



PICKENS COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
August 28, 2008
4:00 P.M. - COMMISSIONER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order**
 1. **Prayer**
 2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 3. **Amendments to Agenda - None**
- II. **Approved Minutes from June 26, 2008 meeting.**
- III. **Reports from Committees and Departments**
 1. **Larry Coleman with the Water Department reported that with the drought Conditions over the last couple of years a number of Pickens County residential wells and springs have gone dry. So far in 2008 PCWSA has installed 45,300' of new water mains to provide those residents with water. Also in 2008, PCWSA installed a new Satellite Telemetry System at all tanks and Booster Pump Stations, this along with the new Radio Read Meters has lowered our water loss to an average of 15% compared to 40% a few years ago.**
- IV. **Consent Agenda**
 1. **Adopted Resolution to Transmit the Community Agenda of the Pickens County Joint Comprehensive Plan 2008-2028 to the North Georgia Regional Development Center to Initiate State Review.**
 2. **Adopted Resolution Appointing Charles Holbert to the initial term as a member of the Coosawattee Regional Water and Sewage Authority with said term beginning July 1, 2008 and ending on June 30, 2011.**
 3. **Adopted Resolution amending the Pickens County Land Use District Ordinance Map in regard to Parcel 047-010 composed of 1.51 acres from Hwy.Business (HB) to Rural Residential (RR) with the following condition: 1) If the rezoning is approved a recordable plat showing the 1.51 acre parcel will have to be produced. Rezoning request was made by John and Cindy Lupi. The property is located at 3911 Steve Tate Highway. (Amendment Number 48)**
 4. **Adopted County Government Ordinance Regarding Emergency Management.**
 5. **Received fully executed contract between the Department of Transportation and Pickens County for Engineering Design Services for Construction of a Partial Parallel Taxiway and Ramp Expansion at the Pickens County Airport, with a Notice to Proceed document. Project # AP080-9909-16(227) Pickens. Total project cost is estimated at \$147,000.00 The Department's contract with Pickens County is for a maximum of \$143,325.00 of which \$139,650.00 are Federal Funds and \$3,675.00 are State funds in accordance with the terms of the contract.**
 6. **Signed Resolution authorizing Pickens County, Georgia to negotiate a temporary loan with Jasper Banking Company. Tax anticipated note of \$2,500,000 awarded to Jasper Banking Company with interest rate of 3.66%. Repayment of this loan (if used) must be made by December 31, 2008.**
- V. **Old Business**

- None**
- VI. New Business**
None
- VII. Guests/Comments**
A citizen asked Commissioner Jones about his feelings regarding the Courthouse.
Commissioner Jones replied that three meetings were held regarding the Courthouse and that he only had a conceptual plan. There were three items brought up during SPLOST meetings in regard to the Courthouse:
1 – Tear down and return back to the 1947 building design.
2 – Remodel the courthouse and add parking deck
3 - Relocate courthouse to another site
Commissioner Jones said that the only ones who showed up for the meetings were the business owners from downtown. The opinion from the meetings was to remodel the courthouse and add a parking deck. They want the courthouse to stay there and that is what we put on the ballot. He said there has never been a complete set of plans for the Courthouse because he didn't want to spend \$8,000 to get a complete set of plans and nobody know what is going on. Now there is a committee established to come up with a proper set of plans for what we want to do for the courthouse as long as the outside stays pretty well close to what the visual concept is. The vote for the courthouse was site specific. County Attorney Phil Landrum stated that the option to relocate the Courthouse is not available. The SPLOST dollars have to be spent to remodel the courthouse as was stated on the ballot.
Commissioner Jones stated that the County Attorney would be at the next Courthouse Advisory Commission Meeting to answer questions. Dr. Sanford Chandler along with Tom Eubanks will be chairing the meeting.
Commissioner Jones responded to a question regarding the Emergency Management Ordinance (Item 4 under the Consent Agenda). The Ordinance is to bring Pickens County Emergency Management operational procedures up to standards regarding tornadoes, and other disasters. . We were lacking in this but with the new Fire Chief are trying to get the County up to state standards.
Commissioner Jones answered a question from a citizen regarding the TAN. It was sent out for proposals to get the best deal. Normally at this time of year we go ahead and issue a TAN notice and then a lot of times we don't use it. Our fiscal year ends December 31, 2008 and the State has sent us notice that the Homestead Exemption Tax money may not be available to us until May. We do not start paying interest on the \$2.5 million. We only borrow from the TAN if we need to. It is a Tax Anticipated Note.
- VIII. Adjournment**
Commissioner Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:17 p.m.