

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023 AT 12:00 NOON. AT 201 S. HAMILTON ST., 5TH FLOOR, DALTON, GA, 30720

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The following members were present:

- Jevin Jensen, Chairman
- Barry W. Robbins, Vice Chairman
- Robby Staten, Member (ABSENT)
- John Thomas, Member
- Greg Jones, Member

Others Present:

- Robert Sivick, County Administrator
- County Attorney, Robert Smalley
- City Council Members
- Varnell City Mayor
- Dalton City Mayor
- Tunnel Hill City Mayor
- Town of Cohutta Mayor
- Department Heads
- Press

AGENDA:

1. Meeting Between Whitfield County Board of Commissioners and Mayors of Whitfield County Municipalities Regarding the continuation of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST): Chairman Jensen reminded attendees the purpose of the meeting is to get the Cities input on the recent recommendations provided by the 2024 SPLOST committee. Jensen noted this meeting is to discuss if the City of Dalton would like to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the County regarding the SPLOST. Jensen noted the 2024 SPLOST Committee met during the months of October and November and heard from several County and City departments. Chairman Jensen asked County Attorney Robert Smalley to explain the timeline for the proposed SPLOST referendum to make sure everyone is on the same page. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-8-111(a) notice of the meeting was given to the Mayors at least 10 days prior to discuss possible projects for inclusion in the proposed SPLOST referendum that Whitfield County has expressed its intent to call, the County can't take any action to call for a referendum on a SPLOST until thirty days after today's meeting, the referendum will then be placed on the Board of Commissioners agenda for January 8th, 2024, if the timeline holds it will be anticipated that the general primary election will be held on May 21, 2024. County Attorney Robert Smalley also noted that this is the only required meeting with the Mayors to be held, but other subsequent meetings could be held. The County is proposing a four-year SPLOST that would bring in around \$80M. Chairman Jensen then opened the meeting for discussion from the elected officials. The Mayors of Cohutta, Dalton, Tunnel Hill and Varnell were all in support of the SPLOST committee's recommendations, County Attorney Robert Smalley will begin to draft an intergovernmental agreement between the County and the Cities for possible approval at the upcoming January meeting. No decisions were made during this meeting.

ADJOURN: Unanimous



 BLANCA CARDONA, COUNTY CLERK



 JEVIN JENSEN, CHAIRMAN
 WHITFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: 12/11/2023