

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Business Meeting  
7:00 P.M.

March 19, 2013

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PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Turner, Vice-Chairman Michael Edmondson, Commissioner Sonna Singleton, Commissioner Gail Hambrick, Commissioner Shana M. Rooks, and Clerk Shelby D. Haywood.

1. Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.
2. Invocation was led by Apostle Arlene Williams of the Forest Park Ministers' Association in Forest Park, Georgia. Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Chairman Turner.
3. Adopted the agenda as all commissioners had copies before them. Clerk Haywood noted that the Executive Session held tonight pertained to litigation, personnel, and real estate matters. Vote unanimous.
4. Approved the March 12, 2013 Regular Business Meeting minutes. Vote unanimous.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizens will be given a three (3)-minute maximum time limit to speak before the Board of Commissioners about various topics, issues, and concerns. Following thirty minutes of hearing from the public, the Board of Commissioners will allow the remainder of citizens who have signed up for public comment to be heard at the next Tuesday business meeting.

1) Dr. Henry Anderson, a resident of Hampton, Georgia, stated that if Police Chief Porter submitted a request to the Board to increase the number of code enforcement officers in the county, he would strongly encourage the Board to increase the number of code enforcement officers on residential properties to maximum levels. Due to the number of foreclosures, bank sales, and short sales in this county, residential properties have not been maintained in an acceptable manner and numerous complaints have arisen in the code enforcement division. Dr. Anderson emphasized that increasing the number of code enforcement officers will ensure the continued success and timeliness of quick enforcement actions and follow-up of the violators of residential code enforcement ordinances. He praised Vice-Chairman Edmondson for sponsoring a resolution on May 1, 2007 to move the Code Enforcement Division from the Community Development Department to the Police Department as well as Commissioner Singleton for voting in favor of this resolution. He also appreciated the efforts of the then Chief of Police Jeff Turner and Deputy Chief Greg Porter in this departmental transfer. Dr. Anderson noted that the resolution was approved by a 4-0-1 vote with Commissioner Virginia Gray abstaining due to her

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not having any budgetary figures for this move. When Greg Porter became Chief of Police two and a half years ago, he had the same concerns about code enforcement in the county. Chief Porter agreed to ride along Tara Boulevard with Dr. Anderson (upon his request) and Code Enforcement Inspector G. Haralson on Saturday, October 30, 2010, to see the violations firsthand. As a result of this ride, Chief Porter rapidly responded by forwarding Dr. Anderson his standard post action plan on November 1, 2010 for the areas that fell under his jurisdiction. Actions were swiftly taken to rectify code enforcement problems on November 9, 2010 with the aid of Chief Porter's assistants. Per Dr. Anderson, such actions showed a great deal of professionalism, care, and concern. He pointed out that he had learned a very valuable lesson which was called the "Broken Window Theory" when he attended a First Citizens Police Academy Class in 2007. (NOTE: This theory states that if one window on a building is left broken and unrepaired, all the rest of the windows will soon be broken.) The class was held from October 4, 2007 to December 13, 2007 (graduation day) and a code enforcement lecture was led by Major Jewett and Lieutenant Smith on November 29, 2007. Dr. Anderson concluded that when he revisited this issue before the Board in July 2013, he hoped the Board would have passed the 2014 fiscal year budget with an increased number of county code enforcement officers and he could give the Board accolades, praises, and congratulations on a job well done.

2) Sophia Haynes, a Clayton County resident, said she currently served on the Clayton County Water Authority Board of Directors. On Thursday, March 14, 2013, the Water Authority Board voted to select two (2) firms to provide bond underwriting and legal services for a bond refinance that is projected to save the county approximately \$7.5 million. Prior to taking this vote, the Water Authority Board unanimously approved a request for a proposal packet. A board committee also participated on the evaluation team that included Water Authority staff members, and it received presentations which were scored by the eight (8) firms that made the short list. The evaluation team tabulated the final scores for each firm and decided upon a joint recommendation to be made to the full board. This recommendation was presented to the board at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 7, 2013. At that time, a member of the board committee indicated that the Board of Commissioners wanted the underwriting contract to be awarded to Piper Jaffray and Company (the company owned by the county's financial advisor, Ed Wall) – despite reports that this company did not receive the overall highest score. In an effort to ensure that the entire process had been conducted fairly, the Water Authority Board decided to postpone the vote until a separate board committee had an opportunity to review the

