



**PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015
5:30 P.M. – CONFERENCE ROOM – STE. 168**

- I. Call to order**
Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Becky Denney and Commissioner Jerry Barnes were present.
- II. Prayer - Jerry Barnes**
Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Amendment to Agenda**
1) Under Action Items – Item H – Board Appointment
- IV. Approval of Agenda**
Commissioner Barnes made motion to approve the agenda with amendment; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.
- V. Employee Recognition**
Commissioner Denney presented pins and certificates to the following employees for their service: 1) Donald Grant – 10 yrs.; 2) Amma Dell Whitsell – 38 yrs.; 3) Ann Marshall – 14 yrs.; 4) Michael Shore – 14 yrs.; 5) Melba Sullivan – 12 yrs.
- VI. Finance Report – CFO Faye Harvey stated that the November, 2015 Financial Report reflects 11 months of the 2015 fiscal year. Expenditure budgets should be 91.7% or less. General Fund revenue collections for the period ending November 30, 2015 total \$17,233,096 or 75.8% of the total amount budgeted. General Fund expenditures for fiscal year 2015 are \$19,409,758 or 85.37% of budgeted amounts. Overall, expenditures are 6.33% under budget. She reported budget variances as follows: 1) General Government buildings is over budget at 101.83%. Line items over budget include general maintenance and repairs, supplies and electricity. This budget may require a budget amendment at year end. 2) Probation and Drug Abuse Funds are over budget at 187.82%. This is a special revenue budget line, so revenues will increase to accommodate the expenditures. 3) Animal Shelter budget is over at 92.74%. Line items over budget include salaries, supplies, and electricity. This budget may require a budget amendment at year end. 4) Keep Pickens Beautiful and Economic Development budgets are fully expended for the fiscal year. These budgets are funded in advance and December amounts have already been paid. Line item budget reports were distributed to department heads and elected officials on December 10, 2015. Mrs. Harvey stated that the TAN has been paid off and the State Patrol Building was paid off in November.**
- VII. Consent Agenda- None**
- VIII. Old Business**
Discussion regarding Special Event Permits – Richard Osborne, Planning & Development Director presented the Board with a Text Amendment Request that will be discussed in the January 11, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting. The

request reads as follows: Pickens County has submitted a text amendment to add a new section to Chapter 67 of the Pickens County Code of Ordinances related to land use and special events. It may be appropriate to regulate large special events anticipated to have 50 or more participants, with various County department representatives receiving information in advance of such events. By having advance review time, County representatives will be better able to plan for potential impacts both on and off the property on which the event will occur. Based on events permits of other Georgia local governments, County staff has prepared a special event permit application to accompany this ordinance amendment. These permits will be maintained by Planning & Development staff, and department representatives will send the completed applications to all applicable departments upon receipt. The permit application is included as an attachment to these Minutes. The text amendment would read as follows: Sec. 67-16. Special Events Permits. Any landowner, or an applicant having the landowner's notarized signature, seeking to hold an event anticipated to have 50 or more participants, shall be required to submit an application to the Planning & Development department no fewer than 30 days in advance of said event. The application and applicable fee shall be as provided by the Planning & Development department and shall not be subject to waiver. Special events permits shall not be required for events held on the property of a church or cemetery as defined herein. A special event, generally, is a one-time or infrequently occurring event outside normal programs or activities of the sponsoring or organizing body. Special events may include, but not be limited to, festivals; road races; fundraisers; tournaments; and automobile and/or motorcycle cruises. All activities related to special events permitted under this section shall cease at or before 10:30 p.m. Mr. Osborne said they have contacted other governments: Cobb, Forsyth, and City of Blue Ridge. There is no oversight on groups under 50 people. This will be on the January 11, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting Agenda and will be on the January 21, 2016 BOC meeting Agenda for discussion. County Attorney Phil Landrum asked that the Request and the application form be placed on the county website. www.pickenscountygga.gov. This is only something to look at and consider.

