

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, TUESDAY, APRIL 03, 2007 AT 6:30 PM**

Board Members Present:

James Dennison, Chairman  
K. Neal Bennett, Board Member  
Mike Streat, Board Member  
Randy Dixon, Board Member  
Aldeen Davis, Board Member

News Media Present:

The Blackshear Times  
Pierce County Press

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman James Dennison called the regular board meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Jason Deal gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 2007 MINUTES:** Chairman James Dennison called for approval of the March 2007 minutes. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the March 2007 minutes. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:** The Sons of the America Revolution, represented by Jason Deal, presented a portrait of George Washington to be hung in the Courthouse. Mr. Deal expressed that the organization was composed of descendants from the American Revolution and they are committed to patriotic ideas. Chairman James Dennison accepted the portrait on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the citizens of Pierce County. A formal presentation will be conducted when the courthouse is dedicated.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**B.C.T. RECYCLING CENTER: DISCUSSION ON MR. CHARLES BROADY'S REQUEST FOR THE COUNTY TO SERVE AS A PASS THROUGH AGENCY IN ACQUIRING GRANT FUNDS:** Chairman James Dennison stated that he had talked with Richard Lee of Southland Waste System and Mr. Lee explained that Southland Waste System takes care of the recycling needs of the citizens of Pierce County. Chairman James Dennison made a motion not to grant Mr. Broady's request for assistance from Pierce County to act as a pass through agency in acquiring grant funds. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion denied on Mr. Broady's request.

**MAYOR TOM DAVIS:** Mayor Tom Davis came before the board requesting the County's participation in funding the animal shelter and the Industrial Park's water and sewage.

**Animal Shelter-**Mayor Davis wanted to know if the county would be willing to help with the City of Blackshear's animal shelter. The City will be responsible for the shelter, but the county can participate by bringing the animal in and paying a fee for housing. Mayor Davis stated that he just wanted to know if the county will be willing to participate.

**Industrial Park-Water & Sewage Lines-**Mayor Tom Davis came before the board requesting funding to help with sewer lines into the Industrial Park. Mayor Davis said that the city has approximately \$350,000 set aside for the project and hopes to get a low interest loan from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority. Mayor Davis told the Commissioners that he would like for the county to fund a quarter of the cost -about \$87,500. Chairman James Dennison said that at this time the county just doesn't have any money budget for it. Commissioner Neal Bennett agreed that the Industrial Park needs the sewer lines, but we

“just don’t need to get involved in the water and sewer business.” Chairman James Dennison made a motion not to participate in the City of Blackshear’s request to help with the funding of water and sewer lines into the Industrial Park. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**BEAVER CONTROL:** Commissioner Aldeen Davis stated that he had spoken with two licensed trappers, Gary Martin of Ware County and Donnie White of Bacon County. The two trappers will split the county in a north and a south hunting area. The bounty on beaver tails will be \$25.00 and the tails will be turned into the Pierce County Road Department. Commissioner Davis cautioned the board that there might be a huge reduction in the troubles due the fact that summer is here and the beavers typically don’t do a lot of dam building when the food is plentiful and the watershed is down. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to amend the budget to include \$3,000 for a beaver bounty. Chairman James Dennison seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

### **COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS:**

**Electrical Checklist:** Chairman Dennison stated that he had received a copy of the electrical engineer’s final punch list for the courthouse from Rusty McCall. This list included 29 items. Mr. McCall suggested that since the work was done by inmate labor the county may want to hire an electrician to go back in and make all the final adjustments. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to bid out the electrical work. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Invoices:** Invoices for the month of March 2007 totaled \$84,478.59, which included the completion of the landscaping and a 90% completion retainer on the heating and air. Commissioner James Dennison made a motion to approve the March 2007 invoices. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

#### **William A. Rozier-Discussion on Digest Submission and Updates to Rural Land Schedule.**

**Digest Submission:** County Tax Appraiser Bill Rozier reported that work on the 2007 digest is underway and the tax assessments are almost ready to be sent out. Mr. Rozier said that 122 houses had been added to the digest, with seven (7) out of the nine (9) personal property audits finished. The audits added approximately \$600,000 to the tax digest. Mr. Rozier stated that he digest should be ready around May 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Rozier also said that he would like to have the digest to the tax commissioners by July since it is due in Atlanta by August.

