

DRAFT

**Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee
Thursday, May 21, 2013**

Members Present:

Lee Berg
Johnny Brown
Bill Carver
Marline Elkins
Murray Homan
David Hong
John Pape
Kes Stadler
Alice Summerour

Cobb County & Other Officials Present:

Eddie Canon, PRCA Director
Tom Bills, PRCA, Program Manager
Mike Cates, Program Division Manager, DOT
Bob Galante, Construction Eng, DOT
Diana Belanger, Finance, Accountant III
Nancy Rouse, Admin, DOT

City of Austell

Randy Bowen, Public Works Director
Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director
Duane Demerritt, Office Manager

Absent:

Dania Aponte
Scott Johnson
Frank Wigington

Other:

Russell Small, Moreland Program Manager

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the 42nd meeting of the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 p.m. on May 16, 2013, in the Board of Commissioners conference room. A quorum was not present when the meeting was called to order.

The new member appointed by Commissioner Ott for District 2, Kes Stadler, was introduced.

Diana Belanger, Finance gave the 2011 SPLOST financial update. Year to date collections are at \$167 million. There was a slight dip in the collections for March. However, actual collections are still \$14 million over projections. April collections will be a better indicator of the effect of the new ad valorem “birthday tax” on sales tax receipts.

Randy Bowen, City of Austell’s Public Works Director, gave an update of the 2005 Sidewalk projects. Mr. Bowen discussed the completed and active projects in the 2011 program. There is \$665,000 in the budget for maintenance equipment, the City has spent \$281,000 to date various equipment for public works, ie., dump truck, loaders, barricades, street sweeper, message board, excavator, backhoe, etc.

A short discussion was held regarding the history of the Threadmill Complex in Austell and the the purchase and demolition of houses in the flood plain that were purchased by the City.

Questions was asked how it was determined which sidewalks were constructed in house. Mr. Bowen said it was based on the right of way, if relatively flat, if any conflicts, if any engineering is needed, no driveway issues and no stormwater pipes.

Jim Graham, Austell Community Affairs Director, stated first thing Parks Department needed was capital equipment in order to be able to do some of the projects in house, purchases have been made for mowing equipment , trailers, trucks and vans, all within the \$200,000 budget. Renovations and roof replacements have been made to parts buildings.

Public Safety has purchased three patrol cars (\$82,457.76) and a new pumper fire truck (\$450,000.00).

Mr. Bowen mentioned that Hotel St, which runs into Douglas County, is in need of repair but they can only “fix” the portion in the City and is trying to work with Douglas County to get them to repair their portion.

As a quorum was now present, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2013 meeting. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Tom Bills, Project Manager for PRCA, gave a presentation on status and activities of their projects:

- 9% Complete
- 5% Underway
- 48% In design
- 38 % Future projects

Mr. Bills discussed the new laser planing technology they are using to grade the fields. It is pennies on the dollars compared to actual grading. It has been used on three fields at Noonday Park.

Three-quarters of the replacement scoreboards have been installed. The scoreboards cost between \$4500-\$5,000 each and approximately \$1000 for installation. The scoreboards are wireless and use LED lights, it is estimated they will pay for themselves in 3-5 years in power and repair costs.

Mr. Bills then reviewed upcoming activities for 2nd Quarter.

Mike Cates, Program Division Manager, DOT, went through breakdown of DOT funding. There are 170 projects in the 2011 program and 20% have been complete. Currently:

- 51 projects are in pre-construction
- 18 projects are in construction
- 34 have been completed.

There are three bridge projects with road closures this summer, Paper Mill Road Bridge over Sope Creek and Hopkins Road over Wildhorse Creek; New Chastain Westbound will be a partial closure.

The Skip Spann Connector, which is a thoroughfare and bridge over I-75 in the Chastain Road/KSU area, is scheduled to let for construction this Fall. GDOT is funding \$10.3 million for this project.

Mr. Cates discussed several drainage projects and the resurfacing contracts. The Department has let \$30.8 million in resurfacing contracts since March 2013 to resurface 379 roads, 143 miles.

Activities next quarter included 10 projects to be completed and 14 new construction starts.

The question was asked who was responsible for maintenance on Hwy 92. Georgia DOT is the responsible party will get Lee Berg contact information.

Lee Berg asked, since we have the \$14 million overage in collections, if all the Tier 2 projects are completed what happens to any dollars remaining? Mr. Cates responded, that is not going to happen, there are plenty of Tier 2 projects to use all the money.

Sandy Plains Road, south of Wigley Road, appears to be complete but needs to be cleaned up. Yes, it was substantially complete on July 26th and the contractor has until September to complete the punch list.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting to be held on July 18, 2013 at 3:00 pm.