

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2006 AT 6:30P.M.

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

New Media Present: The Pierce County Press
The Blackshear Times

Chairman Mitch Bowen called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to accept the October 2006 minutes. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT: Discussion on October invoices and furnishing bids-the October invoices totaled \$127,765.48 for the month of October. The two large expenses included paving and landscaping. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the October 2006 invoices totaling \$127,765.48. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE FURNISHINGS: Chairman Mitch Bowen stated that there is a change order from E.L. Williams of Custom Cabinets for the desks, tables and other furnishing for the courthouse for a bid of \$38,810.00. Commissioner Aldeen Davis wanted to know if the department heads had approved the drawings. Chairman Bowen stated that they had. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the bid from Custom Cabinets for \$38,810.00. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood presented two bids for the seating in the courthouse. Sutton Christian Supply, Inc presented a bid for \$55,418.00 and Summit Seating bid \$57,168.00. The fourteen (14) chairs in the jury box will have leather seating as well as the witness chairs and the attorney's chairs. The bid also included twenty-two (22) pews. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the low bid from Sutton Christian Supply, Inc for the amount of \$55,418.00. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood presented a bid from Shell Office Systems for pricing on shelving units for Magistrate Court, Superior Court and State Court. The price for Magistrate Court was \$18,050.49, for State Court \$10,976.39 and for Superior Court \$28,736.55. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to accept the bid from Shell Office Systems for \$57,763.43 for the shelving units in the Courthouse. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alice Strickland-Discussion on request for variances on Yellow Bluff Road-Alice Strickland came before the board to ask the commissioners not to approve the conditional land use for an aviary for ornamental and exotic birds at 5808 Yellow Bluff Road. Mrs. Strickland stated that her husband had medical problems and allergies. She stated that the noise and smell from the birds would bring down the property value. Chairman Mitch Bowen asked Mrs. Strickland if she had gone before the Planning Commission with her concerns. Mrs. Strickland stated that the Planning Commissioner had told her that they had already collected the money for the rezoning and they felt like they had to give the landowners a conditional use permit for the birds. Mrs. Strickland again asked the board to consider the other property owners in the area before they made a decision.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

5547 Yellow Bluff Road-Horse Stable and Dog Kennel-Discussion on conditional use permit- Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director stated to the board that the Planning Commission had granted a conditional use permit to the property at 5547 Yellow Bluff Road for a horse stable and a dog kennel. Mrs. Hitt reported that the property has had a horse stable for 17 years, but the dog kennel would be new. County Attorney Franklin Rozier wanted to know if there was a covenant on the property. Mrs. Hitt replied that she did not know. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to table the request for the conditional land use permit for a horse stable and dog kennel until more research could be do on the property covenant. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1163 Hammock Drive - Aviary and Ornamental Birds- Discussion on conditional use permit- Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director stated to the board that the Planning Commission had granted a conditional use permit to the property at 1163 Hammock Drive for an aviary for ornamental birds. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to table the request for the conditional land use permit for an aviary at 1163 Hammock Drive until more research could be done. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ed Timmerman, property owner at 1163 Hammock Drive, stated that the aviary for ornamental birds was just a small hobby that he had. Mr. Timmerman stated that this has been postponed twice by the Planning Commission. He stated that he had been told by Pierce County that he was allowed to have the birds on this property. Mr. Timmerman stated that he and all the other property owners were under the impression that the property was zoned Ag/Forestry. He said that when he purchased the property seventeen year ago, the previous owner had birds for twelve years. Mr. Timmerman stated that he could hate to leave Pierce County because of this issue. Commissioner Neal Bennett said that a covenant was recorded in 1988 and that the commissioners wanted to do the right thing now and to make sure that all legal aspects were covered.

