

**PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING,
TUESDAY, JUNE 07, 2011 AT 6:30 PM**

Board Members Present:

Mitch Bowen, Chairman
K. Neal Bennett, District 1
Bill Cselle, District 2
Randy Dixon, District 3
Carl Boyette, District 4

News Media Present:

The Blackshear Times
Pierce County Press

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mitch Bowen called the regular June 07, 2011 meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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

APPROVAL OF MAY 2011 MINUTES: Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the May 2011 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Bill Cselle seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion called.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Jordon Sasser, Interim Recreation Department Director-Requesting approval to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) for the Pierce County Parks and Recreation Department. Total cost will be \$2,041.75 to be paid from 2008 SPLOST funds. Mr. Sasser stated that the equipment will be purchased from Physio Control and is the same used by Pierce County EMS and Ken Justice, EMS Director will train the employees to use the AED. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the purchase of an AED from Physio Control for \$2,041.75. Commissioner Carl Boyette seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Dell Brown, Acting Code Development Director-Requesting variance request from Ronnie Hilton at 5935 Youmans Chapel Road Map/Parcel #035D-084. The Pierce County Planning Commissioner has denied this request.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

C. Ronnie Hilton-Discussion on variance at 5935 Youmans Chapel Road-Mr. Hilton stated that the only reason the Planning Commission denied his request was because the Stokes/Youmans family stated that they might later turn this property into a subdivision. Mr. Hilton stated that "they aren't going to build a subdivision out there."

D. Gail Stokes- Discussion on variance at 5935 Youmans Chapel Road-Mrs. Gail Stokes, daughter of Mrs. Thoris Youmans, property owner, stated that Mr. Hilton didn't know what they will eventually do with the property. She also stated that Mr. Hilton did not apply for a building permit before he laid out the plans for the attachment to his existing structure. She stated that Mr. Hilton put up the building knowing that he was over the 15" rear yard setback. She also stated that the property was marked with stakes and had recently been surveyed. Mrs. Youmans and Mrs. Stokes stated that all they were asking for was for the board to uphold the Planning Commission's decision.

Commissioner Bill Cselles made a motion to uphold the Pierce County Planning Commission's decision to deny Ronnie Hilton's request for a variance at 5935 Youmans Chapel Road. Commissioner Carl Boyette seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

CONTRACTS

E. Georgia Department of Corrections-Ware State Prison-Renewal of inmate work detail contract. The budgeted amount for FY 2012 will remain at \$39,500.00 per year-\$3,291.67 per month.- Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the contract with Georgia Department of Corrections-Ware State Prison-Renewal of inmate work detail contract. The budgeted amount for FY 2012 will remain at \$39,500.00 per year,\$3,291.67 per month. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

F. Pierce County Chamber of Commerce-Agreement with Pierce County for the provision of trade and tourism information services. Pierce County shall pay the Pierce County Chamber of Commerce \$500.00 per month for this service.

Chairman Mitch Bowen stated that the original contract was for 50 year term, but the commission will only agree to a one (1) year term and may change the amount from year to year. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the contract with the Pierce County Chamber of Commerce for \$500.00 per month for the provision of trade and tourism information services. Commissioner Bill Cselles seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCES

G. Joint Resolution-Atkinson County, Bacon County, Coffee County, Pierce County and Ware County to request further funding for the Georgia Forestry Commission. Commissioner Bill Cselles made a motion to joint with Atkinson County, Bacon County, Coffee County, and Ware County to request further funding for the Georgia Forestry Commission. Commissioner Carl Boyette seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

H. Seat Belt Policy-Adoption of the Pierce County Seat Belt Policy to be placed in the Pierce County Personnel Policy Handbook. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to adopt the Pierce County Seat Belt Policy to be placed in the Pierce County Personnel Policy Handbook. Commissioner Bill Cselles seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

