

**Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee  
Thursday, September 21, 2017**

**Members Present:**

Alice Summerour  
Bill Carver  
James Brock  
Jay Cunningham  
Joe Profit  
Johnny Brown  
Lindsay Edwards  
Marline Elkins  
Ray Higginbotham  
Roger Sandbothe  
Kenneth Jones

**Absent:**

Dee Gay  
Frank Wigington  
Karin DeAmicis  
Tom Cheek

**Cobb County & Other Officials Present:**

Tom Bills, PRCA, Program Manager  
Jimmy Gisi, PRCA, Director  
Jim Wilgus, DOT, Director  
Meagean De La Cruz, Admin, DOT  
Lindy Tisdell, Finance

**City of Acworth:**

Brian Bulthuis, City Manager

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 PM on September 21, 2017.

As there was a quorum present, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2017, meeting. Motion was made and seconded; minutes were approved unanimously.

Lindy Tisdell from the Finance Department gave the monthly financial report regarding the 2016 SPLOST Summary.

Brian Bulthuis, City of Acworth, City Manager, gave an update on the City's SPLOST programs. The 2011 SPLOST program is now complete and have begun the 2016 SPLOST program. He highlighted several projects including Taylor Street extension, multiple Silent Crossings throughout Acworth, Blue Springs Road, Newberry Park and other various project updates. He provided a breakdown of the monies collected for the SPLOST programs and how they are calculated. In the 2016 SPLOST program they will continue to invest in projects that will develop downtown Acworth.

**Questions/Answers for Acworth:**

Q. Have the completed projects in and around downtown Acworth changed the nature of the businesses?

A. They have completely changed it.

Q. How much difference has been made in revenue and the population for the City over the years?

A. About 20 years ago Acworth was probably about 7,000 in population and now it is 23,000. From a revenue standpoint, the biggest thing we have seen is the return in investment. The downtown area is thriving especially on Friday/Saturday nights.

Tom Bills, PRCA, Program Manager, provided an update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST projects. The 2011 projects are 95% complete and the 2016 projects have 20% complete, 38% in design and 18% in construction. He highlighted the Cato Nature Center/Bartlett Property Dam repairs and

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Hurt Road Walking Track. He also highlighted some 2016 SPLOST projects including various paving projects, the Kennesaw Splash Pad project in Swift Cantrell Park, Synthetic Turf Field Conversions project and the Jim R. Miller Park Exhibit project that will begin once the North Georgia Fair is over and is scheduled for completion in August 2018.

**Questions/Answers for PRCA:**

Q. P.A.R.K.S used Allstar Electric on several projects, are we able to combine bids or do we have to bid each situation separate?

A. We could do it but the timing is usually off for those things. But typically use the Master Agreement as it cost less.

Q. How are you making work available to smaller companies?

A. The Master Agreement is released every year and any company can compete at that time.

Q. Does the Master Contract have a percentage of DBE's they must hire?

A. There are no requirements at this time.

Q. On the Osborne Property, what will it be?

A. We are looking at some areas in the County that we may be able to leverage or even smaller areas that we can consolidate. We need about 6-10 acres. It will be a Community Center as close as possible to Osborne High School.

Jim Wilgus, Director, DOT, provided a quarterly update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST program. The 2011 SPLOST projects are 91.7% complete with 3.9% projects currently in design and 4.3% projects in construction. Some highlights for the 2011 SPLOST program include Cobb Parkway/US 41 at Windy Hill Road, I-75 Wade Green Rd DDI which will be converted this coming weekend and Interstate North Parkway. In the 2016 SPLOST program there are 65 projects in design and 11 projects in construction. DOT has many projects in preconstruction due to several drainage projects needing to be pushed forward. He also discussed the challenges with not having enough funding to maintain the quality of the roads due to the resurfacing budget. Some highlights for the 2016 SPLOST program include Hicks Road at Concord Road, McCollum Parkways at Ben King Road,

**Questions/Answers for DOT:**

Q. Who makes the decision on how to proceed with a project like the Concord Road Covered Bridge?

A. DOT looked at a lot of options for the bridge but cost was a factor and it was a part of the environmental mitigation for the East/West Connector so we must maintain it.

Q. Is there general revenue that goes towards resurfacing?

A. No there is not.

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Q. Can we use excess money for resurfacing?

A. Yes but I would not just yet until we have a clearer picture of what is needed as we get to the end of the 2016 SPLOST program.

Q. We have heard they are trying to get Amazon moved into the County but they need Rapid Transit. When do you anticipate we would receive Rapid Transit?

A. We do have Transit but getting heavy rail which is what South Cobb and the Cumberland Area are looking for, may take a significant amount of time before that happens.

**Ad Hoc Committee Update**

The Committee have begun meeting to further review the projects within the SPLOST program. They are working to understand and determine if the reports are providing the necessary information to ensure they can offer accurate feedback to the Chairman and the Commissioners.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.