

**PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING,
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 02, 2010 AT 6:30 PM**

Board Members Present:

Mitch Bowen, 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 Mitch Bowen called the November 02, 2010 meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2010 MINUTES: Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the June 2010 minutes as recorded. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

A. CITY OF BLACKSHEAR-Requesting \$577.50 in 2003 SPLOST funds to pay an invoice from Conner & Jackson for title and deed matters for water and sewer extension. Funds are available. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the City of Blackshear's request of \$577.50 in 2003 SPLOST funds to pay an invoice from Conner & Jackson for title and deed matters for water and sewer extension. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. CITY OF PATTERSON-Requesting reimbursements from 2003 SPLOST funds for the following invoices: Dixie Redi-Mix for \$11,110.00 and Ingram & Associates for \$5,600.00. The total request is for \$16,710.00. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the request from the City of Patterson for funds from the 2003 SPLOST totaling \$16,710.00. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the request. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

NFC/LIBRARY PROJECT

Margie Wallace presented a check from the Pierce County Library Board for \$168,092.60.

Rusty McCall of McCall & Associates gave a project update to the board as of November 01, 2010. Mr. McCall stated that the project budget for the library had a total spent to date of \$890,294.11 and amount remaining was \$1,759,705.89. Mr. McCall reported that in the construction budget for the library the total spent to date was \$580,515.67 and had \$1,152,384.33 remaining in the construction budget. He also gave a report on the NFC/MPF Project. The project budget total spent to date is \$1,928,206.12 with \$3,321,793.88 remaining in the budget. The construction budget for the NFC/MPF Project has spent to date \$1,545,171.94 with \$2,298,639.06 remaining in the construction budget.

C-a. INVOICES: Pierce County MPF/NFC/Library Project-County Clerk Mollie Howard explained that the invoice totals were not ready in time for the agenda. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to amend the agenda to include the NFC/MPC/Library invoices. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

The invoices for 11/01/2010 are: NFC/MPF-\$50,110.80; Library grant-\$4,803.42 and Library-County paid-\$4,807.26 for a total of \$59,721.48. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the invoice for 11/01/10 for \$59,721.48. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

C-b-PIERCE COUNTY MULTI-PURPOSE AND LIBRARY ROOFING BIDS- Rusty McCall recommended that the bid for the roofing on the Multi-purpose and library be awarded to Warren's Sheet Metal. Mr. McCall stated that 3 bids had been received, but Warren's Sheet Metal was the only contractor who submitted a complete bid for all portions of the work. The bid was for \$190,035.00. The other 2 bids were from Southeast Register Solutions and Register Company. Mr. McCall recommends Warren's Sheet Metal.

C-c-PIERCE COUNTY NFC/MPF/LIBRARY KITCHEN EQUIPMENT PROPOSALS-Mr. McCall stated that this proposal was for the board information. Mr. McCall stated that two proposals had been received. One from Strategic Equipment & Supply Company for \$126,339.45 and one from Valdosta Restaurant Equipment for \$129,886.00. Mr. McCall recommends the bid from Strategic Equipment & Supply Company.

C-d-PIERCE COUNTY NFC/MPF/LIBRARY MISCELLANEOUS BIDS-Mr. McCall has recommended the following bids:

1. Signage-Multi-Graphics for interior signage for \$1,716.00
Multi-Graphics for exterior aluminum letters for \$2,087.00
Multi-Graphics for plaques for \$3,160.00
2. Toilet Accessories-Joe Burton Company for \$5,400.00
3. Toilet Partitions-Joe Burton for \$17,217.00
4. Fire Extinguishers/Cabinets-Joe Burton Company for \$3,486.00
5. Flag Pole-Joe Burton Company for \$1,400.00
6. Markerboards/Tackboards-American Visual Display for \$2,160.00
7. Overhead Doors-GA-FL Overhead Door Co. for \$ 3,402.00
8. Multi-Purpose Flooring-CBA Sports for \$43,320.64
9. Misc Glass/Glazing/Electrified Glass-American Glass & Mirror for \$55,865.60
10. Simple Saver Insulation (material only)-Thermal Design for \$14,134.98.
11. Cornice (including mitered corners)-Campbellsville for \$42,108.00

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve all the recommendation from Rusty McCall. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, & CONTRACTS

D. TECHNOLOGY AND ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY-Chairman Bowen stated that the section on personal use had been changed to read that "Personal use of Pierce County, GA Government computer system is not permitted." Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to approve the Technology and Acceptable Use Policy for computers. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. Commissioner Neal Bennett led a discussion on the policy stating that he wanted to know who would oversee the policy to make sure the every county employee is following the guidelines and if every employee will have to sign off on the policy. He also discussed how the board will enforce this policy. He stated that "the issue is not the policy,

but the enforcement of the policy.” Commissioners Aldeen Davis amended his motion to state that the board will look further into the language of the policy and Commissioner Dixon seconded this motion. All Commissioner voted aye. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