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process used by the Water Authority staff to create the short-listed firms. This review occurred on March 11, 2013 over an approximate three (3)-hour time period, and it was determined that nothing illegal, unethical or immoral happened. A special meeting was then called for the vote. During this meeting a motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation made by the evaluation team. Prior to the vote, a board committee member made a second motion to change the evaluation process for one of the evaluated categories so that the score of the county's financial advisor would then tie with the firm that had earned the highest score. This board member's articulated reason was that this new process would allow the Water Authority to pick Piper Jaffray and Company due to what would then be tied scores. Ms. Haynes noted that the Water Authority's Chairman and Vice-Chairman voiced opposition to any type of score manipulation and she, Sylvia Wright, the Chairman, and the Vice-Chairman of the Water Authority voted in favor of the firms that had earned the highest scores during this proposal process. Ironically, this business meeting's agenda had a reconsideration of Ms. Wright's appointment to the Water Authority that was published the next day. Ms. Haynes chose to believe this reconsideration was a coincidence and not a retaliation of Ms. Wright's vote not to rig the scores. She also chose to believe that if the commissioners had communicated with the Water Authority members in suggesting the selection of a financial advisor, it would have been understood that they did not intend it to be conducted in an unethical or illegal manner. If she were incorrect in her belief, Ms. Haynes wanted the Board to consider (in Ms. Wright's reconsideration) that Ms. Wright in her role protected the integrity of this process, the stellar reputation of the Water Authority, and more importantly the trust that citizens have in elected officials to execute their duties in an ethical manner and not to end up appearing before a special grand jury on unethical charges.

6. Theodis Locke, Director of Central Services/Risk Management, presented four (4) items which resulted in the following Board actions. (NOTE: The entire Purchasing Ordinance for Clayton County, Georgia can be viewed on the MuniCode website: <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10562>.)

1) Approved **RFP Pkg. #11-30 Clayton County Public Safety 700 MHz Project 25 Radio Communications System, Contract Amendment [modifications/upgrades/credit \$929,070.04]**, as requested by the Clayton County Public Safety Digital Network Committee. Per Section 2-136 (2) of the Clayton County Purchasing Ordinance, Clayton County utilizes the

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competitive sealed proposal method when the competitive sealed bid method is neither practical nor advantageous and when cost is not the primary consideration. The competitive sealed proposal method will be used when the costs of goods and services exceed \$25,000.00. The Clayton County Board of Commissioners makes the final award for all non-budgeted proposals of \$35,000.00 and greater. Vote unanimous.

This request is to amend the current contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc. located in Lawrenceville, Georgia due to modifications and upgrades to the system, as requested by the Clayton County Public Safety Digital Network Committee. The Board of Commissioners awarded this contract to Motorola Solutions, Inc. on October 16, 2012. Motorola Solutions, Inc. has agreed to accept the amendment. The modifications and upgrades will result in a credit to the County's SPLOST Fund in the amount of \$929,070.04.

2) Approved **RFB Pkg. #12-04 Clayton County Firefighter Turnout and Protective Gear, Annual Contract/Contract Amendment I – Price Increase** [*Globe Boots \$318.00/American Firewear PBI Hoods \$39.00/Shelby 5226 Gloves \$58.00/Cairns MSA 1010 Helmet \$219.00/Globe Xtreme Trousers \$703.00/Globe Xtreme Jacket \$1,022.00*], as requested by the Fire & EMS Department. Per Section 2-136 (6) of the Clayton County Purchasing Ordinance, Clayton County has developed annual contracts for frequently used items and services. These contracts are a result of a sealed bid. The contract allows the county to order goods and services directly from the awarded suppliers through the use of an annual contract document. Vote unanimous.