**Rural Land Schedule:** County Tax Appraiser Bill Rozier reported that the Rural Land Schedule reviews all parcels 25 acres and larger used for agricultural purposes. Mr. Rozier stated that the review is conducted every few years to make sure that land values are in line with state guidelines. Mr. Rozier said that the review shows farmers have to compete for land by having to pay higher prices for the land.

**City of Blackshear-Scott Moye-Request for \$3,411.25 from the 2003 SPLOST funds to pay a portion of an invoice from EMC Engineering Services, Inc for services associated with construction of SW Central Avenue.** Chairman James Dennison made a motion to approval the funds from the 2003 SPLOST for services from EMC Engineering Services, Inc for \$3,411.25. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**City of Patterson-Request from the City of Patterson for a \$2,500 donation toward the July 4, 2007 Spirit of Liberty Celebration.** Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the request from the City of Patterson for \$2,500 for the Spirit of Liberty

Celebration. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

**Aging Advisory Council-The Southeast GA Area Agency on Aging is requesting that the board reappoint Mr. Andy Velie to a term effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010.** Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to reappoint Mr. Andy Velie to the Southeast GA Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Board. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Resolution Creating Committee:** Chairman James Dennison stated that a committee composed of James Jacobs, Chad Scruggs, Dane Smith and Jay Davis will serve to oversee the use and operation of the AG Center and Meeting Room. Chairman Dennison made a motion to approve a resolution creating a committee to oversee the AG Center and Meeting Room. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Okefenokee Area Development Authority:** Chairman James Dennison stated that Dick Larson's remaining 22 months of service on the Okefenokee Area Development Authority Board will need to be filled. Chairman Dennison made a motion to appoint R.D. "Dedi" Thomas to serve out the remaining 22 months. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **BIDS:**

**ANNUAL BIDS-Culvert Pipes, Fuel, Lubricant, Servicing Fire Extinguishers and Pest Control-**Chairman James Dennison made a motion to table the annual bids and to change the opening date to April 04, 2007 at 2:00 P.M. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:**

**Resolution from Bartow County Board of Health-**Chairman Dennison stated that he had received a letter from Marty Lee, Nurse Manager, of the Pierce County Health Department stating that the Bartow County Board of Health had written and submitted a resolution to the Georgia Legislature asking to restore 15% to the state budget for county health departments. Ms. Lee would like for the Pierce County Board of Commissioners to agree with the Pierce County Board of Health to support this resolution. Chairman James Dennison made a motion to support this resolution to restore the 15% budget cut for county health departments. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **PLANNING & ZONING:**

**Rezoning Request-Earl Boatright-**Amy Hitt, Code Enforcement, present a request from Earl Boatright to rezone 73.76 acres on Ware Street Extension from AF to Single family. Commissioner Aldeen Davis stated that he was worried about how much farmland the county is losing to new developments. He stated that as a farmer he know that the farmers are having to compete with developers to have land to tend. Commissioner Davis stated that he had heard that some counties restrict their subdivisions to areas where public water and fire hydrants are available. Commissioner Neal Bennett said that he would like to hear from the citizens in his district on this rezoning issue. Commissioner Davis stated that he would like for the Planning Commissioner to look into some new guidelines for the building of subdivisions and rezoning of property. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to table the rezoning request of Earl Boatright to rezone 73.76 acres from AF to single family. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye to table the rezone request. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Rezoning Request-Bill Brewster**-Amy Hitt, Code Enforcement, presented a request from Bill Brewster to rezone 2 acres on Bob Bowen Road from AF to single family. This property is at the corner of Bob Bowen Road and Floyd Drive in the Industrial Park. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the rezoning request from Bill Brewster to rezone 2 acres from AF to single family. Chairman James Dennison seconded the motion. Commissioner Neal Bennett, Aldeen Davis and Chairman James Dennison voted nay. Commissioners Mike Streat and Randy Dixon voted aye. Motion to rezone 2 acres on Bob Bowen Road is denied.

