

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSISONERS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 03, 2009 AT 6:30 PM**

Board Members Present:

James Dennison, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Randy Dixon, District 3

Aldeen Davis, District 4

News Media Present:

The Blackshear Times

Pierce County Press

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Chairman Dennison called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Dennison gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 06, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AND JANUARY 22, 2009 CALLED MEETING MINUTES: Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approval the January regular monthly meeting minutes and to approve the January called meeting minutes. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Dennison called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel and land acquisition. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 6:35 PM. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The regular monthly meeting was reconvened at 7:32 PM with a motion by Commissioner Aldeen Davis and a second by Commissioner Mike Streat. Motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING

1. Wayne Carver-Requesting a variance at 1540 Dixon Circle to allow two (2) homes on 1 acre of land. Planning Commission recommends denial of request. Amy Hitt, Code Inspector, stated that a public hearing had been held on January 26, 2009 and no citizens were present. Ms. Hitt stated that about five years ago a trailer had been placed on the property, but that trailer has since been moved. The property now falls under the new Development Code Department guidelines, which states that only one house allowed on per one area of property. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to deny the request of Wayne Carver to allow a variance at 1540 Dixon Circle to allow two (2) homes on 1 acre of land. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

REAPPOINTMENTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

2. Reappointments of Department Heads:

Community Development Director-Marty Clifton

County Attorney-Franklin Rozier

County Clerk-Mollie Howard

EMA Director/Fire Coordinator-Kenneth Justice

Recreation Director-Randy Bass

Road Superintendent-John Gill

911 Director-Leonard Roberts

Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to reappoint all listed department heads. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY NEWS

3. Leonard Roberts, 911 Director-Review and compare 2008 911 call totals to 2007. E911 Director Leonard Roberts gave a report to the board concerning all 911 calls for 2007 and 2008. Mr. Roberts reported that in 2007 the 911 Center handled 49,721 calls and in 2008 the 911 Center handled 43,594 calls. Mr. Roberts also stated that all the dispatchers had completed their certifications and his department has reviews of both census and flood maps.

RESOLUTION & ORDINANCES

4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE-Accept updated Emergency Management Ordinance- Kenneth Justice, EMA Director, stated that this ordinance give the Pierce County Board of Commissioners power to appoint the EMA Director and gives the Emergency Management Agency to power to function within the county. This ordinance also spells out the county's operating procedures should an emergency arise. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the updated Emergency Management Ordinance. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

5. SPEED LIMIT RESOLUTION-Speed limit for Golf Course Road, also known as County Road #316 shall be 45 miles per hour. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to set the speed limit for Golf Course Road, also known as County Road #316 at 45 miles per hour. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

6. ELECTION BOARD-Review Bill LC 33-2762 for the creation of a Board of Elections and Registration for Pierce County from the General Assembly of Georgia. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve House Bill 386 for the creation of a Board of Elections and Registration for Pierce County from the General Assembly of Georgia. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried. The bill will have to go before the House of Representatives and then to the State Senate to be passed.

APPOINTMENTS

7. SOUTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER-Recommend two (2) representatives on the SE GA RDC Board of Directors for the 2009 term. Representatives must be approved by both the County Commissioners and the Blackshear City Council. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to appoint Morris Pate as the minority appointment and Kay Godwin as the at-large appointment with final approval of the City of Blackshear Council. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

BIDS

9. ANNUAL BIDS: County Clerk Mollie Howard announced that the annual bids for fuel, lubricants, culvert pipes, pest control, fire extinguishers and grounds keeper are in the process of being bid out and will be presented at the April 2009 meeting. Bids will be accepted until March 23, 2009.

10. ADMINISTRATION BUILDING/BATTING FACILITY- County Clerk Mollie Howard announced that bids are currently being accepted for an administration building and batting cage facility to be built on county property for the Recreation Department until March 03, 2009.

11. FIRE REPEATER BID-Permission to seek bids-Kenneth Justice, EMA Director/Fire Chief, asked the board for permission to start seeking bids for fire repeaters. Mr. Justice stated that the fire repeaters will be paid from a federal grant that will pay 95% of the cost with the county paying the remaining 5%. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to grant permission to Kenneth Justice to seek bids for repeaters for the Fire Department. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

12. CITY OF PATTERSON-Requesting \$4,980.00 in SPLOST funds to purchase equipment to be used for streets and road maintenance. County Clerk Mollie Howard stated that funds are available. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the City of Patterson's request for \$4,980.00 in SPLOST funds to purchase equipment to be used for streets and road maintenance. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

CONTRACTS

13. EMC ENGINEERING SERVICES, INC. - Services, Inc-Review proposal for preparation for right-of-way acquisition documents for Youmans Road from Dean Still Road to Midway Church Road. County Clerk Mollie Howard reported that the price for EMC Engineering Services, Inc for the basic service will be \$9,750.00. Commissioner Neal Bennett and Commissioner Mike Streat both asked the board members to consider asking the Pierce County Board of Education and the City of Blackshear to share in the cost of the project. Also Commissioner Bennett said that he would like to see the other two governments share in the expense of the right-of way acquisitions and any utility relocation that might be required during the project.

14. GUEST ROAD-Update on rights-of-way-County Attorney Franklin Rozier gave an update on negotiations for acquiring the rights-of way for paving Guest Road. Mr. Rozier stated that he had met

with the Georgia DOT on February 05, 2009 and they will allow a STOP sign and turn on the curve. Mr. Rozier also stated that negotiations are currently underway with the Guest estate about outstanding parcels and appraisals are currently under way.

15. WALKERVILLE FIRE STATION-KENNETH JUSTICE, FIRE COORDINATOR- Fire Coordinator Kenneth Justice stated that the Rev. Herman Moore and the congregation of the Walkerville Baptist Church have donated a half-acre of land for a new fire station. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to accept the deed from Rev. Herman Moore and Walkerville Baptist Church for half acre of land. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

16. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL-FIRE STATION-Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to allow Kenneth Justice to send out RFP for a new fire station to be built at Walkerville Baptist Church on the corner of Walkerville and Dogwood Roads. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Dennison encouraged all citizens to help with the 4-H Club to build a cabin at Rock Eagle by shopping at Kroger.

Commissioner Mike Streat stated that Avant Road and Roberson Road need improvements. Commissioner Randy Dixon said West Road, which has been treated with crush and run, needs improvements.

Having no further business, the regular monthly meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM

James Dennison, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Randy Dixon, District 3

Aldeen Davis, District 4