This request is to amend the current annual contract with Bennett Fire Products Company located in Woodstock, Georgia, due to an increase in pricing. The Board of Commissioners originally awarded Bennett Fire Products Company the contract on April 3, 2012. Bennett Fire Products Company has agreed to accept the amendment. Funding is available in the Fire Fund.

The price increases on items are as follows:

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<u>Description</u>	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Renewal Price</u>
• Globe Boots	\$309.00 each	\$ 318.00 each
• American Firewear PBI Hoods	\$ 38.00 each	\$ 39.00 each
• Shelby 5226 Gloves	\$ 48.00 each	\$ 58.00 each
• Cairns MSA 1010 Helmet	\$219.00 each	\$ 219.00 each
• Globe Gxtreme Trousers	\$686.00 each	\$ 703.00 each
• Globe Gxtreme Jacket	\$998.00 each	\$1,022.00 each

3) Approved **RFB Pkg. #13-04 Clayton County Transportation and Development Liquid Asphalt Supply Services, Annual Contract, [prices vary depending on delivery or pick-up from \$1.50 – \$3.29]**, as requested by the Transportation and Development Department. Per Section 2-136 (6) of the Clayton County Purchasing Ordinance, Clayton County has developed annual contracts for frequently used items and services. These contracts are a result of a sealed bid. The contract allows the county to order goods and services directly from the awarded suppliers through the use of an annual contract document. Vote unanimous.

Transportation & Development Director Jeff Metarko has recommended awarding a contract to Blacklidge Emulsions, Inc., located in Gulfport, Mississippi, whose firm was the overall lowest responsive bidder. The contract would be renewable for two (2) additional one (1) year periods. Funding is available through the 2009 SPLOST funds.

4) Approved **Purchase and Installation of Technology Equipment for the Clayton County Library Genealogy Room – Statewide Contract SWC#99999-SPD-SPD0000048-0010, [\$8,600.00]**, as requested by the Information Technology Department. Per Section 2-136 (4) of the Clayton County Purchasing Ordinance, the written quote method is used for all purchases from \$500.00 to \$24,999.99. Buyers are required to solicit quotations and receive written response from vendors. All reasonable efforts will be made to obtain three (3) written quotations for each item solicited. Awards for written quotations are given strictly on a lowest quote. Vote unanimous.

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Information Technology Director Brett Lavender has recommended approving this purchase in the amount of \$8,600.00 and purchasing the equipment and services from Summit Systems, Inc., located in Buford, Georgia, by utilizing State Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000048-0010. Funding is available through HUD.

7. Angela Jackson, Director of Finance, presented five (5) items which resulted in these Board actions.

1) Approved Budget Amendment #4-73 – **Fund 307** – 2009 SPLOST Projects/FYE 6-30-13, in the amount of \$305,000.00, for implementation of the Library Technology Improvement Project. Monies are available in the 2009 SPLOST Fund. Vote unanimous.

2) Approved an Alcohol License Application Refund Request for Mr. Syed Tufail Ahmed of College Park, Georgia, in the amount of \$2,000.00. Vote unanimous.

3) Approved a Rezoning Refund Request for Leonard Properties Enterprises of Conyers, Georgia, in the amount of \$500.00. Vote unanimous.

4) Approved a PUD Modification Application Refund Request for Taylor & Mathis, Inc. of Kennesaw, Georgia, in the amount of \$2,000.00. Vote unanimous.

5) Approved a Business License Overpayment Refund Request to Vernon Lyons of Riverdale, Georgia DBA Phase Two Planning, in the amount of \$1,644.68. Vote unanimous.

8. Approved Resolution 2013-77, a Resolution authorizing Clayton County to accept a forfeited vehicle from a Clayton County Police Department drug investigation (1999 Toyota Corolla); to authorize the sale of such property in a manner as will be in the best interest of the County; to provide for the disbursement of sale proceeds; to authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget where necessary to reflect an appropriate revenue source and expense; to provide an effective date of this resolution; and for other purposes. Vote unanimous.

