

Minutes SPLOST V Committee

Thursday, August 9, 2018 – 6:30 P.M.

Locust Grove Senior Center, 280 Mose Brown Drive, Locust Grove, Georgia

The Henry Herald was notified of the meeting via email.

Meeting Agenda (See Attached Agenda)

I. Call to Order

Mr. Clayton Carte, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Carte, Committee Chair.

III. Acceptance of Agenda

****See attached agenda***

Mr. Carte called for a motion of approval regarding the agenda for August 9, 2018. Motion was made by Mr. Elrod (District 3 Representative) and seconded by Mr. Israel (District 1 Representative). The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Introduction of County Commissioners

- Gary Barham, District 3

*Mr. Carte made mention that BOC Commission Chair, June Wood, and District I Commissioner, Johnny Wilson, along with several other members of county staff were currently away attending training on Emergency Response at a FEMA Management training facility. This training was grant funded.

V. Introduction of Committee Members and City Representatives

- Clayton Carte, Committee Chair (County Chair Appointee)
- Tom Israel (District 1)
- Arnold Cole (District 2)
- Mike Elrod (District 3)
- Carlotta Harrell, Committee Vice-Chair (District 5)

- Claud Spinks (County Manager Appointee)
**District 4 Appointee is currently pending*
- Robert Price, Mayor (City of Locust Grove)
- Otis Hammock, Councilman (City of Locust Grove)
- Randy Gardner, Councilman (City of Locust Grove)

VI. Introduction of Staff/Technical Committee

- Roque Romero, SPLOST Transportation Director
- Lynn Planchon
- Chae Yi
- Dana Holder

VII. Discussion – District 4 Representative

Mr. Elrod mentioned that his previous recommendation has recently moved out of the district and is, therefore, no longer eligible to represent District 4. Mrs. Harrell stated that she had two recommendations for consideration, Mr. J.T. Williams and Ms. Cherice Hollis. She will gather more information regarding these two individuals and keep the committee informed of her findings. The committee is still open to recommendations from other committee members as well.

VIII. Discussion – Committee Overview and Project Planning

Please see attached SPLOST V Planning Timeline. Mr. Carte introduced the SPLOST V Planning Timeline and Overview, this timeline consists of seventeen (17) meeting dates and recommended locations. Mr. Carte proposed that the committee shall meet twice within each commission district, once at each city municipality, and three times at the Henry County Administration Building. The committee shall offer the opportunity for public comment at each meeting. Speakers must sign up to speak prior to the start of public comment, and speakers will be allotted five (5) minutes to speak. Mr. Carte stated that this timeline would allow the committee to hear from the public, develop possible projects, and determine cost estimates for each project. No questions were voiced regarding this proposal. Mr. Carte called for a motion to approve the timeline. A motion was made by Mrs. Harrell and seconded by Mr. Israel. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. SPLOST IV Projects within District I

Mr. Carte gave a brief synopsis of the geographical area of District I. District I is the largest geographical district, it consists of Locust Grove, Peeksville, New Hope, Sandy Ridge, Heron Bay, and parts of Luella. District I extends from Rocky Creek Road in the east all the way to the county lines of Newton and Butts Counties. It generally consists

of everything south of State Route 81, Hampton/Locust Grove Road, and Bill Gardner Parkway; and everything east of Interstate 75. Roque Romero presented the list of projects in District I that not have been completed; major projects such as McDonough Parkway from Henry Parkway to State Route 20/81, and Bill Gardner from I-75 to State Route 155. Mr. Romero mentioned the widening of State Route 20/81 from I-75 to Phillips Drive in McDonough, along with a roundabout at SR 20/81 and the existing McDonough Parkway, would all be future projects managed by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Dirt roads not completed include Cardell Drive and Sipka Road. Mr. Romero mentioned several dirt roads that have received triple surface treatment, which is a combination of three layers of rock mixed with liquid asphalt; these roads include Ellistown Road, Luella Road, Weems Road, Carols Lane, Giles Drive, South Singley Drive, and Seabolt Drive. Mr. Carte asked Mr. Romero to also give an update regarding the unpaved section of Peeksville Road. Mr. Romero stated that the remaining dirt portion of Peeksville Road will be completed in two phases. The first phase from the end of Tussahaw Bridge, north, to New Hope Road will be completed in SPLOST IV. The design phase of Peeksville Road from the end of Tussahaw Bridge, south, to Old Jackson Road has also been completed in SPLOST IV; however, right-of-way and construction will need to be completed in SPLOST V. Mr. Romero stated that the realignment of the intersection of Peeksville Road at Old Jackson Road is also a project the committee can include in the proposed SPLOST V project list. Mrs. Harrell requested the cost gap/difference between the projects currently underway in SPLOST IV that will need to be completed in SPLOST V. Mr. Romero said he will be glad to provide this information at the next SPLOST V Committee Meeting. Mr. Carte made mention of the future widening of State Route 81 from McDonough to Bethany Baptist Church. Mr. Romero explained that both Districts I and III have set aside \$750,000 each for a total of \$1.5 million combined. Mr. Romero further stated that ARC (Atlanta Regional Commission) through GDOT has contributed \$1.2 million toward the widening as well. Similar funds and matching have been made available for the widening of Rock Quarry Road in District IV as well.

