Chairman Jones called the Work Session to order. Commissioner Becky Denney was present. Commissioner Barnes was out of town.

Items Discussed:

1) Vineyard Way Dedication Discussion – Planning & Development Director Richard Osborne stated that the Pool family representatives submitted a letter several years ago requesting that Vineyard Way (previously known as Vineyard Trail), off Hwy 136 in northeast Pickens, be considered for inclusion into the Pickens County road system. This dead-end street includes Fainting Goat Vineyards and four vacant lots. An inspection of the road on May 16, 2016 found the road to be in compliance with the minimum road standards required by Pickens County. The Pools are working with attorneys to have all related documents prepared regarding transfer of ownership of Vineyard Way to Pickens County. Once the County Attorney’s office has reviewed the transfer of ownership documents and has no objections. This will be brought to the Board of Commissioners when all documents are completed.

2) Statewide Mutual Aid & Assistance Agreement - This agreement is made and entered into between Pickens County and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security. This provides the agreement framework to support mutual assistance in managing an emergency or disaster occurring within any political subdivision that is a Participating Party, whether arising from natural disaster, technological hazard, human caused disaster, civil emergency aspects of resource shortages, community disorders, insurgency, enemy attack, acts of terrorism, other significant events or a national security activity. This item will be placed on the June 16, 2016 BOC meeting Agenda.

3) Refund Policy – Water Department – CFO Faye Harvey stated that the water department any overpayment made by the customer is credited to the customer’s account. Refund checks are only issued if they are no longer a customer.

4) Capital Lease for 9-1-1 upgrade and two ambulances – CFO Faye Harvey reported that she had requested bids and received two bids – 1) BB&T – 1.93% interest; 2) PNC Equipment Finance, LLC – 2.44% interest. The lease amount - $571,056. Term: Four (4) years. There is no closing cost. The money is already budgeted for this. This item will be placed on the June 16, 2016 BOC meeting Agenda

5) Smoking Policy at Roper Park- Parks & Recreation Director Brian Jones addressed the Board regarding the need for a better policy than they have now. There have been problems during the baseball season with smoking too close to the ball fields. The Recreation Advisory Board discussed changing the distance from 25’ to 50’ and also discussed banning smoking and making the park tobacco free. Mr. Jones said the welfare of the children is of the utmost importance. The Recreation Board suggests an Ordinance to prohibit the use of tobacco products at the Pickens County Parks and
Recreational Facilities. This item will be further researched and addressed after more information is collected.

6) Walk over policy for students at PCMS – Parks & Recreation Director Brian Jones stated that since the Community Center was built in 2011 Pickens Middle Schoolers have been walking over thru the tunnel. Approximately 75-100 each day. This is a liability. The Community Center doesn’t run an after school program. Not all, but a lot of parents are using it for daycare. Some students come in the Center and then leave and the property is 40 acres. These students are unattended. A recommendation to the Board for consideration: students have to be 16 years of age to be alone at the Center and students under 16 have to be with an adult (over age 18). The Board will take this into consideration.

7) Fee Schedule Revision Request / Planning & Development – Planning & Development Director Richard Osborne submitted a request to revise the fee schedule for permits and other items related to the Planning & Development department. The fee schedule has not been revised since 2013. Comparison was done with Bartow, Dawson, Forsyth, Gilmer, Gordon, and Walker Counties. This item will be placed on the June 16, 2016 BOC meeting Agenda.

There being no further discussion, the Work Session was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

These Minutes were approved in the June 16, 2016 BOC meeting.

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