



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session **MINUTES**

July 3, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Commission Conference Room – Ste. 168

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. Commissioner Becky Denney Commissioner Jerry Barnes were in attendance.

Due to the rainy weather, Tony King of Kidwell & Company was a little late.

Chairman Jones said they would put Road closure for events first and later have the presentments by Mr. King of Kidwell & Company and Mr. Fletcher of Merchant Capital.

- 1) Road closure for events – Norman Pope said that he has reviewed the proposal that the Sheriff's Department had given the Board earlier which came from another county regarding road closures for events. Mr. Pope said that it is going to take some time, especially for the Planning and Development Department. He said that no fee was involved and there should be a small fee. The Board asked that Sheriff Craig meet with them for discussion on this topic.
- 2) ADA Transition Plan - Mr. Pope explained that in 1992 counties had to provide an ADA (American with Disabilities Act) Transition Plan. We have been unable to find a copy of ours and the Georgia Department of Transportation can't find the copy that was sent to them either. Services and facilities have to be accessible to those with disabilities. Mr. Pope has prepared a list of all Pickens County buildings and finds all of them to be compliant. In looking for a template, he said the ADA Transition Plan he has found that best suits Pickens County is the one prepared by Colquitt County last year. Commissioner Denney asked if Colquitt County is the size of Pickens. Mr. Pope said they are a little larger, but with just a few small changes it would work for us. He will have it prepared and present it to the Board in the next meeting.

Chairman Jones recognized Dr. Lula Perry, Pickens County School Superintendent, and welcomed her to the meeting and to Pickens County.

- 3) Tony King with Kidwell & Company made a presentment to the Board regarding Water System Refinancing. Kidwell & Company is a municipal advisory firm. They deal mostly with municipal bonds – financing and refinancing. They don't buy

bonds. He said that their value proposition is to go into market and find the absolute lowest interest rate and they can save us hundreds of thousands of dollars. He showed two different options for decreasing indebtedness of our Water Fund. He provided the Commissioners with a packet of information.

Commissioner Denney asked Mr. King what their fee was and he replied that if the transaction takes place it is 1% of par amount of Bonds issued.

- 4) Phillip Fletcher of Merchant Capital gave a description of Merchant Capital and what they do. They are “investment bankers”, have been in business 25 years and focus on tax-exempt and taxable public bond finance. In 2012 they publicly offered more Georgia water and sewer bonds than any other firm based on number of transactions. Andrew Tritt, Vice President of Merchant Capital, spoke regarding paying off water fund loans thru SPLOST. Mr. Fletcher said he would love to talk with the Board when they get the “wish list” for SPLOST prepared.

Commissioner Denney asked Mr. Fletcher about their fee. He said their fee is based on the size of the deal and that nobody gets paid till closing. He did not state the fee.

Mr. Fletcher said that short term money is good and gives you a lot of flexibility.

Chairman Jones said that he is still waiting on the City of Jasper for their list and figures. Hopefully they will provide the info in the next few days.

5. Proposals for Janitorial Services at the Courthouse were provided to the Commissioners. Four proposals were received.

It was decided that a called meeting / work session be held on Thursday, July 18th at

10:00 a.m. for discussion of the bids on Janitorial Services for the Courthouse and

The Board asked that Sheriff Craig or someone from his department attend the meeting to discuss the Road Closure for events issue.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

These Minutes were approved on July 18, 2013.

Commission meetings are videotaped and may be viewed at www.knowpickens.com.