E. KENNETH JUSTICE, EMA DIRECTOR-

1. Award Firefighter bid from last month-Kenneth Justice stated that he had reviewed the bids from the October meeting. The bids were as followed: S.A.F.E. Inc. for \$158,581.00; Ten-8 Fire & Safety Equipment, Inc for \$126,234.58; Municipal Equipment Co. for \$133,753.00. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the bid from Ten-8 Fire & Safety Equipment, Inc for \$126,234.58. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Discuss purchasing \$10,000 worth of turnout gear-Kenneth Justice, Fire Chief, stated that he is seeking permission to purchase \$10,000 in turn-out gear before the year of the fiscal year. This is a budget item. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to allow Kenneth Justice to seek bids for \$10,000 of turn-out gear. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Request approval for amendment to AFG for a safe house trailer for education and training. Kenneth Justice came before the board seeking permission to amend the AFG and purchase a trailer for education/training purposes. Mr. Justice stated that the firefighter grant still had \$5,000 and he would like to purchase the trailer and use it as a mobile command post. Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to allow Kenneth Justice to purchase a safe house trailer for education and training. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

BIDS

F. COURTHOUSE SERVER-Bids were solicited for a server for the clerk of court. This is a budget item for FY 2011. Three (3) bids were solicited, but only two (2) were received. Dell Marketing L.P. bid \$3,900.25 and Byte Speed bid \$5,223.00. Thomas Sauls, Clerk of Court stated that their computer consultant company, Iron Data, recommended the server from Dell Marketing L.P. He stated that this server will be compatible with the equipment that is installed now. Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to approve the bid from Dell Marketing, L.P. for \$3,900.25. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

G. Yellow Line Pavement Marking-Bids will be accepted until 11:00 a.m. Thursday, November 18, 2010. County Clerk Mollie Howard stated that this was for information only.

H. County Manager-Applications for County Manager will be accepted until November 12, 2010. County Clerk Mollie Howard stated that this was for information only.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

I. Georgia Forestry Commission-Donnie James will give the annual report of activities and services for the 2010 fiscal year. Mr. James stated that the Georgia Forestry Commission is currently protecting 112,106 forested acres with 219,500 acres for the total land area. Mr. James reported that the Georgia Forestry Commissioner issued 202 agriculture permits, 121 silviculture permits, 314 land clearing permits and 844 burn permits. The automated telephone/online system issued 5,983 permits for a total of 7,464 permits. He also stated that the Georgia Forestry Commission had assisted 7 landowners with permits for a total of 319 acres. The Georgia Forestry Commission assisted 15 landowners with fire plow for 39.75 miles-26.5 hours and 28 landowners with harrows for 136.25 miles-54.5 hours for a total of 176 miles and 81 hours. Mr. James reported that 47 wildfires burned a total of 95.67 acres

with the average fire being 2.04 acres and that the response time for the last 5 years was 14.4 minutes for normal operating hours and 22.2 minutes for after hours/weekends/holidays . He also stated that 61,804 seedlings had been sold. Mr. James also said that the Georgia Forestry Commissioner participates in public/education outreach programs and fire wise/fire prevention programs. Mr. James reported that there equipment included 3 tractor/plow response units and 1 quick response /pickup type 7 engine. Mr. James concluded his report by thanking the board for all the help that the Georgia Forestry Commission received from Pierce County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-PERSONNELL

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:45 PM. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

The regular monthly meeting was reconvened at 8:55 PM by a motion from Commissioner Aldeen Davis and a second from Commissioner Neal Bennett. Chairman Mitch Bowen announced that no action had been taken.

Chairman Bowen announced that a public hearing will be held November 4, 2010 at 11:30 AM and 6:00 PM for the millage rate and a public hearing will be held November 11, 2010 at 6:30 PM followed by a called meeting to set the millage rate.

The December 07, 2010 regular meeting will be rescheduled to December 14, 2010 due to commissioners' training in Athens.

Having no further business, the November 02, 2010 regular meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Randy Dixon, District 3

Aldeen Davis, District 4

PUBLIC HEARING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 04, 2010 AT 11:30 AM.

