

CUMBERLAND COUNTY FACILITIES COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 14, 2004 – 8:30 AM
REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chairman Breeden Blackwell
Commissioner Kenneth Edge
James Martin, County Manager
Cliff Spiller, Assistant County Manager
Amy Cannon, Assistant County Manager
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney
Bob Stanger, County Engineer
Sara VanderClute, Public Information Officer
Walter Vick, Architect
Darrell Handlesman, Swamp Dogs Director of Operations
Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION: Commissioner Edge

1. Approval of Minutes: August 10, 2004

MOTION: Commissioner Edge moved to approve.

SECOND: Commissioner Blackwell

VOTE: Unanimous

2. Proposed New Lease with Coastal Plain League Franchise, Hometown Sports America

Grainger Barrett, County Attorney, reviewed the lease agreement between Hometown Sports America, Inc. and Cumberland County. Hometown Sports America wishes to renew the Coastal Plain League's lease of J.P. Riddle Stadium for the purpose of playing baseball in the Coastal Plains League. The initial term of the new lease will begin on January 1, 2005, and end on December 31, 2008. The lease may be extended for an additional four years. There will be approximately \$75,000 in improvements made to the stadium. Improvements will include a new metal canopy to cover the central portion of the bleachers, a new scoreboard, and drainage problems in the stadium dug-outs will be corrected. The canopy will cost approximately \$60,000, a new electronic scoreboard will cost approximately \$5,000, and the approximate cost of correcting the drainage problems is \$10,000. The team and league will pay \$35,000 toward the cost of the canopy and the Recreation Fund will pay the balance. The county will pay \$15,000 for the scoreboard and will correct the drainage problems. The county will get part of its money back through \$4,000 annual rent and a flat fee of \$7,000 for concessions, rather than 7% which it has been getting under the old lease agreement. The rent will increase to \$5,000 per year for an

additional term. Additionally, Hometown Sports America will have the right to schedule up to 20 non-Coastal Plain League events, rather than 10 events under the old lease agreement. To cover utility costs, Hometown Sports America will pay the county \$150 per game during the season, and \$250 per month during the off season.

MOTION: Commissioner Edge moved that the Facilities Committee make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to approve the lease agreement between Hometown Sports America, Inc. and Cumberland County.

SECOND: Commissioner Blackwell

VOTE: Unanimous

3. Update on Animal Control Facility and Sheriff's Training Center

Walter Vick, Architect, provided structural drawings of the Animal Control Facility and the Sheriff's Training Center floor plans. He said they are still in the process of working out technical issues. It is expected that the plans will be ready for bid in the Spring. The County Manager asked if the cost estimate is still reasonable. Mr. Vick said another estimate will be done and he is hopeful that there will be an improvement in the estimate.

4. Other Matters of Concern

Bob Stanger, County Engineer, informed the committee that the county sign shop on Russell Street is being relocated to the county maintenance facility. The old sign shop will be demolished. That site will be used as a parking lot for the Day Reporting Center. He is meeting with an environmentalist firm to conduct an asbestos and lead paint survey on the building. If asbestos and lead paint are found, the county will have to contract to have it removed. The building will then be demolished and the county will go out for bids on the parking lot.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:10 AM