



COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

July 22, 2005

MINUTES

- I. Call To Order**
- II. Minutes**
Read and approved minutes from last meeting
- III. Reports from Committees and Departments**
 - 1. Layne Arnold – Director of Emergency Services – reported that from January 1, 2005 to June 30, 2005 EMS has taken 1,688 calls, the Fire Departments have taken 1,430 calls; Campus police, 166 calls, GA. DNR 7 calls; GSP, 17 calls; Jasper Police Dept., 4,443 calls; Marshall, 1 call; Nelson Police Dept., 220 calls; Pickens County Sheriff's office, 10,256 calls; and rescue 1,017 calls.**
- IV. Consent Agenda**
 - 1. Signed agreement naming North Georgia Community Action, Inc. as the Third Party Operator for the 5311 transportation contract for FY2006.**
 - 2. Signed an agreement between Pickens County and Moreland Altobelli Associates, Inc. for a period of one year for engineering services for road projects, particularly the Hwy. 53 project.**
 - 3. Adopted a pay scale for part-time employees similar to the full time pay scale adopted in March 2005. Part-timers will be paid 90% of the full time hourly rate.**
 - 4. Opened a new Bank Account at Jasper Banking Company. Account Name: Pickens County Government USDA-Water Improvements.**
 - 5. Adopted Resolution Adopting Streets and Roads in Deer Pointe Phase II and Deer Pointe Phase III into the Pickens County Road System.**
 - 6. Signed request for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program Grant for the Pickens County Domestic Violence Task Force Visitation Center. The request was for \$29,879.00.**
 - 7. Adopted a Resolution to Provide Procedures For Judicial In Rem Tax Lien Foreclosure: To Provide Definitions; To Provide For Related Matters; To Repeal Conflicting Resolutions and Ordinances And For Other Purposes.**
 - 8. Signed Agreement with The State of Georgia Natural Gas**

Procurement Program for Pickens County to participate in the Georgia Statewide Contract for natural gas.

- 9. Signed engagement letter with Land & Associates for 2004 Audit.**
- 10. Received Announcement of Listing in the National Register of Historic Places for the Georgia Marble Company & Tate Historic District in Pickens County from the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.**
- 11. Adopted Resolution Reappointing Kathy Bruce to Pickens County Board of Family and Children Services.**
- 12. Extended the term in the April 15, 2005 Resolution Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance of Any Permits to Allow Or Erect Any Signs Within Unincorporated Pickens County until September 15, 2005.**
- 13. Adopted Resolution appointing Joe Walker to the Pickens County Beer and Wine Board to serve at the discretion of the Commissioner.**
- 14. Adopted Resolution appointing Theresa Brown to the Pickens County Beer and Wine Board to serve at the discretion of the Commissioner.**
- 15. Adopted Resolution to adopt a fee schedule for rezoning of land use.**
- 16. Adopted Resolution appointing Tommy Shaw to the Pickens County Water and Sewer Authority for a term beginning January 28, 2005 thru December 31, 2006.**
- 17. Tax anticipated note of \$1,750,000 awarded to Chestatee State Bank with interest rate of 3.84%. Repayment of this loan must be made by December 31, 2005.**

V. Old Business

None

VI. New Business

None

VII. Guests/Comments

- 1. Robert M. Hayles – Mr. Hayles requested to be on the Agenda to express his feelings regarding the recent Supreme Court decision involving New Haven, CT and Pfizer Corporation regarding the taking of property using eminent domain. When private property is taken and given to another private entity. He said that everyone he had talked to doesn't like it. He said he didn't feel it was right to be mad at the Supreme Court because the whole thing starts when a local government passed a law that allows that to happen. The local authorities said it was okay. All the Supreme Court is act on the laws that are already there. He said while it is his belief that the current administration will not misuse their power and confiscate property for the benefit of private organizations and/or individuals he said that Commissioner Jones would not be the Commissioner forever. He said the recent Supreme Court**

decision involving New Haven Ct and Pfizer Corporation shows that if, at some future time, a law were passed allowing such a thing in Pickens County, nothing could be done to prevent it after the fact. He said that as long as it was informally understood, that was not good enough. The potential for it happening under a different administration is there. He said he would like the Commissioner to seriously consider formalizing rules that would prevent taking private property and giving it to a private entity - outside what has always been commonly called public use- fire stations, roads, public schools – taking land to provide more taxes and more jobs isn't what people want around here and he said he didn't believe Commissioner Jones wanted that either. But as long as it is informally understood it has the possibility of happening later. He said the State has said they will address this, but the State says a lot of things that don't happen. He said he knows there are a lot of sample resolutions or laws out there to look at and that he believes Cherokee County has one. He said that it is just unfair that someone with a lot of money can come in and say "I can make the County a lot more money by putting up a hotel where those five houses are and I can employ a lot more people." This is just not right. As Judge Sandra Day O'Connor said," All this means is that a person might come in and say that a Motel 6 does not generate the money my Ritz Carlton would." The Supreme Court has now said that is okay if local law allows it. He said he would like to see us pass a law where that cannot happen. Commissioner Jones replied," I will take this under advisement."

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further discussion Commissioner Jones adjourned the meeting at 9:15 A.M.

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Deborah E. Watson
County Clerk