

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS, TUESDAY, APRIL 07, 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 TO ORDER: Chairman Dennison called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:42 PM.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Neal Bennett gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2009 MINUTES: Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the March 2009 minutes and Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING

1. Kenneth Justice-Requesting .50 acres located on the corner of Walkerville Road and Dogwood Road be rezoned from AF to TCU (Transportation/Communications/ Utilities) for the purpose of constructing a fire station. Planning Commission recommends approval. Marty Clifton, Community Development Director, stated that no objections had been presented at the public hearing. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the request from Kenneth Justice to rezone .50 acres located on the corner of Walkerville Road and Dogwood Road from AF to TCU (Transportation/Communications/ Utilities) for the purpose of constructing a fire station. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Carlos Raulerson-Requesting 10 acres located at 5281 Deerfield Road be rezoned from AF to SF. Planning Commission recommends approval. Marty Clifton, Community Development Director, stated that no objections had been presented at the public hearing. Mr. Clifton also stated that Mr. Raulerson will not be doing any development on the property. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the request from Carlos Raulerson to rezone 10 acres located at 5281 Deerfield Road from AF to SF. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

3. Angie Bowen, Transit-Provide information of GDOT stimulus for the purpose of building a transit building. Angie Bowen, Pierce County Transit Director, presented to the board a proposal from The Federal Transit Administration who has published the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 Public Transportation, Apportionments, Allocations and Grant Program. This act provides funds for transit capital improvements. ARRA funds are 100% federally funded, with no state or local match required. Mrs. Bowen is going to apply for funds to build a transit building. Mrs. Bowen stated that the first step will be to apply for funds for a grant writer and architectural, engineering and design services. Mrs. Bowen is requesting capital funds in the amount of \$141,950.00 of which the architectural, engineering and design services will be \$43,500. The proposed location will be on the property behind the Courthouse Annex III. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to allow Angie Bowen to apply for the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 Public Transportation, Apportionments, Allocations and Grant Program. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES & PROCLAMATIONS

4. Satilla Community Services-Requesting the board considers adopting a resolution to suspend the closing of Georgia Regional Hospital in Savannah until community input can be received.

County Clerk Mollie Howard announced that this facility closing will leave our area without a resource for treating persons with mental illness. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to adopt a resolution to suspend the closing of Georgia Regional Hospital in Savannah until community input can be received. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

5. Life Link-Proclaim April as Donate Life Month in Pierce County to bring awareness to organ donation. Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to proclaim April as Donate Life Month in Pierce County to bring awareness to organ donation. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

6. City of Blackshear-Proposal from the City of Blackshear concerning the organization and funding of the recreation department. Chairman Dennison stated that the City of Blackshear had agreed to a proposal revising the administration and funding of the recreation department.

The City of Blackshear has submitted a proposal agreeing to decrease its financial support of the Recreation Department beginning in July 2009. The City will provide funding in the amount of \$40,000.00 in fiscal year 2009-2010 and \$20,000.00 in fiscal year 2010-2011 as the final year of funding. Blackshear will be removed from the name of the recreation department. The City of Blackshear also agreed to supply water free of charge to main building on Ware Street and the new administration building, install a shallow well to supply water for irrigation on existing ball fields. The City of Blackshear will retain property inside the existing fenced area (tennis area) and the property between the tennis courts and Ware Street (grassed area) for future playground area and will lease all City owned recreation property to Pierce County for \$1.00 per year for recreational use only. Also the City will close Youmans Street on a temporary basis when needed for recreational activities to facilitate pedestrian traffic across Youmans Street.

Commissioner Randy Dixon wanted to know if each board member could be appointed from the district they live in. Commissioner Neal Bennett asked that County Attorney Franklin Rozier review the document and begin working out an intergovernmental agreement for the county and the City of Blackshear to sign.