I. Pierce County Personnel Policy-Discussion on forming a committee to revise and update the Pierce County personnel policy. Chairman Bowen stated that the policy was out of date and needed to be revised. Commissioner Neal Bennett suggested a committee of four or five members be considered. The board recommend that the committee be made up of, Commissioner Neal Bennett, HR Director Tina White, Magistrate Judge Glenda Dowling, Mellissa Howard-to represent the employees and the to be named county manager. Commissioner Carl Boyette made a motion to form a committee to revise and update the Pierce County Personnel Policy. Commissioner Bill Cselles seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

MPC/NFC/LIBRARY

J. MPC/NFC/LINRARY INVOICES-Invoices as of 5/25/2011 totaled \$193,005.78-MPC/NFC-\$153,075.07;Library-grant-\$39,777.79; Library-county-\$152.92. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the MPC/NFC/Library invoices totaling \$193,005.78. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

BIDS

K . Insurance -Bids were received on Friday, May 27, 2011. Chairman Mitch Bowen asked to board for a motion to table the opening of insurance bids until the interim county manager was in place.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made the motion to table the opening of insurance bids until the interim county manager was in place. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

L. Judge Glenda Dowling/IT Director Edward Cady-Proposal to migrate Magistrate Court to the following software system: MAGISTRATE COURT MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTING. Rescheduled to the July 2011 meeting.

Motion to amend agenda to allow Ken Justice, Fire Chief to bring a matter before the board was made by Commissioner Randy Dixon and seconded by Commissioner Neal Bennett.

M. Burn Ban Notice-Ken Justice, Fire Chief-Burn Ban for Pierce County-Mr. Justice approached the board seeking permission to instate a burn ban for all of Pierce County. He stated that this ban will be in effect until the Georgia Forestry Commission lifts its ban on burning. Mr. Justice stated that violations of the ban are punishable by a fine up to \$500 and/or imprisonment in the county jail for up to 60 days.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the "Burn ban notice for all of Pierce County." Commissioner Carl Boyette seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

N. Fuel Bids-Commissioner Carl Boyette-Commissioner Boyette stated that he would like to look at an alternative method for tracking fuel used by county vehicles. He stated that a computer generated system could save the county time and money.

Commissioner Dixon stated that with a new system, the county could call a distributor and get the lowest price on gas and diesel. Commissioner Dixon stated that the present system was outdated and a new system could pay for itself in four years or less.

Commissioner Boyette stated that the county would have more accountability on the purchasing of fuels and have a more accurate account of what each county vehicle was using.

Commissioner Cselles stated that this seemed to be a better idea than what the county is using now.

Commissioner Neal Bennett would like a Request for Proposal sent out for a gas system and have the information for the next scheduled meeting.

Commissioner Randy Dixon stated that we should continue to use the system that we have now until more information can be obtained.

O. Personnel-Interim County Manager-Selection of finalist and announcement of names of finalists to news media. Chairman Mitch Bowen announced that the Pierce County Board of Commissioners had selected three (3) finalists for the position of Interim County Manager: Al Crace, Roswell, GA; Paul Christian, St. Simon Island, GA and Steve Nance, Folkston, GA.

P. Pierce County Jail-Outside Lighting-Commissioner Boyette stated that he had talked to Georgia Power regarding a pole and lightning for the outside back fence at the jail. He stated that the cost of the pole would be \$309.67 and the total monthly rate would be \$185.64. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the invoice from Georgia Power for a pole and lightning at the Pierce County jail. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Personnel

Chairman Mitch Bowen called for a motion to adjourn into executive session. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:30 PM. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

The regular June 2011 meeting was reconvened at 8:15 PM by a motion from Commissioner Randy Dixon and seconded by Commissioner Bill Cselle. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Mitch Bowen announced that Delmar Brown has been promoted from Acting Community Development Director to Community Development Director.

Having no further county business, the June 2011 meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Bill Cselle, District 2

Randy Dixon, District 3

Carl Boyette, District 4