Chairman Robert Jones called the work session to order at 10:00 A.M. Commissioner Becky Denney and Commissioner Jerry Barnes were present.

Items Discussed:

1) Requested Revised Attendance Ordinance
   The Magistrate Court and the Pickens County Attendance Protocol Committee requested that changes be made to the Pickens County Attendance Ordinance Section 42 to help with the challenges the school system faces with regard to enrollment. Commissioner Jones would like to add this item to the BOC Agenda for May 18, 2017. Commissioner Denny and Commissioner Barnes agreed.

2) Text Amendment – Chapter 58 (Solid Waste)
   The Resolution Adopting and Amending Chapter 58 (Solid Waste) was tabled at the April 20, 2017 BOC meeting. This amendment would require that the storage of commercial solid waste outside be prohibited except within appropriate enclosures. Refuse areas (dumpsters) shall be placed in the least visible location from public streets, and shall be enclosed on all sides by opaque walls, with one or more opaque closing gate(s). The height of opaque walls and opaque closing gates shall be at least as high as the receptacle. Commissioner Denney said that we have three choices: a) to not pass the amendment; b) to pass the amendment and make it retro-active; or c) to pass the amendment and enforce it going forward. This issue will be on the Agenda at the next BOC meeting in May.

3) New Lease - Horseshoe Section of the Airport
   Phil Landrum, County Attorney, reported that he is currently working on one lease for the horseshoe section of the airport for hangers.

4) Bridge Closing Notice
   Chairman Jones reported that he was copied on a letter that was sent to the Mayor of Jasper from the Georgia Department of Transportation which requires the City of Jasper to close the wooden bridge that provides access to the Woodbridge Inn Restaurant and Lodge. The City of Jasper is in charge of the bridge and the State bridge inspectors have indicated that the bridge will remain closed until the unit can be repaired or replaced.
5) Pickens County Joint Comprehensive Plan
Commissioner Denney said she would like to thank Richard Osborne, Pickens County Planning and Development Director, for his time and effort with regard to the Joint Comprehensive Plan. She asked Mr. Osborne to give a brief update on the plan. Mr. Osborne reported that a kick-off meeting was held on May 2, 2017. There were approximately 45 people in attendance. The Northwest Regional Commission planner, Ethan Calhoun, will work with local government, elected officials, citizens and business owners on the State required update to the plan. Anyone that is interested in Pickens County may serve on a “Stakeholder Committee” that is being formed. Once the Stakeholder Committee has been formed, future meetings will be scheduled and will be open to the public. The draft plan must be ready by March 2018.

Comments:

Roy Dobbs asked if the lease regarding the horseshoe section of the airport was for a single hanger. Phil Landrum replied that at this time, it is for a single hanger. John Nicholson commented that the road paving contracts have gone out for bid; three bid packages have been picked up.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

These Minutes were approved in the May 18, 2017 BOC meeting.

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