**Request for Variance-Brantley Bowen**-Amy Hitt, Code Enforcement, presented a request from Brantley Bowen for a variance of 2.5 feet of the required 15 feet side yard set back. Commissioner Neal Bennett wanted to know if the property owners next to the property had any objections to the 2.5 feet variance. Code Inspector Amy Hitt said that she is not sure a house has been built on the adjoining tract. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to table the request of Brantley Bowen to have a 2.5 feet variance on a 15 feet side yard set back. Chairman James Dennison seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Rezoning Request-JEA Development** -Amy Hitt, Code Enforcement, presented a request from JEA Development to rezone 3.762 acres at Fairway & Okefenokee Golf & County Club from SF to MF to develop townhouses and condos. Commissioner Aldeen Davis said the JEA Development is an example of the kind of development he wants the county to have. Commissioner Davis stated that they are developing land where the population already is and where the development needs to be. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the rezoning request of JEA Development to rezone 3.762 acres at Fairways & Okefenokee Golf & County Club from SF to MF. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Request for Variance-Joey Carter**-Amy Hitt, Code Enforcement, presented a variance request from Joey Carter of 10 feet on the required 30 feet front yard set back in a neighborhood commercial zone. Commissioner Neal Bennett wanted to know where this variance is located. Code Enforcer Amy Hitt stated that it was located at Rocking Bear. Commissioner Bennett stated that Rockin' Bear Café is located in the city limits of Blackshear. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to strike this request from the agenda as it needs to go before the City of Blackshear Council. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:**

Chairman Dennison remained the Commissioners of the Chamber of Commerce Banquet on April 12<sup>th</sup> and of the upcoming ACCG Conference in Savannah starting on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Having no further business, the April 03, 2007 regular monthly meeting was adjourned.

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James Dennison, Chairman

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K. Neal Bennett, Board Member

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Mike Streat, Board Member

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Randy Dixon, Board Member

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Aldeen Davis, Board Member

**CALLED MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS,  
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M.**

Commissioners Present:

James Dennison, Chairman  
K. Neal Bennett, Board Member  
Mike Streat, Board Member  
Randy Dixon, Board member  
Aldeen Davis, Board Member

News Media Present:

The Blackshear Times  
Pierce County Press

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman James Dennison called the called meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Mike Streat gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNUAL BIDS- Lubricant, Fuel, Pest Control, Fire Extinguisher and Culvert Pipes-**The annual bids were presented to the Board by County Clerk Mollie Howard. They are as follows:

	<b>Diesel</b>		
<b>FUEL BIDS</b>	<b>Dist. Cost</b>	<b>Markup</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
T&R Oil Co.	2.24000	0.07	2.2740

Lewis/Raulerson	2.03000	0.10	2.13000
Sommers	2.17990	0.06	2.2364
Bennett Oil Co	2.20300	0.04	2.23800
<b>89 Octane</b>			
	<b>Dist. Cost</b>	<b>Markup</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Sommers	2.1366	0.05	2.1891
T&R Oil Co.	2.0921	0.07	2.1621
Bennett Oil	2.1312	0.04	2.1662
Lewis/Raulerson	2.0290	0.10	2.1290
<b>92 Octane</b>			
	<b>Dist. Cost</b>	<b>Markup</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
T&R Oil Co.	2.2267	0.07	2.297
Sommers	2.2257	0.05	2.2782
Bennett Oil (93)	2.3249	0.04	2.360
Lewis/Raulerson	2.1475	0.10	2.2475

<b>LUBRICANT BIDS</b>	<b>Universal Fleet Motor Oil</b>	<b>Tractor Hydraulic</b>	<b>Gear Lube</b>	<b>Chassis Lube</b>	<b>Dextron II</b>	<b>Antifreeze</b>
T&R Oil Co	9.40	7.25 gal	.93 lb	1.82 per tube	1.71 qt	6.25 gal
Lewis/Raulerson	10.89	10.28 gal	1.51 lb	1.94 per tube	2.01 qt	9.26 gal