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive input from the citizens of Pierce County pertaining to the adoption of a millage rate of 12.75% which will require an increase in property taxes by 4.89% in the unincorporated area of the county and 3.12% in the incorporated area of the county.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mitch Bowen called the Public Hearing to order at 11:30 AM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mollie Howard, County Clerk
Lynn Altman, Assistant Co Clerk
Edward Cady, IT Director
Jonathan Roberts, Citizen

Having no input or questions from the audience, Chairman Bowen closed the Public Hearing at 11:45 AM.

PUBLIC HEARING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 04, 2010 AT 6:00 PM.

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive input from the citizens of Pierce County pertaining to the adoption of a millage rate of 12.75% which will require an increase in property taxes by 4.89% in the unincorporated area of the county and 3.12% in the incorporated area of the county.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Commissioner

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mollie Howard, County Clerk
Lynn Altman, Assistant Co Clerk
Marty Clifton, Community

Development

Director

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mitch Bowen called the Public Hearing to order at 11:30 AM.

No Pierce County citizens present.

Commissioner Bennett closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2010 AT 6:30 PM.

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive input from the citizens of Pierce County pertaining to the adoption of a millage rate of 12.75% which will require an increase in property taxes by 4.89% in the unincorporated area of the county and 3.12% in the incorporated area of the county.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mitch Bowen, Chairman
K. Neal Bennett, District 1
Mike Streat, District 2
Aldeen Davis, District 4

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mollie Howard, County Clerk
Lynn Altman, Assistant Co Clerk
Franklin Rozier, County Attorney
Jason Deal, The Blackshear Times

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mitch Bowen called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 PM.

Having no input or questions from the audience, Chairman Bowen closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 PM.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Aldeen Davis, District 4

CALLED MEETING, PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2010 AT 6:35 PM.

The purpose of this Called Meeting is to adopt a millage rate of 12.75% which will require an increase in property taxes by 4.89% in the unincorporated area of the county and 3.12% in the incorporated area of the county.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mitch Bowen, Chairman
K. Neal Bennett, District 1
Mike Streat, District 2
Aldeen Davis, District 4

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mollie Howard, County Clerk
Lynn Altman, Assistant Co Clerk
Franklin Rozier, County Attorney
Jason Deal, The Blackshear Times

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mitch Bowen called the Called Meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

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

Consider approval of the 2010 Millage rate: The Pierce County Board of Commissioners announced its intention to approve a millage rate of 12.75% which will require an increase in property taxes by 4.89% in the unincorporated area of the county and 3.12% in the incorporated area of the county. The gross M&O millage for the unincorporated area will be 12.75 percent with the rollback of 4.60 percent for a net M&O millage of 8.15 percent. The gross M&O millage for the incorporated area will be 12.75 percent with the rollback of 2.83 percent for a net M&O 9.92 percent. The millage rate will be set at 12.750 mills.

Commissioner Aldeen Davis made a motion to adopt the 2010 millage rate set at a gross M&O millage for the unincorporated area of 12.75 percent with the rollback of 4.60 percent for a net M&O millage of 8.15 percent. The gross M&O millage for the incorporated area will be set at 12.75 percent with the rollback of 2.83 percent for a net M&O 9.92 percent. The millage rate will be set at 12.750 mills. Commissioner Neal Bennett seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MILLAGE RATE: The Pierce County Board of Education at a called meeting on September 09, 2010 set the following millage rate for 2010-2011:

For maintenance and operation of schools, 15.5 mills based on a tentative net tax digest of \$398,302,850.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to adopt the Pierce County Board of Education's millage rate of 15.5 mils based on a tentative net tax digest of \$398,302,850. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Having no further county business, the called meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Aldeen Davis, District 4

PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, CALLED MEETING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2010 AT 6:00 PM.

Board Members Present

Mitch Bowen, Chairman
K. Neal Bennett, District 1
Mike Streat, District 2
Aldeen Davis, District 4

News Media Present:

The Blackshear Times

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bowen called the Called Meeting to order at 6:10 Pm.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION-PERSONNEL

ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Bowen called for a motion to adjourn into executive session. Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to adjourn into executive session. Commissioner Aldeen Davis seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Jason Deal, reporter for The Blackshear Times, objected to the motion to adjourn into executive session.

Commissioner Randy Dixon came into executive session at 6:30 PM.

During the executive session, Robert Williams, from The Blackshear Times, came into the executive session and objected to the closed session.

RECONVENCE CALLED MEETING: Called meeting reconvened at 8:30 PM with no action taken.

Commissioner Neal Bennett made a motion to adjourn the called meeting at 8:30PM with a second from Commissioner Aldeen Davis. All commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Having on further county business, the Called Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Mitch Bowen, Chairman

K. Neal Bennett, District 1

Mike Streat, District 2

Randy Dixon, District 3

Aldeen Davis, District 4