

**COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2009
4:00 P.M. – CONFERENCE ROOM
MINUTES**

- I. Commissioner Jones called the meeting to Order.
 - 1. Prayer
 - 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 3. Amendments to Agenda – 1) Report from Norman Pope. 2) Quitclaim Deed
- II. Approved Minutes from July 2, 2009 meeting.
- III. Reports from Committees and Departments
 - 1. Norman Pope - Director of Information – reported that we have an application in to GEFA for \$1.27 million to construct a 500,000 gallon water tank at the south end of the county and for about 14,000 linear feet of water line extensions in the western end of the county to give us another connection to our source in Calhoun. It has cleared several requirements from the Federal government but we still don't have a final say. We received an e-mail from the Governor's office saying they have approved 26 projects in the state totaling \$432 million. The only county that has been awarded is Gwinnett and the others are cities, We are still in the running. Of the total \$144 million about \$90 million is left. We are hopeful. Although if awarded it will be in the form of a loan and forgiveness on our end, because of the Tier 4, is only 40%. We are continuing to work on that. Also, we have some concerns about some requirements regarding the stimulus money; such as the requirement that American made products have to be used. We don't have a problem with that, but a lot of filtration devices used in water purification are not manufactured in the United States. Several places have applied for a variance; however, a statement from GEFA says that at this time they can't accept variance requests on that. Mr. Pope said we are going to have to find somebody here in the United States to manufacture the devices needed. Mr. Pope also reported that with VW coming to Chattanooga and the fact we are in radial distance that hopefully some companies will choose to locate here to be a supplier for them. He also said that according to a magazine he had with him that 7 out of 10 top companies that have relocated to Georgia in the past year are in automotive business.
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - 1. Adopted Resolution appointing Mary Ellen Johnson to the Pickens County Library Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term of Kay Hendricks. The term ends June 30, 2010.
 - 2. Adopted Resolution reappointing Lawton Baggs to the Pickens County Library Board of Trustees for a four year term beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2013.
 - 3. Received fully executed contract between the Department of Transportation and Pickens County for Installation of an AWOS-III PT and Construct a Partial Parallel Taxiway to Runway 34 at the Pickens County Airport.

4. Signed Supplemental Agreement Number One between Tritt Contracting, Inc. and Pickens County for construction of the Industrial Park Taxiway.
5. Signed Quitclaim Deed between Pickens County and Community Supportive Housing Services, Inc. (Deed including explanation is recorded within these Minutes.)
- V. Old Business
None
- VI. New Business
None
- VII. Guests/Comments
Citizen spoke regarding the economy and asked Commissioner Jones to be careful the next 2 years of the money we spend, avoiding big projects and he would like to see a break given to Senior Citizens on their property tax.

Commissioner Jones replied that the Taxiway is FAA funded 92% and is also funded by the D.O.T. The County is out some in-kind services and very little money. The project has been in the works four years. The horseshoe project started in 2004 and the moneys are already there. That project was inherited from the previous administration. Commissioner Jones agreed regarding any other big projects.

Roy Dobbs asked why the runway was numbered 34. Commissioner Jones said that if you look at the axis on 360° on the dial the runway is on 34.

Commissioner Jones was asked about the SPLOST. He replied that at the first of the year it was 16% and have been down significantly since the first of the year. Commissioner Jones said that unless something happens for collections to go up He doesn't think we will collect \$34 million.

Angela Reinhardt, Pickens County Progress reporter, asked how the 2008 Audit was going. Commissioner Jones replied that the field work had been completed and that we have the draft in.

When asked by an attendee about the Budget Amendment Commissioner Jones replied that the Amendment was done in July and that was something that usually happens when going from one year to the next.

- VIII. Adjournment
Commissioner Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Robert P. Jones
Sole Commissioner

ATTEST:

Deborah E. Watson
County Clerk