant in the amount of \$25,000 applied for from Farmers Home Administration and a \$43,000 grant from ARC with the County paying the balance of \$18,000. Following this background summary by Mr. Lay, Mr. Larry Floyd of Farmers Home Administration advised the Council of all the requirements that the County must meet in order to secure the \$25,000 FHA grant as well as the rules and regulations that had to be complied with during the execution of the grant. He stated that FHA would be the Agency to administer the ARC grant of \$43,000. He presented a Resolution 80-10 to the Council which was passed by a unanimous vote ( Motion by Mr. Ables second by Dr. Earle). All Farmers Home documents that are applicable to this project are on file in the Supervisor's Office, some of which we executed on November 18th and some of which must be completed prior to commencement of work, during construction, and after the completion of the project. (Forms such as engineering, right of way, legal, etc.) Mr. Floyd stated that when the project is completed

the County will be required to pay total cost of the project and then file for reimbursement. Further that an audit must be conducted of the project "actual cost" and it is this figure that will be used for final payment and reimbursement. He further stated if the project is less than the amount of ARC and FHA grant that the grant would be proportionately reduced. However; if the cost exceeded the amounts of grants the county would have to pay the difference.

Mrs. Jennings introduced for Third Reading Ordinance 80-12 "An Ordinance to Approve and Ratify Rules and Regulations Governing the use of Landfill Sites for Oconee County and to set Maximum and Minimum fees for Collectors." She then moved to amend this Ordinance by changing the minimum fine from \$10 to \$50 and the maximum fine from \$100 to \$200. Mr. Ables seconded the approval of this Ordinance and it was passed by a vote of 3-1 (Mr. Crain voted no).

Second Reading of Ordinance 80-13, "An Ordinance to cover all types of Disasters, Rules and Regulations Governing the Emergency Preparedness Agency of Oconee County" was rescheduled for Second Reading at the next meeting of County Council on December 9, 1980.

Mr. Ables introduced and read Resolution 80-9 "Pertaining to the filing of Applications for Special Tax Treatment of Agricultural and/or Personal Dwellings" and moved for its adoption - second by Dr. Earle. Mr. Crain asked if appeals should not go before the Appeals Board before being referred to County Council for action. Mr. Ables stated that it was his opinion that appeals should not go before the Tax Board in that the authority to approve or disapprove an appeal of this type by a citizen was vested in County Council. The Resolution passed by a 4-0 vote.

In old business Mrs. Jennings stated that improvements were being made in the overall operation of the green box program - she stated she has received many compliments from some of the citizens of the County, further that Mr. Blackwell was doing an excellent job but was having a problem at the Seneca Landfill with sludge from the County Sewer System. The problem was that the area provided for drying the sludge was not large enough. Mr. Phinney stated that he had discussed this problem with Mr. Steve Geddes and Mr. Blackwell and jointly they are going to solve this problem. Also Mr. Blackwell is working with the State Highway Department to alleviate a water drainage problem from the roads into the Seneca Landfill site. Mrs. Jennings also stated that the prisoner labor being used to pick up trash along the roads was working out well. Mrs. Jennings also announced the CETA Director, Mr. Frank Hix, is working on a program to hire and train at Tri County Tec 3 dispatchers. Mrs. Jennings advised that 20 monitors had been ordered and received that were in the budget also the encoder has been modified to work in the console in the Communications Center. Mrs. Jennings stated that approximately \$700 was needed to fire proof an area around the furnace at the Lakeview Rest Home. Funds would come from Rest Home receipts and there would be no cost to the county. Mr. Gibson will assist in these repairs. She stated that the operation at the Children's Home was going quite well. Mr. & Mrs. Phillips who had been Houseparents previously have been hired temporarily and are doing a good job.

Mr. Crain stated that the audit/study of the rock crusher has been completed by Mr. Neil Byerley, CPA and that as a result of his study he recommended that the cost of gravel be increased from \$2.25 to \$3.10 per ton effective November 24, 1980. Mr. Ables seconded Mr. Crain's motion which passed by a 4-0 vote.

Dr. Earle stated that COG has completed the Personnel Survey and that is was under review at this time and will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Mrs. Jennings stated that Mr. Walter Purcell has been invited by the State Civil Preparedness Director to attend a meeting in Nevada. She made a motion that the County front \$560.50 (from contingent account) for Mr. Purcell's plane ticket and that after all expenses for this trip are in the county would be reimbursed 100% for the cost, Mr. Ables seconded the motion which passed by a 4-0 vote. Mrs. Jennings stated she has received two letters from the Vocational Center requesting the County donate 2 obsolete county cars to the school to be used as training aids for teaching body and fender repair classes. Dr. Earle moved that 2 obsolete sheriff's sedans be donated, Mr. Ables seconded the motion which passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Ables made a motion that \$152.55 be authorized from the contingent account to pay for locks needed for 40 Election Commission ballot boxes. His motion was seconded by Mrs. Jennings and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Crain announced that the first meeting of County Council in January 1981 would be held on January 2, 1981.

Dr. Earle nominated Dr. E. N. Davis as a Member from District # 2 to serve on the Emergency Preparedness Commission. Mr. Crain seconded the motion which passed by a 4-0 vote. Dr. Earle also announced that a CETA Advisory Board was being formed on a State wide basis and that we have been asked to nominate 4 Members from Oconee County to serve on the Board.

Mr. Lay advised Council that the State had approved the plan that we submitted in October 1980 covering the installation of Railroad crossing signs where county roads cross railroads at 15 different places. He pointed out that the State will pay 90% and the County's 10% share would be installation in-kind match, further that the signs had been ordered and when received installation will begin. During installation the State Highway Department will provide an engineer to assist in insuring they are installed to meet State Highway specifications. Further that when the project is completed the County must pay in full all bills then file for reimbursement based on actual cost for this project.

Mr. Phinney announced the next meeting of County Council will be December 9th at 7:00 P.M.