9. Approved Resolution 2013-78, a Resolution authorizing Clayton County to accept a forfeited vehicle from a Clayton County Police Department drug investigation (1996 Pontiac Grand Prix); to authorize the sale of such property in a manner as will be in the best interest of

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the County; to provide for the disbursal of sale proceeds; to authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget where necessary to reflect an appropriate revenue source and expense; to provide an effective date of this resolution; and for other purposes. Vote unanimous.

10. Approved Resolution 2013-79, a Resolution authorizing Clayton County to approve the Special Facility Use Request submitted by Makabayan Georgia, Inc. to sponsor and host a 5K Run and Celebration Party at the Clayton County International Park; to authorize the Chairman to perform all acts necessary to accomplish the intent of this resolution; to provide an effective date of this resolution; and for other purposes. Vote unanimous.

11. Approved Resolution 2013-80, a Resolution authorizing Clayton County to approve a partnership with Project Arm to host and sponsor a "Life's A Fish & Then You Fry" event at the Clayton County International Park; to authorize the Chairman to perform all acts necessary to accomplish the intent of this resolution; to provide an effective date of this resolution; and for other purposes. The motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Rooks opposed.

12. Approved Resolution 2013-81, a Resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to execute a Certificate of Final Completion and Acceptance regarding the Performance Agreement with Trane for the Clayton County Lovejoy Landfill Power Plant project; to authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget as necessary to reflect an appropriate revenue source and expense; to provide an effective date of this resolution; and for other purposes. Vote unanimous.

Interim County Attorney Jack Hancock requested an Executive Session regarding litigation, personnel, and real estate matters. The Board generally consented to hold an Executive Session for the aforementioned purpose.

Mr. Hancock noted that the next agenda items, numbered 13-17, had the word "reconsideration" of board appointments in them. He just wanted the record to be clear that the word "reconsideration" has a particular meaning under the code, and the Board is not acting under the meaning of that code. The Board is, however, acting to settle a lawsuit filed against the county regarding these particular appointments. Mr. Hancock stated the record should reflect that putting these appointments back on the agenda is a part of a negotiated settlement, as opposed to a reconsideration as defined under the code.

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Commissioner Hambrick asked Mr. Hancock to state when the negotiated settlement occurred, because she was not aware that the Board had agreed to that idea. She thought the Board had wanted to challenge the lawsuit.

Chairman Turner interjected that the Board generally consented to put these appointments back on the agenda for a vote following a discussion in an Executive Session.

Commissioner Singleton asked if a vote took place in the Executive Session. (NOTE: Technically, votes cannot be made in Executive Sessions.)

Mr. Hancock clarified that these items were put back on the agenda as a result of the discussions that took place in an Executive Session. (NOTE: Discussions occur in Executive Session; however, votes on items/requests can only take place in the Boardroom.)

Commissioner Rooks wanted to know if the bottom line question should be whether or not these board appointments were properly put on the agenda.

Mr. Hancock replied that he believed they had been properly placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Singleton asked if it were legal to remove these persons from county boards if they have already been voted to be appointed to such boards.

Commissioner Rooks inquired if Commissioner Singleton's question would need to be discussed in an Executive Session, not before the public in the Boardroom.

Mr. Hancock agreed and respectfully suggested that it would not be proper for him to give legal advice to the Board, which is his client in its entirety, on an issue that may end up being litigated. There is definitely an attorney-client privilege issue here that would require a Board waiver.

Commissioner Hambrick suggested that the board wait and allow whatever motion has been filed against the Board to go through the completed process in its entirety.

Commissioner Rooks reiterated that this would be a question to be discussed in Executive Session. She then motioned to call for the question, which was seconded by Vice-Chairman Edmondson.

