

**PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER, REGULAR  
MONTHLY MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 07, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M.**

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 August 2007 Regular Board 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.

**APPROVAL OF JULY 2007 MINUTES:** Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the July 2007 minutes. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**JAMES JACOBS, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT-Introduction of new County 4-H Agent-**Mr. Jacobs introduced Robbie Jones to the Pierce County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Jones will start September 01, 2007 as the new Pierce County 4-H Agent. Mr. Jones is a 2006 graduate of the University of Georgia with a degree in animal and dairy science. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve Robbie Jones as Pierce County's 4-H Agent. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Claudia Metts-Request for abandonment of a portion of Boatright Lane-**Jimmy and Claudia Metts came before the board requesting to close a portion of Boatright Lane located near the Bacon County line. Mrs. Metts stated that they own land on both sides of the road and would like to close .03 miles of the total .04 miles due to traffic safety concerns for their family. Mrs. Metts stated that no one else lives on the road and that the alternate routes would not cause extensive detours. Mrs. Metts also presented a petition from family and people familiar with the area stating that they had no problem with the closing of Boatright Lane.

Chairman James Dennison stated that if the closure is approved, Boatright Lane would no longer be a county maintained road. Mrs. Metts said that she understood this.

Mr. Doug Ware, Mr. William Hall and Mr. Franklin Boatright spoke against the closure, citing the conditions of the alternate routes and access to their land and mailboxes.

Mr. Doug Ware stated the he owns property that has a driveway that opens up onto Boatright Lane. He is also concerns that if the pond on Boatright Lane overflows, the postal service and the school bus will have to go into Bacon County and detour to pick up school children.

Chairman Dennison asked Leonard Roberts, 911 Director, if the ambulance service would still have access to that area. Mr. Roberts replied that the EMS will be able to get in and out of the area with no problem.

Community Development Director Mary Clifton said that the alternate roads were “passable” and any issue with the pond area could be resolved.

Commissioner Mike Streat called for a question and then made a motion to approve the closure of .03 miles of Boatright Lane. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

**CHERYL STEWART-Request Pine Lake Drive becomes a county maintained road. Also, request that a neighbor remove personal property off the roadway.** Mrs. Stewart did not appear before the board. Chairman Dennison stated that he had spoken with the Stewarts and that they would like to have Pine Lake Road graded due the fact that both are disable.

Chairman Dennison and Code Inspector Amy Hitt went out to Pine Lake Drive and could not find any evidence that a neighbor was leaving personal property in the right-of-way.

Commissioner Mike Streat wanted to know if the road graders could get into and out of the road.

Chairman Dennison stated that Road Superintendent John Gill say that he could have the road graded with an ok from the board.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to table the request for approving Pine Lake Road as a county maintained road until the road could be looked at. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

**ANDY DAY-Request 24.88 acres on Hwy 121S be rezoned from AG/Forestry to Single Family:** Code Inspector Amy Hitt presented the recommendation from the Planning Commission that 24.88 acres on Hwy 121S be rezoned from AG/Forestry to single family for the purpose of building a single family subdivision.

Mr. Andy Dixon, a landowner across from the planned subdivision who also shares a pond on the site of the rezoning request, opposed the rezoning request. Mr. Dixon has concerns regarding the damage that could be done to the pond's dam.

Chairman James Dennison stated that this was a problem that needed to be worked out between the landowners and Mr. Day and had no bearing on the rezoning request.

Commissioner Neal Bennett cautioned Mr. Day to be carefully when laying out the plats as four (4) of the sixteen (16) lots are currently planned to border the pond.

**SONNY BOWEN-Request 77.903 acres on Tornado Road be rezoned from Ag/Forestry to Single Family:** Code Inspector Amy Hitt presented the recommendation from the Planning Commission that 77.903 acres on Tornado Road be rezoned from AG/Forestry to single family for the purpose of building a single family subdivision. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the rezoning request from Sonny Bowen for 77.903 acres on Tornado Road. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

### **CONTRACTS, INVOICES & REQUISITIONS**

**NFC BUILDING:** Chairman James Dennison informed the board that the county had forty-five (45) days to vacate the NFC before the GA Department of Correction will begin work. Chairman Dennison stated that the offices in the NFC were in the process of moving into the County Annex III building on Nichols Street.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**CITY OF BLACKSHEAR: Request from the City of Blackshear for \$2,000.00 from the 2003 SPLOST funds to pay invoice from EMC Engineering Services, Inc. for services associated with the construction of the wellhead for the industrial park water tank.** Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the City of Blackshear's request for \$2,000.00 from the 2003 SPLOST fund to pay EMC Engineering Services, Inc. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman James Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

### **RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES & DEEDS**

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSMIT: Consider approval to transmit the Community Agenda portion of the joint Comprehensive Plan update to the Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for official review.** Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to adopt a resolution to

transmit the Community Agenda portion of the joint Comprehensive Plan update to the Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for official review. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION-Request appointment of a member to the Planning Commissioner to replace Dennis Newton who is moving and has resigned.**

Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to table the discussion on an appointment to the Planning Commission due to the resignation of Dennis Newton until names for the position can be nominated. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

## **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Chairman Dennison addressed the members of the Blackshear/Pierce County Recreation Board and the audience on the rumor that two of the board members were absent during the Recreation Department's budget hearing because "they didn't care about recreation".

