



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session

MINUTES

November 3, 2016

10:00 a.m.

Commission Conference Room – Ste. 168

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

Before the Work Session began Chairman Jones turned the meeting over to Pickens County Fire Marshal Curtis Clark. Mr. Clark stated that we are now imposing a county-wide burn ban. This includes campfires, cooking fires, fireworks, etc. until significant rain occurs. A large weather front with high winds is coming in and the National Weather Service says no rain for at least the next 10 days. The drought is at severe level and he asks that the citizens help with this. He said the property they save may be their own. The City of Jasper is on board for total burn ban.

Items Discussed:

- 1) Cemetery Preservation Commission – Chairman Jones said this is something that a citizen wants the Board to take a look at. This is under review by the Board and the County Attorney. There will be further discussion.**
- 2) Budget Transfer Policy Revision – CFO Faye Harvey stated that the revision is to change verbiage. “ Within the overall budget limitations, the Finance Director has the authority to transfer funds from one budget line item to the other without regard to category except those related to Personal Services which are salary related items. The Board of Commissioners must approve transfers of any salary related items. No increase in the overall budget can be made without the approval of the Board of Commissioners and amendment to the budget.”**
- 3) Liquor Sales – This is in regard to bottle sales in the County. Commissioner Denney said that Wayne Crawford had a good article in Smoke Signals (Big Canoe paper) in which he stated that the tax money would soon pay for a special election. Chairman Jones said it would be better to do it during a regular election. It costs thousands of dollars to hold a Special Election.**
- 4) Burnt Mountain Preserve Conservation Easement Situation – Chairman Jones said he had met with Don Wells of Mountain Stewards, George Kimberly of the Mountain Conservation Trust, and others to discuss the need for a common conservation easement – and a need for common language regarding the Preserve which is 1200 acres. (From 1998 – 2002, 770 acres were purchased with grants, etc.**

In April of 2009 approximately 67 acres was purchased with county funds, and in September 2015 approximately 300 acres was purchased with county funds.) There will be further discussion on this item.

- 5) Proposed 2017 Budget – CFO Faye Harvey reported that the Budget is on schedule. The Board will vote to advertise the Budget in their November 17 meeting and will be voted on for approval in their December 15 meeting. She said the insurance increase was lower and helped save money and that a little over \$600,000 in the contingency fund. If it is not used it will go back into the fund balance.**
- 6) Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance – Mandated by the State. Planning and Development Control Officer Rodney Buckingham said after this is approved it will be sent to the State. This item will be placed on the November 17 agenda.**

Chairman Jones announced that Tate Day is Saturday and the Parade starts at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further discussion the work session was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

These Minutes were approved in the November 17, 2016 BOC meeting.

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