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Mr. Hancock reminded the Board that no motion had been made yet. He only wanted the record to reflect the basis on which the Board could go forward.

For a point of clarity, Vice-Chairman Edmondson wanted to know if the Board could proceed with voting on these appointments publicly.

Mr. Hancock answered yes. The appointments are on the business meeting agenda; therefore, the Board has to deal with them publicly.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson surmised that anything pertaining to an Executive Session or attorney-client privileged/confidential information by consensus, past or future, has to be dealt with in an Executive Session, but voting on these appointments can be done publicly up or down.

Mr. Hancock agreed and stated that this would be his recommendation. The following Board actions ensued for agenda items #13 – 17.

13. Motion by Commissioner Singleton, second by Commissioner Rooks, to appoint Timothy Carter, Gabrielle Starr, Kysha McPherson, Bob Reynolds (reappointment), and NaJeebah Butler to the Community Service Board for the terms specified heretofore. Vote unanimous. [NOTE: All five (5) members retained their membership on this board.]

14. Motion by Chairman Turner, second by Vice-Chairman Edmondson, to reappoint Rodney Givens to the Solid Waste Management Authority Board for the term specified heretofore. Vote unanimous. [NOTE: Mr. Givens retained his membership on this board.]

15. Motion by Commissioner Hambrick, second by Commissioner Singleton, to appoint Sylvia Wright to the Water Authority Board. The motion failed 3-2. Chairman Turner, Vice-Chairman Edmondson, and Commissioner Rooks opposed. [NOTE: Ms. Wright did not retain her membership on this board.]

Motion by Commissioner Rooks, second by Vice-Chairman Edmondson, to appoint Elizabeth Armstrong to the Water Authority Board for a five (5)-year term. The motion carried 3-2 with Chairman Turner also voting in favor. Commissioners Singleton and Hambrick opposed. [NOTE: Ms. Armstrong is a new member on this board, replacing Sylvia Wright.]

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16. Motion by Commissioner Singleton, second by Commissioner Hambrick, to appoint Paul Redding to fill an unexpired term on the Clayton County Development Authority/Redevelopment Authority Board. The motion carried 4-1 with Chairman Turner and Commissioner Rooks also voting in favor. Vice-Chairman Edmondson opposed. [Mr. Redding retained his membership on this board.]

Commissioner Rooks questioned if Mr. Redding had served on the Clayton County Development Authority/Redevelopment Authority Board before. Clerk Haywood and Chairman Turner both verified that he had not served before; he was a new appointee. Commissioner Rooks also asked if there were two (2) other members on this board whose terms had expired and needed to be considered at this time. Clerk Haywood clarified that those two members (Lee Camp and Shi Shailendra) were not a part of the lawsuit for members to be reconsidered for appointment at this time. The Board had yet to act on the expired members' terms for two (2) consecutive meetings.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson understood that Mr. Redding had been an employee of the county and had recently retired. Since Mr. Redding was not presently living in Clayton County, he wondered if that would create a vacancy on the Development Authority Board.

Mr. Hancock stated that he did not know the answer to that question.

Commissioner Singleton asked if anyone knew Mr. Redding's address. She thought he lived in the county.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson pointed out that the Fayetteville address on the Development Authority Board listing did not appear to be a county address. He thought it was a Fayette County address.

Commissioner Singleton clarified that it was a Rivers Edge subdivision address, and Rivers Edge was considered to be in Clayton County. She knew for a fact that Mr. Redding was an officer with the Rivers Edge Homeowners Association. If there were a question about his domicile, it could still be verified.

Mr. Hancock and Chairman Turner informed Vice-Chairman Edmondson that some parcels in Fayetteville, Georgia are in Clayton County.

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Vice-Chairman Edmondson admitted that he could be wrong, but he was just going by the address.

Commissioner Rooks asked if there were a problem with verifying whether or not Mr. Redding lived in the county. Vice-Chairman Edmondson said he did not see a problem with verifying this information.