5805 Yellow Bluff Road-Aviary and Ornamental/Exotic Birds- Discussion on conditional use permit for an aviary for ornamental and exotic birds. Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director, stated that the Planning Commission has granted a conditional land use to the property at 5808 Yellow Bluff Road for an aviary for ornamental and exotic birds. Mr. John R. Thomas, property owner at 5808 Yellow Bluff Road stated that he has raised birds on this property for the last fifteen years and he could see no reason why his small aviary of 14 mated birds would be a problem to the other property owners, especially the Strickland property. Commissioner Aldeen Davis stated that the board needs to look into these conditional land use permits more. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to table the request for a conditional land use permit for an aviary for ornamental and exotic birds at 5808 Yellow Bluff Road until more research could be done. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director - Acting Community Development Director Amy Hitt came before the board seeking a new fee schedule for the Code Department. The new fees will go into effect on January 01, 2007. This will include a new schedule for new residences which will be based on \$48.00 per heated square foot. Also building permit, mobile home permits, mechanical, electrical and plumbing fees will be affected. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the new fee schedule for the Code Department. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director - Discussion on amendment to code section 514 on Final plat approval. Request to change the code to include a requirement for an Auto CAD drawing of plats containing five or more parcels. Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director, is requesting an amendment to the Pierce County Development Code section 514—Final Plat Approval. Mrs. Hitt stated that the Pierce County Board of Assessors is asking that the Code Department require an Auto CAD drawing from the surveyor for each new subdivision with five or more parcels. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to amend the Pierce County Development Code section 514—Final Plat Approval to allow for a required Auto CAD drawing from the surveyor for each new subdivision with five or more parcels. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director - St. Tilla Plantation-Consider approval of the final plat for St. Tilla Plantation-Amy Hitt, Acting Community Development Director stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of the final plat at St. Tilla Plantation subdivision on Cason Road. County Engineer Sonny Bland has inspected the subdivision and stated that the curb and gutter, base and paving have been installed according to Pierce County specifications. The county will receive a 3-year warrant on the roads and a right-of-way deed. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the final plat on St. Tilla Plantation subdivision. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TAX ASSESSOR:

William A. Rozier, Chief Appraiser - Discussion on personal property audit-William Rozier, Chief Appraiser came before the board to request approval of funding for the Personal Property Audit project. Mr. Rozier stated that he would like to do nine (9) audits at a cost of \$5,400.00 from Traylor Business Service. Six of the audits will cover a valuation range of \$50,000 to \$250,000 and three (3) of the audits will cover a range of \$250,001 to \$1,000,000. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to accept the bid from Traylor Business Service to do nine (9) personal property audits. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

William A. Rozier, Chief Appraiser- William Rozier, Chief Appraiser stated that he would like to use the \$25,000 left in his budget under line item Professional Services to pay for GSI mapping online. Mr. Rozier stated that he had received a bid from QPublic, LLC to do the server, connection services and all maintenance associated with all server operation for a cost of \$3,000.00. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the bid from QPublic, LLC for the cost of \$3,000.00. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

William A. Rozier, Chief Appraiser-Review bids on 2007 color digital orthophotography- Chief Appraiser William A. Rozier presented four bids for the 2007 aerial photograph. They are as follows:

1. 3001, Inc	\$76,509.00
2. Kucera International, Inc.	\$25,500.00
3. Sanborn	\$47,780.00
4. James W. Sewall Company	\$30,394.00

Mr. Rozier stated that James W. Sewell Company will drop their bid if the surrounding counties have their maps done at the same time. Mr. Rozier stated that Appling, Bacon and Brantley counties are going to update their maps and he could possibly persuade them to join Pierce County for the discount. Mr. Rozier also stated that this company had done Ware County's mapping and the clarify and quality of the maps is excellent.

Commissioner Aldeen Davis expressed concern that if the county went with James W. Sewall Company and no other counties joined in then the figure could be higher. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the bid from James W. Sewall Company in the amount of \$30,394.00 with the intention of other counties join in with Pierce County on the aerial photograph. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION - Discussion on land - Pierce County Board of Education Chairman Mark Dixon came before the board to request action on the land swap. Chairman Mitch Bowen stated that the board has offered an eight acre tract directly across from the entrance to the Pierce County High School. Mr. Dixon stated that the land contain 2 or other acres that was wetland. Chairman Mitch Bowen asked Mr. Dixon if the school board would consider keeping the 350 feet from the creek if the remainder of the land was altogether. Commissioner Aldeen Davis said that he had an issue with the school board wanting eight acres of land for the 1.6 acres that the county got. Mr. Dixon explained that the county got prime real estate in the exchange. The commissioners wanted to know if a bus barn was being considered on this location. Mr. Dixon admitted that the school board had discussed the idea, but no final plans had been made. Commissioner Aldeen Davis asked if the school board would consider giving the county a portion of the land on Cason Road where the bus barn is now to use as

additional parking for the Agriculture Building. School Board Chairman Mark Dixon stated that he was only one vote, but the school board would probably be willing to do that. Commissioner Davis made a suggestion that someone needs to walk the property that is across from the high school before a decision is made. Chairman Bowen stated that he would like to get this resolved by the next month. He stated that he did not want to leave this issue for the new board in 2007. The final decision was tabled until the December 2006 meeting.

