



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Work Session**

**MINUTES**

**September 1, 2016**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Commission Conference Room – Ste. 168**

**Prior to the meeting Chairman Jones made a statement regarding calls he had received from citizens saying that it was on Facebook that he was going to euthanize pit bulls, Dobermans, and German Shepherds. He said that is a lie and he is going to find out where it originated. He says that our animal shelter does not adopt them out because we don't know how they have been raised. The dogs are not put down except for medical reasons. They are sent to other shelters and are not adopted out in Pickens County. He does not want to be responsible for a child or anyone being maled. He said there have been two attacks in the last four weeks.**

**Chairman Jones called the work session to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Becky Denney and Commissioner Jerry Barnes were present.**

- 1) Drug & Alcohol Policy Update – Human Resource Director Paula Peace said the 2005 Policy needed updated. D.O.T. drivers (Road Department and Water) are now required to have a separate policy. Safety sensitive employees are tested randomly. Fire & Emergency employees are safety sensitive employees but it is not required for them to have a separate policy.**
- 2) Text Amendment – commercial outdoor firing/shooting ranges – Planning & Development Director Richard Osborne said that if a person came into his office now they would get a conditional permit. We do not have a definition or standards. This is for a “commercial business” – nothing to do with personal property or non-profit. The Text Amendment is as follows: 1) add a new definition for this use; 2) Use must obtain conditional use approval from the BOC in Highway Business district, prohibited in all other districts; 3) Minimum undisturbed buffer of at least 500 feet along property lines adjacent to/abutting residential use properties and/or residential districts; 4) Area where firing activity takes place shall be at least 500 feet from all property lines; 5) Applicant shall list proposed hours of operation as part of the conditional use application; 6) Protective natural or artificial barriers must be provided to prevent bullets, shells, or pellets from travelling to human-occupied areas; 7) Applicant shall provide a copy of liability insurance as part of the conditional use application. The Planning Commission recommended Approval. Chairman Jones asked what the amount of liability insurance would be. Mr.**

Osborne said that would be according to the amount of land, topography, and the size of the shooting range and other things on the property – such as a snack bar, etc. He was told \$1 million was a good round figure. Chairman Jones asked if he had contacted surrounding counties/cities. Mr. Osborne said he had contacted cities north of I-20. Commissioner Denney asked if he had received any requests about the commercial outdoor firing/shooting ranges, and he replied that they had one, but he is no longer interested. Commissioner Barnes said that 500 feet may not be enough distance. Chairman Jones asked if it could be done retroactively and Mr. Osborne replied “no”. He said we would have to consider topography per request. This item will be on the September 15 BOC meeting agenda.

- 3) **Text Amendment Request – subdivisions with gravel private streets in certain Cases - Mr. Osborne said this has been discussed for several months. RLF Talking Rock Properties (Greg Boree, Mark Chastain, Ed Marger, reps.) requested the following text amendment: Subdivisions having lot sizes 10 acres or greater in gated communities could have gravel private streets with a minimum of 40 feet right-of-way (Code requires residential developments to be on paved streets with minimum 60 feet right-of-way) This is in regard to property in the Five Points area. There are 3000 acres – looking at 200 acres. The Planning Commission recommended Denial. This item will be on the September 15 BOC meeting agenda.**
- 4) **Chairman Jones asked CFO Faye Harvey if the budgets are on schedule. She said she doesn’t have the Sheriff or Fire Department’s budgets.**
- 5) **EMA Director John Nicholson reported that everything is on schedule in the EOC (Emergency Operations Center).**

There being no further discussion the work session was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

---

**Robert P. Jones**  
Chairman

**ATTEST:**

---

**Deborah E. Watson**  
County Clerk

These Minutes were approved in the September 15, 2016 BOC meeting.

Commission meetings are videotaped and may be viewed at [www.knowpickens.com](http://www.knowpickens.com).