<b>PEST CONTROL</b>		<b>YEARLY BID</b>	<b>MONTHLY</b>		
Sunbelt Termite		\$1,440.00	\$120.00		
Marshland		\$2,460.00	\$205.00		
Economic		\$3,780.00	\$315.00		
5 Star Pest Solutions		\$1,200.00	\$100.00		
<b>FIRE EXTINGUISHER</b>		<b>New Extinguishers</b>			
		<b>2.5 lb.</b>	<b>5 lb.</b>	<b>10 lb.</b>	<b>20 lb.</b>
ABC Fire Equipment		\$ 22.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 48.00	\$78.00
All Saf		\$ 24.95	\$ 36.00	\$ 47.86	\$ 87.08
		<b>Recharge Extinguishers</b>			
		<b>2.5 lb.</b>	<b>5 lb.</b>	<b>10 lb.</b>	<b>20 lb.</b>
ABC Fire Equipment		\$8.00	\$11.00	\$14.00	\$18.00
All Saf		\$15.00	\$19.95	\$28.00	\$34.00
		<b>Hyd. Retest</b>		<b>Inspections</b>	
		<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>		
ABC Fire Equip		\$32.00	\$14.00	\$4.00	
All Saf		\$20.00	\$15.00	\$6.00	
	<b>METAL PIPE</b>	<b>Price per ft</b>			

<b>CULVERT PIPE</b>		<b>18"</b>	<b>24"</b>	<b>36"</b>
Contech		\$ 13.10	\$ 17.00	\$ 25.00
Gateway	NO BID			
MidState Drain.	NO BID			
Cherokee		\$11.18	\$ 14.72	\$ 23.13
			<b>BANDS</b>	
		<b>18"</b>	<b>24"</b>	<b>36"</b>
Cherokee Culvert		\$11.18	\$14.72	\$ 23.13
Midstate Drainage	NO BID			
Contech		\$13.10	\$17.00	\$25.00
			<b>FLARES</b>	
		<b>18"</b>	<b>24"</b>	<b>36"</b>
Cherokee Culvert		\$110.00	\$ 145.00	\$ 388.00
Midstate Drainage	NO BID			
Contech		\$ 150.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 350.00
	<b>POLYETHYLENE PIPE</b>			
	<b>18x20</b>	<b>24x20</b>	<b>18x30</b>	<b>24x30</b>
Contech	\$11.00	\$17.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00
Gateway	\$10.65	\$15.45		
Advanced Drain	\$7.09	\$ 12.12	\$ 7.09	\$ 12.12

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to award the fuel bid to Bennett Oil. Commissioner Mike Sweat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to award the lubricant bid to T & R Oil Company. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to award the pest control bid to 5 Star Pest Control. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to award the fire extinguishers bid to ABC Fire Equipment Company. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to award the metal culvert pipe bid to Cherokee Culvert Company. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to award the metal culvert pipe band bid to Cherokee Culvert Company. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman James Dennison made a motion to award the metal culvert pipe flares bid to Cherokee Culvert Company. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to award the polyethylene pipe bid to Advanced Drainage. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Rezoning Request-Brantley Bowen-Pine Ridge Subdivision-Requesting a variance of 2.5 feet of the required 15 feet side yard set back.** Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to take this request off of last month's tabled vote by the commissioners. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Dennison stated that the board had received a letter from the property owners who lot adjoins the lot that is requiring the variance. The owners stated that they have no problem or question about the Pierce County Board of Commissioners granting this variance.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to grant a variance of 2.5 feet of the required 15 feet side yard set back to Brantley Bowen in the Pine Ridge Subdivision. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**Rezoning Request-Earl Boatright-Requesting 73.76 acres on Ware Street Extension be rezoned from AF to single family.** Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to take this request off of last month's tabled vote by the commissioners. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to grant the rezoning request from Earl Boatright to rezone 73.76 acres on Ware Street Extension from AF to single family. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. Commissioners Neal Bennett, Mike Street and Randy Dixon voted aye. Commissioner Aldeen Davis voted nay. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:**

Chairman Dennison announced EMA Director Kenneth Justice and 911 Director Leonard Roberts along with Pierce County volunteer firefighters are in Ware County helping with the fire.

Chairman Dennison also announced that he would like to address the article in last week's The Blackshear Times. Chairman Dennison stated that the word "moratorium" might have been too strong a word. Chairman Dennison stated that he was not in favor of completely

shutting down any rezoning in the county. He also said that the Planning Department was following all rules and regulations as to the step to be taken for rezoning request.

Having no further business, Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to adjourn the called meeting at 6:55 P.M. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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James Dennison, Chairman

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K. Neal Bennett, Board Member

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Mike Streat, Board Member

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Randy Dixon, Board Member

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Aldeen Davis, Board Member

