

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
AUGUST 01, 2006 AT 6:30 P.M.

Board Member Present:

Mitch Bowen, Chairman
K. Neal Bennett, Board Member
Noah Strickland, Board Member
Aldeen Davis, Board Member

News Media Present:

The Pierce County Press
The Blackshear Times

Chairman Mitch Bowen called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Commissioner Neal Bennett gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Mitch Bowen called for the approval of the July 2006 minutes. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the July 2006 minutes. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EARL LAWSON –FY 2005 AUDIT: Earl Lawson, Auditor for Pierce County, presented the FY 2005 audit to the Pierce County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Lawson stated that he had conducted his audit in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards. Mr. Lawson reported that Pierce County's combined net assets were \$21,875,433 at the end of December 31, 2005. This is a \$2,248,329 increase from 2004's net assets of \$19,624,104. Mr. Lawson stated that Pierce County's total revenues were \$8,694,052 and the total expenses were \$6,445,723. Pierce County had a total increase in net assets of \$2,248,329. Mr. Lawson stated that the County's overall financial position improved during the year 2005 and the County experienced a positive growth from 2004 to 2005.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT AND MONTHLY INVOICES: The July 2006 invoices for the courthouse renovation project totaled \$52, 854.30 with most of the expenses going to Custom Cabinets for \$28,000.00 and Plantation Shutter and Blinds Co. for \$20,230.00 for half of the cost of the window treatments. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the July 2006 invoices for the courthouse renovation project. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

County Administrative Supervisor, Nicole Wood stated that it was time to start seeking bids on furniture for the Courthouse. Commissioner Neal Bennett stated that the desk and cabinets will need to be built so that they are of the same style and color as the cabinets in the courthouse. Commissioner Noah Strickland pointed out that the stain used on the cabinets and wood work would be hard to match if the county tried to purchase the furniture. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to seek bids for the construction of the desks and other furniture in the courthouse. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF WOODSTONE DRIVE LOCATED IN WOOSTONE PLACE SUBDIVISION AS A COUNTY ROAD: Chairman Mitch Bowen stated that Woodstone Drive has been inspected and meets the County's standards and that the performance bonds submitted by Kirby Malone in the amount of \$30,697.00 should be refunded. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept Woodstone Drive located in Woodstone Place Subdivision as a county road. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF JANICE COURSON'S REQUEST FOR A LIQUOR LICENSE FOR JIMBO'S: County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood told the Board that Janice Courson had properly submitted all paper work and had advertised for a liquor license for Jimbo's. Ms. Courson currently holds a beer/wine license for Jimbo's. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the liquor license for Jimbo's. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Commissioner Aldeen Davis abstained from voting. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR HIDDEN LAKE ESTATES: County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood stated to the Board that she had spoken with Amy Hitt, acting Code Development Supervisor regarding Hidden Lake Estates. Ms. Hitt stated that everything was in order. This subdivision has 18 1/2 acre lots in Phase I, with the frontage facing existing county roads. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the final plat for Hidden Lake Estates. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Mitch Bowen recognized Mark Williams, new elected State Representative for Pierce County. Mr. Williams thanked the voters of Pierce County for their support and stated that he is attending meetings in each district to become more aware of what the county's needs are.

Having no further business, the regular monthly meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, Board Member

Noah Strickland, Board Member

Aldeen Davis, Board Member