Commissioner Singleton commented that if Mr. Redding does not live in the county, then he will be taken off the board.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson stated he was fine with waiting until the next business meeting to see if Mr. Redding actually lived in the county.

Chairman Turner advised that the vote be completed now since there was a motion and second on the floor. The motion followed as all members voting in favor, with the exception of Vice-Chairman Edmondson who voted nay. It carried as a 4-1 motion.

17. Motion by Commissioner Hambrick, second by Commissioner Singleton, to reappoint George Sligh to the Board of Elections and Registration to fill an unexpired term. Vote unanimous. [NOTE: Mr. Sligh retained his membership on this board.]

18. Accepted a street light petition for Rountree Forest Subdivision/Addition to existing Street Light District (Hickory Trail, Chestnut Lane, Oak Drive, Red Oak Court, Woodland Circle, Elm Forest, Spruce Court, and Hoss Court) – [Commission District #4 – Vice-Chairman Edmondson]. Vote unanimous.

Motion by Commissioner Rooks, second by Chairman Turner, to go into Executive Session in the Commissioners' Conference Room to discuss litigation, personnel, and real estate matters at 7:28 p.m. Vote unanimous.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Edmondson, second by Commissioner Rooks, to go out of Executive Session in the Commissioners' Conference Room at 7:55 p.m. Vote unanimous.

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Motion by Commissioner Rooks, second by Chairman Turner, to reconvene the Regular Business Meeting in the Commissioners' Boardroom at 7:56 p.m. Vote unanimous.

Chairman Turner brought forth the list of finalists for two (2) positions in the Board of Commissioners' Office – Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer. He named the candidates who were selected as finalists for the Chief Financial Officer position as Carl Anderson and Ramona Thurman. This announcement was followed by the naming of candidates selected as finalists for the Chief Operating Officer position: Anthony Brister, Arrelle Anderson, and Marc-Antonie Cooper. A vote was called for and the following motion was made:

Motion by Chairman Turner, second by Vice-Chairman Edmondson, to approve the above-mentioned finalist candidates for the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer positions. The motion carried 3-2, with Commissioner Rooks also voting in favor. Commissioners Hambrick and Singleton opposed.

The next item was a discussion on recommendations for a lobbyist to assist the county with fighting House Bill 399 (airport anti-tax legislation) and any other matters that would adversely affect the county. [NOTE: Information from three (3) lobbyists had already been provided to the Board members by Chairman Turner.]

Mr. Hancock asked the Clerk to reflect in the meeting minutes that the discussion of the lobbyist selection was not on the agenda due to the Georgia General Assembly being almost over, and the aid of a lobbyist is hoped for before the end of the session to fight House Bill 399.

Chairman Turner then inquired if there were any discussion from the Board.

Commissioner Hambrick commented that she was not sure about this item. She had just received her information packet from Chairman Turner today and wanted to know how long a lobbyist would be needed to assist the county.

Chairman Turner responded that a lobbyist would be hired for a short term because the end of the Georgia General Assembly Session is right at hand. He reminded everyone that a lobbyist would be needed to assist the county with fighting House Bill 399. At the end of the session, the lobbyist would be employed on a monthly basis at the Board's discretion.

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Vice-Chairman Edmondson acknowledged his favor of the proposal submitted by Georgia Public Affairs. This proposal had been submitted for an entire year to cover not only this year's Georgia General Assembly Session, but the next year's session as well. He believed that due to this year's session being over in a few days, it was more realistic to project for next year also.

In consideration of the proposal prices that had been submitted, Commissioner Hambrick stated that she liked the firm of Twelve Oaks best (represented by Murphy Talmadge).

Chairman Turner said he did not have the Twelve Oaks proposal in front of him. He asked what the difference was in price on that proposal.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson interjected that he had a concern about Twelve Oaks. At the previous business meeting on March 12, 2013, he had questioned Twelve Oaks about its relationship with the City of Atlanta and the airport. Mr. Talmadge stated that he could not answer that question due to it being of a non-disclosure nature. Vice-Chairman Edmondson expressed that he was concerned about a possible conflict of interest regarding issues in House Bill 399 if Twelve Oaks were selected as a lobbyist for the county.