IX. New Business - None

X. Action Items

A. Approve Minutes

1. Called Meeting (Executive Session) – October 1, 2015
2. Regular Board Meeting – November 19, 2015
3. Budget Hearing – December 3, 2015
4. Work Session – December 3, 2015

Commissioner Barnes made motions to approve the Minutes of the October 1, November 19, and both December 3 meetings; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.

B. Rezone Request

1. Rezone RZ-10-15-1186 Brian Maloof
3153 Salem Church Road, Jasper
Rural Residential (RR) to Small Agricultural (SA)
J041-157 8.931 Acres

The Planning Commission forwarded this request to the BOC after they voted 6 yes and 0 no to approve the rezone request.

Commissioner Barnes made motion to approve the Rezone Request; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.

2. Rezone RZ-10-15-1184 Hibbymo Properties – Jasper, LLC
Cove Road, Jasper
Rural Residential (RR) to Highway Business (HB)
043-003 6.22 Acres

The Planning Commission forwarded this request to the BOC after they voted 6 yes and 0 no to Deny the rezone request.

Commissioner Barnes made motion to deny the rezone request; Commissioner Denney asked if they could discuss; Chairman Jones said they could discuss after the motion is seconded. Commissioner Denney seconded the motion and stated that she was a fan of Dollar General and hoped they find another location. She said her no vote was due to traffic concerns so near the steep S curves on Cove Road. All voted aye.

C. Adopt FY 2016 Budget - \$23,824,644

Chairman Barnes made motion to adopt the 2016 Budget; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.

D. GebCorp Pension Plan Documents

Commissioner Barnes made motion for Chairman Jones to sign documents; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.

E. Resolution Credit Card Usage by Elected Officials

Whereas, O.C.G.A. § 36-80-24 was enacted by 2015 Georgia General Assembly House Bill 192 and signed by the Governor on May 5, 2015, with an effective date of January 1, 2016. Pickens County Board of Commissioners adopts this policy to comply with O.C.G.A. § 36-80-24. The use of government credit cards is strictly governed and credit card usage is audited and reviewed in accordance with the standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Commissioner Barnes made motion to adopt the Resolution; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.

F. Resolution for the Appointment of Directors to represent Pickens County on the Re-Activated Gilmer County and Pickens County Joint Development Authority.

Pickens directors: Denise Duncan – two year term; Todd Payne – two year term; Jack Short – four year term.

Commissioner Barnes made motion to adopt the Resolution for the appointments; Commissioner Denney seconded; all voted aye.

G. Resolution to Set Qualifying Fees for County Offices to be filled in the 2016 Election

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131; the governing authority sets qualifying fees for County Offices to be filled in 2016 Election. The following fees to be set: Sheriff - \$1943.28; Chairman, Board of Commissioners - \$1979.28; District 2 (East) Commissioner - \$306.00; Tax Commissioner, Clerk of Court, Probate Judge, and Magistrate Judge - \$1,591.05; Coroner - \$401.35; Board of Education - \$50.00

Commissioner Barnes made motion to Adopt Resolution to Set Qualifying Fees; Commissioner Denney seconded motion; all voted aye.

The County Clerk will publish in the legal organ two consecutive weeks in January 2016. – January 7 & January 14 editions.

H. Resolution reappointing Jan Roper to the Pickens County Board of Health for a six year term beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2021.

Commissioner Barnes made motion to adopt Resolution reappointing Jan Roper to the Pickens County Board of Health; Commissioner Denney seconded motion; all voted aye.

XI. Guests/Comments

Bart Connelly asked what happens if a cardholder runs up a \$4,000 bill on the County Credit Card. Chairman Jones said there is a \$5,000 limit on the card and purchases made require a Purchase Order and the Finance Department pays the bill each month. The credit cards are audited in the annual County audit.

Lynda Tatum - Special Events Permit – asked what constitutes a special event. Chairman Jones suggested she speak with Planning & Development Director Richard Osborne.

Bart Connelly spoke again – wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

XII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

These Minutes were approved at the January 21, 2016 BOC meeting.

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