



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Work Session**

**MINUTES**

**March 2, 2017 10:00 a.m.**

**Commission Conference Room – Ste. 168**

**Chairman Jones called the Work Session to order. Commissioner Becky Denney and Commissioner Jerry Barnes were present.**

**Chairman Jones stated that the first item on the Agenda (City of Nelson – sidewalk project) was withdrawn by Mike Haviland of the City of Nelson.**

**Items Discussed:**

- 1) Proposal for Landfill Reimbursement Application – Planning & Development Director Richard Osborne addressed the Board on this item. Mark Bailey with Advanced Environmental Management, which conducts environmental monitoring and reporting for the former Jones Mountain Road Landfill informed the Planning office that the local government may file a claim for reimbursement for funds used for corrective environmental actions. AEM can prepare the Application for Pickens County for a not-to-exceed cost of 1% of the Application claim amount. If no monies are received AEM would expect no payment for this service. The claim amount could be up to \$75,000 or maybe \$100,000. This item will be placed on the March 16, 2017 BOC meeting agenda.**
- 2) Pickens County Water Board Authority Letter – The Board of Commissioners received a letter from Tim Jordan, Chairman of the Pickens County Water Board Authority requesting a financial statement for the Water Department of all assets and debt. Along with the financial statement they ask for the total purchase price and ask that the Board indicate if the purchase price is negotiable. The Water Board plans to discuss the feasibility of a buyout at their March Meeting.**

**Chairman Jones forwarded the letter to Chris Poje of G. Ben Turnipseed Engineering who handles the engineering for the county water system. Chairman Jones read an email he had received back. Mr. Poje said the cost involved to provide the items requested by the Water Board would cost between \$25-\$35,000. Mrs. Harvey said if this occurred it would require a budget amendment. As far as the feasibility of the Water Board Authority taking the water system over, there was much discussion. Chairman Jones said the issue the Water Board could have is the infrastructure and tanks, equipment, etc. would have to be appraised and that amount paid to the**

County. They have to be sure if turned over it could stand alone. Commissioner Denney asked why this is coming up at this time. Chairman Jones said it has been talked about for several years. CFO Faye Harvey said that her office has given the Water Board their financial audits. Mrs. Harvey stated that Water has been in the black for about 3 years. Chairman Jones commented that he doesn't think they can stand alone at this time.

- 3) Meeting Rooms in the Administrative Office Building – Chairman Jones said the rooms were set up for government meetings and training. A lot of requests are made for using the rooms outside of the intended use. It is getting out of hand. The building closes at 5:00 p.m. The two options to consider are to charge or just cut off usage. After business hour meeting would require a person / security guard to open and lock up. Chairman Jones stated that the Community Center has meeting rooms and they are open until 9:00 p.m. The rental for them is \$20.00 / hr. The consensus of the Board was to go back like it was. This item will be voted on in the March 16, 2017 meeting.
- 4) CFO Faye Harvey reported that the Auditors have been here since Monday. They have been with the Elected Officials and the courthouse. They will be back March 20<sup>th</sup> to do our field work and we should have an Audit letter by the 1<sup>st</sup>. of May. Mrs. Harvey is receiving bids on interest rates for the 2017 Tax Anticipated Note. The due date for the bids is Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. She said the TAN has reduced from \$5.5 million to \$4.8 million which is \$700,000.
- 5) Fire Chief Sloan Elrod reported that he is still looking for mounts. He has two bids for Dodges. He doesn't have any Ford prices yet. He needs another bid. He said the Chevrolets won't hold the boxes.
- 6) Rachel Wigington, County Extension Coordinator, asked the Board to look into her obtaining a county vehicle. She drives her personal vehicle to make farm visits, etc. Previously the Extension office did have a county truck. Chairman Jones told her to get with John Nicholson and get some prices - Chevrolet, Ford, and Chrysler. Ms. Wigington said she had money in her budget and would need to transfer line items.

CFO Faye Harvey reported that compared to 2015 the 2016 SPLOST was up 2 or 3%. Mrs. Harvey asked the Board about fire station property. She said we are almost 3 years into those collections. Chairman Jones said they have looked at 7 parcels but nobody wants to sell. It has been turned over to a realtor in town to see if she can find 1 ½ - 2 acres. There being no further discussion, the work session was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

These Minutes were approved in the March 16, 2017 BOC meeting.

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