NFC-MPC-LIBRARY PROJECTS

7. McCall & Associated-Review a proposal from Brown Automatic Sprinklers, Inc. for the sprinkler system. Mr. McCall recommends acceptance. County Clerk Mollie Howard presented a letter from Rusty McCall of McCall & Associates regarding the sprinkler system at the NFC Building/Library. Mr. McCall stated that in an effort to match the system installed at the courthouse, they had only requested a proposal from Brown Automatic Sprinklers, Inc. Brown Automatic Sprinklers, Inc presented a proposal of \$151,500.00 which comes out to \$4.58 per square foot for this system. Mr. McCall stated that he had researched other recent projects to determine if this was a good price. The same company installed the sprinkler system at the courthouse for approximately \$6.81 per sq. ft. In addition, Appling County had a sprinkler system installed at their courthouse for \$6.15 per sq. ft. Mr. McCall stated that he feels this is a good price and recommends that the board award this proposal to Brown Automatic Sprinklers, Inc.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to accept the proposal from Brown Automatic Sprinklers, Inc. for the sprinkler system at the NFC Building/Library at the proposed price of \$151,500. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

8. Invoices-Approval of invoices for March 2009. The invoices for March 2009 totaled \$2,026.30-\$783.49 for the NFC/MPC and \$1,242.81 for the Library. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the invoice for the NFC/MPF/Library Project for a total of \$2,026.30. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

BIDS

9. Bids were accepted for the following:

Grounds Keeper

Culvert Pipes

Fuel

Lubricant

Pest Control

Fire Extinguishers

SEE ATTACHED

Fuel: After a lengthy discussion on the merits of changing vendors that involved the cost of installing a new key system and the problem with diesel fuel that has required more maintenance on the Pierce County Transit's vans, Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to table the fuel bid until the board had some clarification the both issues. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Pest Control: Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to accept the bid from

5 Star Pest Control. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Fire Extinguishers: Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to accept the bid from

ABC Fire Equipment Company. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Culvert Pipes: Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to accept the bid from

Cherokee Culvert Company for the metal pipe bid. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to accept the bid from Consolidated

Pipe & Supply Company for the polyethylene pipe bid. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye.

Motion carried.

Grounds Keeper: Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to accept the bid from Southern Lawn Service for the grounds keeper bid at the Pierce County courthouse for

\$475.00 monthly to include all duties to be performed weekly and to accept the bid from Southern Lawn Service for the Pierce County Agriculture Building for \$130.00 monthly

and the property at Courthouse Annex on Strickland Ave. for \$90.00 monthly to include

all duties to be performed two times per month. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

COMMENTS

Commissioner Mike Streat commented that he would like to see College Avenue striped.

Mr. Edward Morris stated that Midway Church Road and St. John's Church Road also need striping. Commissioner Mike Streat also asked about the lack of speed signs on College Ave all the way into the Blue Lake area and asked for road improvements around the Gates of Joy Church. Commissioners Streat last comments was on the spray painting of road signs. Commissioner Streat commented that it was costing the county a lot of money and time to replace these signs.

Commissioner Randy Dixon mentioned a number of complaints that he had received regarding mud bogging on county roads.

Chairman Dennison agreed to look into these matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-REAL ESTATE

Chairman Dennison called for a motion to adjourn into executive session. Commissioner

Mike Streat made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:38 PM. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion.

Chairman Dennison called the regular monthly meeting back into session at 8:11 PM by a motion from Commissioner Randy Dixon and a second from Commissioner Aldeen Davis.

County Attorney Franklin Rozier stated that the board had discussed the Pierce County

Board of Education's request for water and sewer easement for the new elementary school.

Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to grant easement to the City of Blackshear

to run water and sewer lines from the Industrial Park to service the elementary school. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Chairman Dennison voted aye. Motion carried.

Having no further county business, Chairman Dennison adjourned the April regular monthly meeting at 8:15 PM.

James Dennison, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Randy Dixon, District 3

Aldeen Davis, District 4