Commissioner Rooks questioned if the firm had been Twelve Oaks or McKenna Long & Aldridge, LLP.

Mr. Talmadge (who was present in the audience) explained that his position was of a non-disclosure nature as opposed to a non-competing nature; therefore, there was no conflict.

Mr. Hancock stated that he was not familiar with non-disclosure and asked Mr. Talmadge to elaborate on this subject. He also asked Mr. Talmadge if he had any contracts with the City of Atlanta and the airport. Mr. Talmadge replied no. He only has clients who are elected officials in the City of Atlanta and has worked with them on campaign issues, not in a consulting manner. Mr. Talmadge stated that he did not wish to disclose the details of his clients' relationship at the last meeting, and he reiterated that he did not have any contracts with the City of Atlanta and the airport.

Chairman Turner stressed that the Board is looking to hire a lobbyist on a short term basis to assist the Clayton County Legislative Delegation to combat House Bill 399 and any other matters

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coming out of the present session. He asked the Board if it wanted to hire a lobbyist on a month-to-month basis or on a yearly basis.

Commissioner Rooks voiced that she just wanted to hire a firm (lobbyist) to do a test run. To her knowledge, the Board had never hired a lobbyist before. The Board needed to hire a lobbyist on a limited basis to see the work that would be done first, and that would be her recommendation/suggestion.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson indicated that he was ready to move forward with the following motion:

Motion by Vice-Chairman Edmondson, second by Commissioner Rooks, to hire Georgia Public Affairs (accompanied by Karen Pope) as the lobbyist to assist the County with combating House Bill 399 and any other pertinent matters arising from the present session of the Georgia General Assembly. The motion failed 3-2. Chairman Turner, Commissioner Singleton, and Commissioner Hambrick opposed.

The next motion ensued:

Motion by Commissioner Singleton, second by Commissioner Hambrick, to hire Twelve Oaks as the lobbyist to assist the County with combating House Bill 399 and any other pertinent matters from the present session of the Georgia General Assembly.

Before the votes were taken, discussion took place as follows.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson stated he still believed there was a problem with Twelve Oaks representing the County when it does have a relationship with Atlanta elected officials who do represent the City of Atlanta. There appears to be an enhanced conflict there.

Mr. Talmadge affirmed that he had no relationship with City of Atlanta elected officials now.

Chairman Turner asked Mr. Hancock if such a conflict still existed.

Mr. Hancock responded that this was an impossible question to answer without knowing whom Mr. Talmadge represents or who may have some influence with the City of Atlanta and airport or

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who may work for either of these entities. Without knowing who these persons are, Mr. Hancock admitted that it is a concern.

Commissioner Singleton rebutted that Mr. Talmadge had just informed the Board that he has only represented these persons in past campaigns, not now.

Mr. Hancock emphasized that the question could still not be answered definitively without knowing all of the facts of the representation; therefore, it remains a concern.

Commissioner Hambrick countered that the same could hold true for all of the lobbyist candidates, so the Board does not know.

Vice-Chairman Edmondson asked if the lobbyist's fee (Twelve Oaks) would be \$10,000.00 or \$17,800.00 per month.

Chairman Turner explained that the Board was asking for specific help with House Bill 399 and, since it is near the end of the Georgia General Assembly Session, he would assume that the monthly fee would be \$10,000.00.

Commissioner Singleton also recalled that the fee would be \$10,000.00 per month.

Chairman Turner then called for a vote. The motion carried 3-2. Chairman Turner, Commissioner Singleton, and Commissioner Hambrick voted in favor of hiring Twelve Oaks as the county's lobbyist. Vice-Chairman Edmondson and Commissioner Rooks opposed.

There being no further business to discuss, motion by Vice-Chairman Edmondson, second by Chairman Turner, to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting of March 19, 2013 at 8:10 p.m. Vote unanimous.