



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND SC. 29936

BLUE HERON NATURE CENTER

FEB. 4, 2013

9:30 A.M.

MINUTES

**MONDAY, FEB. 4, 2013**

**Officials Present:** Chairman Henry Etheridge, Vice Chairwoman Barbara Clark, Councilman Theodus Drayton, Councilman Johnson, Councilman L. Martin Sauls, IV

**Staff Present:** Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Atty. Marvin Jones, Clerk to Council Judith Frank, Director of Administrative Services Ronnie Malphrus, Director of Engineering Services Dale Terry, Director of Emergency Services Wilbur Daley.

In accordance with the freedom of information act the electronic and print media were notified. During periods of discussion and/or presentations minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased.

**Call to Order-** Chairman Etheridge called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Chairman Etheridge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Invocation-** Vice Chairwoman Clark gave the invocation.

**Approval of the Agenda-** Vice Chairwoman Clark motioned and Councilman Sauls seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Andrew Fulghum - Resolution to Grant an Approval Required by Jasper County Policy And Procedures Manual-** Mr. Fulghum explained that the resolution with the letter and list consisting of one position attached to it is in response to the ordinance passed by Council eliminating the deputy administrator's position from the list of approve County positions. Mr. Fulghum said the resolution is to comply with the personnel policy and procedure manual. Councilman Sauls motioned and Vice Chairwoman Clark seconded the motion to pass the Resolution to Grant an Approval Required by Jasper County Policy And Procedures Manual. Councilman Drayton stated it is not the right thing to do and he felt all the positions needed to be looked at; Councilman Drayton said it is unfair and lends to other things he didn't want to say and he felt all 252 jobs needed looked at because what is being done lends to racism because a black person was in that position. Councilman Drayton said Dr. Hood worked for Mr. Fulghum and maybe they don't need a policy since the council is doing personnel work and maybe a personnel director isn't needed. Vice Chairwoman Clark commented that she has listened to this response from Councilman Drayton on several occasions and other positions will be eliminated and they have a binder with all the department heads. Vice Chairman Clark said there are going to be salary cuts starting with the Council and the Council was on the right road to make it right for the citizens. Vice Chairwoman

Clark said that by July they will not have to spend a lot of time going over these things. Vice Chairwoman Clark said the County needs an administrator, but when this Council speaks, Mr. Fulghum will act and the Council needs to work together as a group and they need to leave racism out of it. Vice Chairwoman Clark said she was sure there were racist in every ethnic cultural and racism needs to be taken off of the table. Councilman Drayton said he did not say it was racism, but that it looks like and lends itself to racism. Councilman Drayton said he did not say to get rid of Mr. Fulghum, but he wanted to know what the rush was to get rid of this one position. Chairman Etheridge said it had nothing to do with anyone or anything, it needed to be done. Councilman Drayton asked why not do it all together and he said that Chairman Etheridge said the attorney was not doing anything. Councilman Johnson said that for clarification, the County had two very capable black County Administrators in the past. The motion carried with Chairman Etheridge, Vice Chairwoman Clark, and Councilmen Sauls and Johnson voting for; Councilman Drayton voted against.

**Andrew Fulghum – Request from Council on Aging to Release Restriction on County Appropriated Funds** – Mr. Fulghum told the Council that the Council on Aging has requested that funds that the County provided for furniture (\$20,000) for the new Center in Hardeeville be released. Mr. Fulghum said the COA received more funds than they deserved and need to use those funds to make up the difference. Councilman Johnson motioned and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to approve the request from the Council on Aging to Release Restriction on Count Appropriated Funds. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**ADJOURN-** Vice Chairwoman Clark motioned and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

The Meeting ended at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Approved by:

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Judith M. Frank, ccc  
Clerk To Council

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Henry Etheridge  
Chairman