X. Discussion – Possible District I Projects

Mr. Tom Israel, District I Committee Representative, mentioned that a few suggestions he had received from the citizens of District I include the widening of State Routes 81 and 42, a possible Public Safety Precinct in the Ola area, Fire Department needs, and Sheriff Department needs. The recommendation of a Public Safety Precinct in the Ola area is due to growth; suggestions are that it be on existing County property, perhaps next to the existing Fire Station in Sandy Ridge off of Keys Ferry Road. Mr. Israel stated that he is open to more suggestions the citizens of District I may have, and advised that he is easily accessible by email. Mr. Carte questioned if any other members of the Committee had any other recommendations to add or discuss. Discussion was had regarding a Civic/Performing Arts Center on the SPLOST III list that was to be located in District I. Mr. Carte stated that the Board of Education is close to breaking ground on a Performing Arts Center in the Fairview area, he continued that the Henry County Board of Education also has plans to include a Performing Arts Center to be located in the

Locust Grove area in their next E-SPLOST program. Mr. Carte stated that he is hopeful that with the addition of these two centers, it will fulfill the County's obligation to do so. Mr. Carte continued with discussion of projects he would like to see included on the SPLOST V list for District I: the widening of State Route 81 all the way to Keys Ferry Road; intersection improvements at State Route 81 & North/South Ola Roads, Racetrack Road @ Iris Lake & Travis Drive, Peeksville Road @ LeGuin Mill, Peeksville Road @ Old Jackson, McDonough Parkway @ Henry Parkway, sidewalk improvements on Old Industrial Boulevard (between SR 20 & SR 155), and the paving of Burg Road. Mr. Carte asked if the City of Locust Grove had any input or recommendations they would like to add. Mr. Otis Hammock suggested improvements and upgrades be made to Locust Grove/Griffin Road from Tanger Boulevard to Hosannah Road. Mayor Robert Price added that he will meet with city staff in hopes more considerations can be made at the proposed October Committee meeting at Locust Grove City Hall.

XI. Public Comments

Mr. Carte asked if there were any public comments. He made the reminder that five (5) minutes would be given to individuals who had signed up to speak.

Mr. Doug Gjertsen, with the Kensley Grace Foundation, spoke of the need of an aquatic center in Henry County and requested help with funding the Kensley Grace Aquatic Center through the SPLOST V program.

Mr. Neil Daniell, with the Kensley Grace Foundation, also spoke in support of an aquatic center in Henry County. Mr. Daniell spoke of the financial aspects of the aquatic center and handed out a 2017 Preliminary Case Statement for the Kensley Grace Aquatic Center.

Mr. Tony Carnell, with the Henry County Water Authority, spoke of the outstanding relationship between Henry County SPLOST and the HCWA. Mr. Carnell supported being involved in the cost estimate aspect of the SPLOST V projects and how the relocation of water lines can have major impacts on budgets.

Mr. Warren Holder, lifetime District I resident and former Commissioner, spoke of his support for the SPLOST program. He made mention that the first SPLOST program proposed was in 1994 and did not pass. The proposed 1994 SPLOST program would have funded only infrastructure. Mr. Holder also mentioned several projects along state roads that had no state funded support such as, Kings Mill @ SR 42, Peeksville Road @ SR 42, Old Jackson Road @ SR 81, New Hope Road @ SR 81, US 23 & SR 155, and Zack Hinton Parkway. He asked that the Committee please be mindful of the list compiled.

Mr. Bobby Stansell, District I resident, stated that he would like a better understanding of how SPLOST dollars are spent. He asked if any coordination is made between the

SPLOST Department and the Henry County Department of Transportation. Mr. Stansell questioned that if projects can be completed or have been completed under another entity, then why can't they be taken off the SPLOST Master List? Mr. Stansell also asked for SPLOST staff to come and visit his property on the newly paved Lester Mill Road project to see the excess water runoff problem he has been having since the project was completed.

XII. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Carte made a motion to adopt the minutes from the July 23, 2018, SPLOST V Committee Meeting. Mrs. Harrell made the motion, Mr. Elrod seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

XIII. Future Meetings

Mr. Carte made the announcement that the next SPLOST V Committee Meeting will be held in District II. This meeting will be held on Thursday, August 23, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. at the Nash Farm Park Activity Barn. All future meetings are still tentative regarding locations; the SPLOST staff hopes to have a concrete schedule in place at the August 23rd meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

Mr. Carte made the motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Israel. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

**Minutes were prepared by Dana Holder, Henry County SPLOST staff.*