

DRAFT

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

Members Present:

Antwyn Brown
Bill Carver
Jay Cunningham
Marline Elkins
Lance Lamberton
John Pape
JoEllen Smith
Alice Summerour

Cobb County & Other Officials Present:

Jack Forsythe, Public Safety, Agency Director
Chief Sam Heaton, Public Safety
Ann Flynn, Emergency Communication Manager
John Reida, Director, Property Management
Mark Reida, Public Safety Facilities Supervisor
Bill Volckmann, Finance, Division Manager
Bill Dewalt, Police Officer
Tracy Roberts, Radio Systems Manager
Nancy Rouse, Admin, DOT
Lindy Tisdell, Accountant III, Finance
Various other Public Safety & Facilities Staff

Absent:

Dania Aponte
David Hong
Steve Williams
John Brown
Scott Johnson
Kes Stadler
Frank Wigington

City of Smyrna
Don Hicks, Croy Eng, Program Mgr.
Darion Dunn, Croy Eng. , Project Mgr.

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the 45th meeting of the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:05 p.m. on November 21, 2013, in the Emergency Operations Center , 145 North Marietta Parkway .

As a quorum was not present, therefore the motion to approve the September 19, 2013 minutes was postponed to later in the meeting.

As this month's meeting was to tour the Emergency Operation Center, the various report updates were emailed to all members prior to the meeting to allow for adequate time for the tour. The floor was opened to questions to the various departments.

Finance was asked who does the financial projections? These are done by the finance department based on past collection history.

City Smyrna was next. Darion Dunn, Croy Engineering, had hard copies of the report available. He mentioned of the 29 projects in the 2005 SPLOST program only 2 projects remaining open - the Atlanta Road median project and the Traffic signal Interconnect. The 2011 program contains 18 projects with 1 completed – the Belmont Hills Connector Road.

The question was asked who compiles the list of projects for the City. The City compiles the list and works to coordinate with the County's projects. The "as needed" projects, resurfacing, pavement marking, etc. are not listed, but are ongoing projects as required.

Alice Summerour asked if the residents are supporting the new recycling center. The answer was: Yes, the residents are supporting the new recycling center. Public meetings were held by the City to receive comments and suggestions. The project will include building and landscaping improvements to enhance the neighborhood.

John Reida, gave an update of the Facilities project. The original scheduled had 33 projects to be completed, 66 projects are actually completed, which is two times more than anticipated. The Juvenile Court renovation is currently underway and should be ready for them to move in next month.

Various Roofing and HVAC projects are underway. It was asked if the HVAC systems they are replacing have reach their end of life – the answer was yes.

A quorum of the members was now present so a motion was made to approve the September 19, 2013 minutes. Motion was second and the minutes were approved.

Chief Heaton, Public Safety, reported 52% of Public Safety's projects are completed, 26% are underway with 22% remaining. Currently, writing specifications for two new engines to bid. The contract on which the first engines were purchased has expired so the new ones have to go out for bid.

Tracy Roberts, Radio System Manager, gave a report on the 800 megahertz system which was completed in June 2012. These new radios were required for the Deputies in the jail as part of a federal mandate. This new system updated the 20 year old plus radios previously carried by the Deputies; they now only carry one radio instead of two. This was also part of the City radio updates.

Officer Bill Dewalt showed the new rifles and explained the enhanced capabilities of these MP15 rifles that replaced the 1960's Vietnam era M16A rifles. These rifles were at a cost of \$1300 per rifle, 385 rifles were purchased. The department still needs 230-140 to allow all officers to have a patrol rifle.

Lance Lamberton asked if the officers could share rifles since they are not all on duty as the same time. Office Dewalt explained why sharing of guns does not work well and mentioned several reasons why:

- Each weapon needs to be sited for the person using it as this varies from person to person.
- Each officer should have his own weapon so he is available at all times, i.e. even when in a training class or off duty officers are subject to being called in under emergency situations.
- Each officer is responsible for cleaning and maintaining their own weapon.

Do officers carry their weapons home with them? Yes, so they are always available and on ready.

What are the technological differences in weapons of today vs. the 1960's? Technology is much more advanced. Officer Dewalt explained various differences and one of the main differences is instead of officer having to take the time to manual aim the weapon, these have electronic sites which show a laser red dot on the target.

JoEllen Smith asked about her concern that District 3 did not have a police precinct. It was explained how public safety is divided into precincts, which have nothing to do with the commission districts. Police are out and about throughout the county at all times and do not come from a precinct office when responding to a call.

The Committee then adjourned to see two new Public Safety vehicles – a ladder truck and a rescue unit vehicle. After this, Ann Flynn, Emergency Communications Manager gave the Committee a tour of the Emergency 911 call center, explained how the call center works and discussed future upgrades currently under consideration.

Information regarding the County's approach to meeting transportation access and mobility needs in the Braves Stadium development area was handed out to the Committee members.