Commissioner Neal Bennett and Commissioner Aldeen Davis both addressed the recreation members. Commissioner Aldeen Davis said that he was 100% behind the Recreation Department and it was time the City of Blackshear, Pierce County and the Recreation board got together and discuss the future direction of the department. Commissioner Neal Bennett stated he was in total support of the Recreation Department and thinks that the City of Blackshear and Pierce County should talk more about the running of the Recreation Department.

Stephen Paul, representative from the City of Blackshear, stated that the board was under the impression that the City of Blackshear and Pierce County was talking about having one governing body. Mr. Paul said that Moose Jowers, Perry Tyson, Maureen Brown and Loran Tuten, Jr. resigned after they discovered they were not covered under the county's liability coverage and the workers were not covered under the county's worker's compensation plan.

Chairman Dennison announced that the insurance issues have been resolved.

Three remaining board members, Stephen Paul, Jonathan Todd, Harlan Thornton and parent council chairman Jerry Hollis asked for guidance from the commissioners. Mr. Paul and Mr. Thornton mentioned the urgency to get back to work due to the fact that football and cheerleading sign up will start soon. They stated that they just want to get back to work.

Commissioner Neal Bennett stated that the recreation department needs to get back to work and that the county needs to fill the two vacancies.

Commissioner Aldeen Davis said that the recreation department needs to get back to work and all entities involved should get together and work on the issues facing the board members.

Having no further business, Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion the August 2007 regular board meeting be adjourned at 8:00 P.M. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. 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

**PUBLIC HEARING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONER, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2007 AT 11:30 A.M.**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 11:30 A.M. by Chairman James Dennison. The purpose of this hearing is to notify the public that the Pierce County Board of Commissioners has tentatively adopted a Millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by 1.22% in the unincorporated areas of the county over the rollback Millage rate.

Those in attendance included:

James Dennison  
Mollie Howard  
Franklin Rozier, Jr.

Having no citizens attending the public hearing, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

**PUBLIC HEARING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONER, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M.**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 11:30 A.M. by Chairman James Dennison. The purpose of this hearing is to notify the public that the Pierce County Board of Commissioners has tentatively adopted a Millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by 1.22% in the unincorporated areas of the county over the rollback Millage rate.

Those in attendance included:

James Dennison  
Mollie Howard  
Franklin Rozier, Jr.  
Jonathan Todd  
Reese Turner  
Harlan Thornton  
Stephen Paul  
Vernon Jowers  
Jason Deal  
Greg White  
Tina White

Chairman James Dennison asked the audience if there were any questions or comments on the proposed 1.22% property tax increase. Having no questions or comments from the audience, Chairman Dennison adjourned the public hearing at 7:00P.M.

**CALLED MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman James Dennison called the called meeting of the Pierce County Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00P.M.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Blackshear-Pierce County Recreation Board**-Make appointments to fill vacancies- Chairman Dennison presented to the board the names of Maureen Brown and Loren Tuten Jr. to be re-appointed the Blackshear-Pierce County Recreation Board. Commissioner Mike Streat asked if any one had any other recommendations for the board. Stephen Paul said that they were just ready to get back to work and move forward. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to reinstate Maureen Brown and Loren Tuten, Jr. to the Blackshear-Pierce County Recreation Board. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Aldeen Davis wanted to know of any meeting had been set up between the City of Blackshear and Pierce County? Chairman Dennison stated that he was going to a City of Blackshear meeting following this meeting.

Stephen Paul stated that he had spoke with Mayor Tom Davis and he was going to have a work session soon.

Having no further business, Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to adjourn the called meeting. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. 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

**CALLED MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISISONERS, TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M.**

Board Members Present:

James Dennison, Chairman  
Mike Streat, Board Member  
Randy Dixon, Board Member  
Aldeen Davis, Board Member

News Media Present:

The Pierce County Press

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

The purpose of this called meeting is to appoint a member to the Planning Commission so that they might have a quorum to conduct business. Immediate action is necessary due to the resignation of David Smith as the City of Blackshear's representative and Dennis Newton as Pierce County's representative.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Planning Commission: Appoint Tommy Lloyd to the Planning Commission as Pierce County's representative, replacing Dennis Newton who resigned due to moving out of area.** Commissioner Mike Streat commented that he has known Tommy Lloyd for a number of years and he is satisfied that he will do a great job for Pierce County.

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to appoint Tommy Lloyd to the Planning Commission as Pierce County's representative. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Having no further business, Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to adjourn the called meeting. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

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James Dennison, Chairman

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Mike Streat, Board Member

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Randy Streat, Board Member

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Aldeen Davis, Board Member