

Special Meeting – March 27, 2009

The Graham County Board of Commissioners held a special meeting Friday, March 27, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in the County Manager's office for the purpose of discussing the software for the tax office. The Board met with Blair Hyder, Tax Assessor; Tajuana Ledwell, Tax Collector and Erma Phillips, Tax Assistant. All Board was present.

Commissioner Snyder made the motion to call the meeting to order. Commissioner Trull seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

Commissioner Smith stated the purpose of this meeting was to have a discussion with all parties present who will be affected by the software change. She asked Blair and Tajuana what would happen if we don't go with just one of the systems.

Tajuana Ledwell, Tax Collector, spoke first and stated that she can get her percentages with Bi-Tec including the DMV totals. The manatron software is not compatible to the DMV and we would have to maintain the old system plus the new system or the tax collectors office would have to balance those totals by hand.

Commissioner Cable asked how many DMV's we have. Erma Phillips stated that we have 600 to 800 bills that go out a month.

Commissioner Trull asked what it means to us when the DMV office is moved into the tax offices. Blair stated that the state will take over hire the personnel to run DMV and the county had to supply the office space.

Tajuana stated that her worries were about balancing and if her totals are incorrect then she would have to find the mistakes by hand and not by computer as she does now. She stated that good and bad could be found in all systems but with Bi-Tec she has instant help by a person and with Manatron she had been told help could be delayed up to two days. She stated the difference in customer service was a concern of hers.

Blair stated that the Manatron system would give better specifications and would pick up all the information on the square footage which the Bi-Tec does not do at this time and this is important when you are dealing with the large homes that are being built in our county. Commissioner Odom asked if we used the building permits to help determine specifications. Blair stated yes but at times people who live off the road will build without permits.

Erma Phillips stated that the county has had Bi-Tec for years and they could not complain with the service that has been given.

The commissioners ask about the costs of both systems. Blair and Tajuana discussed this in detail with the commissioners.

Commissioner Trull stated that neither party had made a strong impression in his mind about which software would be best for our county. Commissioner Cable asked which software would serve the county the best in the long run with all the computer changes ours will be outdated soon.

Commissioner Odom stated that we should call other counties and see what systems they have. He stated that we needed the pros and cons on all systems. All the board agreed that further information needed to be taken before any decision could be made.

Commissioner Odom made the motion to close. Commissioner Snyder seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.

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Bruce Snyder, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Sandra Smith, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

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Billy Cable, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Steve Odom, Member, Graham County Commissioner

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Eugene Trull, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board