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 **Houston County Commissioners Meeting**

 **August 18, 2015**

 **Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners McMichael, Walker, Thomson and Robinson present. Also present were Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, HEMA/Fire Chief Jimmy Williams, Walt & Becky Wood, Ansel Peck, VP SP Design Group Mike Parker, Family Promise of Greater Houston County Representatives Dave Razo and Paul Shealy, Director of Houston County Libraries J. Sara Paulk, Houston County Library Board members Mary Mantiply, Pam Yates and Denisa Davis, Warner Robins Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Director Marsha Buzzell and Chairman Alex Cruz and Project Coordinator Kimberly Black, Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms, Warner Robins Councilman Chuck Shaheen, Warner Robins Rotary Club President Ned Sanders, Dianne McMichael, Col. Tommy Stoner, (ret.), Col. Michael Chaloult, Sr. (ret.), Flint Energies CEO Bob Ray, Sr. VP Jimmy Autry, and County Attorney Tom Hall.

Commissioner Walker led the audience in the Invocation.

Sr. Chief Stuart Bapties, US Navy (ret.) led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and then detailed his 27 year military career. Mr. Bapties first came to the U.S. from Scotland at 12-years old and later became a citizen several years after joining the Navy. A medic by training, he served many posts including as a hospital corpsman with the Marines and even 8 years as a senior enlisted medical advisor to a Naval Special Warfare Group SEAL team. He stated that he not only ‘saw the world’ but also experienced and enjoyed many adventures and opportunities while serving. After retiring in 2008 he came to Robins Air Force Base and is currently the Director of the Health and Wellness Center. He has one daughter currently serving in the Navy.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Marsha Priest Buzzell, Executive Director of the Warner Robins Convention & Visitors Bureau, who briefed the Board on the Warner Robins Oral History project. She explained that the project comprises some 50 hours of filmed interviews with 90 local individuals sharing their personal stories of living in the Warner Robins community. She thanked the Board of Commissioners for their support of the project and introduced key members of the committee including Col. Tommy Stoner (ret.), Col. Michael Chaloult Sr. (ret.), and Dianne McMichael. She recognized representatives from three project funding sponsors including Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms; Flint CEO Bob Ray and SR VP Jimmy Autry; and Warner Robins Rotary Club President Ned Sanders. Ms. Buzzell presented the Oral History project to Houston County Library Director Sara Paulk so that it could be made available in the heritage rooms of all three library branches. Ms. Paulk explained that the project would be shared with the University of Georgia Home Place program which is their digital library. Ms. Paulk commented that it will make a wonderful addition to the County’s library system. She then recognized Library Board members Mary Mantiply, Pam Yates and Denisa Davis. Chairman Stalnaker commended everyone involved for pulling such a complex project together. Chairman Stalnaker also recognized Ms. Mildred Childers who was in attendance.

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Chairman Stalnaker recognized Mr. Dave Razo and Mr. Paul Shealy of the Family Promise of Greater Houston County and read a resolution supporting National Family Promise Week. Mr. Razo explained that the Family Promise is a non-profit, non-denominational organization which provides shelter, meals, and support services to families without homes through a network of local congregations. He briefed the Board on their upcoming fund-raising event, ‘Car City – Putting the Brakes on Homelessness in our Community’ that will be held on September 25th and 26th in the parking lot of Central Georgia Technical College, and challenged the members of the Board to participate or sponsor through pledges. He introduced Ronnie Shivers, Carolyn Schomer, and Vivian Stilley who all work with the organization. He stated that the program has helped 57 children and 31 adults in the two years that the program has been operating. Of the families that have completed the program, 100% have income and 85% move into some type of permanent housing.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of August 4, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Gail Robinson and carried unanimously approve the appointment of Ms. Susy King to a term on the Library Board beginning August 18, 2015 and expiring on February 1, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously to approve Chairman Stalnaker to sign the construction management (CM) contract with International City Builders of Warner Robins for the Houston County Annex and State Court buildings HVAC system replacement project. The CM fee will be 3.95% of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP).

Chairman Stalnaker commented that the HAVC systems on both of the Annex and the State Court buildings are original equipment. The State Court was constructed in 1976 and the Annex in 1978. He estimated that the replacement project would be between $750,000 and $1,000,000 and hoped that it would be completed either in the Fall or early Spring. He recognized Mike Parker with SP Design who briefed the Board on the current status of the project and what the next steps would be moving forward.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously to approve Chairman Stalnaker to sign a professional services agreement with the Schneider Corporation to provide the implementation of a self-hosted Pictometry public viewing link from qPublic maps for a total initial cost of $1,700. Subsequent years hosting fee will be included with the County’s existing contracted qPublic hosting fee and term.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously to approve the payment of bills totaling $671,587.89.

Chairman Stalnaker then opened the meeting for public comments.

Mr. James Erdmanczyk, 123 S. 3rd Street, Apt. 9, Warner Robins showed his support of the recent NAACP sponsored Unity in the Community event and thanked several Houston County Sheriff deputies for participating in the 5K Run.

There being no further public comments, the meeting was continued.

The Chairman then asked for comments from the Commissioners.

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Mr. Walker expressed his thanks for all those people who give their time and resources to help make ours a better community. He also commented that the recent 50th high school reunion for the combined Class of Northside High and Warner Robins High went great although they have lost around 65 classmates over the years. He mentioned the upcoming 100th anniversary of the Buck Hill Boys Group.

Mr. Thomson stated that he enjoyed the meeting tonight especially the military speaker and the Warner Robins Oral History project group and the Family Promise of Greater Houston County.

Mr. McMichael thanked his wife Dianne and all others involved with the Oral History project as well as the Family Promise.

Mr. Walker recognized Ken Pritchard, Chairman of the Phoenix Center Community Service Board, and thanked him for his dedication to that organizations mission.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that the Phoenix Center’s efforts very often go unnoticed but they touch a lot of lives in the mental health field. Mr. Pritchard commented that they desperately need more mental health programs for the community and that the State of Georgia has recently begun to offer more assistance.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

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Barry Holland Chairman

Director of Administration

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