APPOINTMENT AND BIDS:

Pierce County Industrial Development Authority-Appointments to Board-Discussion on appointment to the five openings on PCIDA Board-Chairman Mitch Bowen stated that he wanted to start the process of appointments to the Pierce County Industrial Development Authority. Commissioner Aldeen Davis stated that he felt like the Board was not ready to vote on these appointments at this time. He stated that the new board that will be coming in January 2007 and since the Pierce County Industrial Development Authority will have new board members; the appointments should be table until the February 2007 board meeting. Commissioner Neal Bennett stated that he could see both sides of the discussion, the appointments need to be made, but maybe it would be better to let the new board members work with the new appointments. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to table the appointments to the Pierce County Industrial Development Authority until the February 2007 meeting. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bids: River Wood Drive Resurfacing - County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood presented three bids for the resurfacing on River Wood Drive. They are as follows:

1. Dixie Road Builders, Inc: \$6.45 per square yard for Asphaltic concrete paving, \$.20 per square for bituminous tack and \$75.00 per ton for the leveling course
2. Allen Owens Construction: \$6.45 per square yard for Asphaltic concrete paving, \$.20 per square for bituminous tack and \$75.00 per ton for the leveling course
3. Burke Paving Company: \$6.15 per square yard for Asphaltic concrete paving, \$.50 per square for bituminous tack and \$73.75 per ton for the leveling course

Chairman Mitch Bowen stated that even though Burke Paving Company was the low bid, he would recommend to the board that the bid be awarded to Dixie Road Builders, Inc. Chairman Bowen stated that the county has had a problem with Burke Paving Company not completing their jobs on time. Commissioner Alden Davis wanted to know if the county could get out of the bid awarded to Burke Paving Company for the spot patching job and add it to this bid project. County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood said that Burke Paving Company was to complete the job within ninety days and that she would look into this for the commissioners. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to award the bid to Dixie Road Builders, Inc and to look into rebidding the patching job. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bids: Multi-line Phone System at the Courthouse- County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood presented four bids on the multi-lines phone system for the Courthouse. They are as follows:

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| 1. Security Blanket | \$9,889.00 |
| 2. Cable & Design, Inc | \$8,995.00 |
| 3. Southern Systems of GA | \$7,750.00 |
| 4. Cox Telephone Service | \$4,995.00 |

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the low bid by Cox Telephone Service to furnish the multi-lines phone system at the Courthouse. Commissioner Noah Strickland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bids: Copier Machines and Duplicator- County Administrative Supervisor Nicole Wood presented four bids for copiers and a duplicator. They are as follows:

1. Herrin Document Systems:	Copiers	Duplicator
a. County Agent	\$5,100.00	No bid
b. Clerk of Court	\$5,395.00	
c. Commissioners' Office	\$5,100.00	
2. OCE		
a. County Agent	\$4,587.00	\$6,369.00
b. Clerk of Court	\$4,584.00	
c. Commissioners' Office	\$4,584.00	
3. Golden Isles Office Equipment		
a. County Agent	\$4,695.00	\$3,695.00
b. Clerk of Court	\$5,095.00	
c. Commissioners' Office	\$4,995.00	
4. Ashley's Office World		
a. County Agent	\$6,120.00	\$4,420.00
b. Clerk of Court	\$6,696.00	
c. Commissioners' Office	\$8,175.00	

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the low bid from OCE for the copiers and to table the bid on the duplicator due to a question from the Board regarding the specifications. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Mitch called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:15 P.M. to discuss personnel. Commissioner Noah Strickland made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Mitch Bowen reconvened the regular monthly meeting at 9:25. Chairman Mitch Bowen announced that no action had been taken on personnel.

Chairman Mitch Bowen asked for any questions or discussion from the audience. Road Superintendent Ronnie Harris asked if the Board would look into getting an ice machine for the Road Department. Chairman Bowen stated that the Board would check on an ice machine for the Road Department.

Having no further business, the regular monthly meeting for October 2006 was adjourned.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, Board Member

Noah Strickland, Board Member

Aldeen Davis, Board Member