

Pierce County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, September 6, 2022 6:00 PM

Commissioners in Attendance: Neal Bennett, Chairman
Harold Rozier, District 1
Mike Streat, District 2
Randy Dixon, District 2
David Lowman, District 3

Staff in Attendance: Jason Rubenbauer, County Manager/Clerk
Anslee Swetman, AP/Purchasing Clerk

1. Call to Order— Chairmen Bennett Called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Mike Streat to give an Invocation and Commissioner Randy Dixon led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Public Hearings and Regular Meeting Minutes, August 5, 2022
 - b. Public Hearing Minutes, August 18, 2022

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2022 regular meeting as presented. Commissioner Harold Rozier seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

5. Public Comments
 - a. Tony Walsh wishes to address the Commission regarding the Dominion voting machines

Tony Walsh, Chairman for the Pierce County Republican Party addressed the Commission pertaining to concerns about the current Dominion voting machines. He stated that the QR Code for the printed ballots are not a readable format for the typical citizens which has been a cause for concern of some voters to ensure that the ballots submitted are true and accurate in form. He requested that the Commission consider using paper ballots for future elections.

- b. Larry Walker wishes to address the Commission regarding compensation of Jurors, Grand Jurors, and Court Bailiffs.

Larry Walker addressed the Commission pertaining to the compensation of Jurors, Grand Jurors, and Bailiffs. He asked the Commission to consider increasing the per diem for each of these mandated public servants.

6. County Manager Report and July 2022 Financials

County Manager, Jason Rubenbauer, presented the following financial and County Manager reports.

Financial Report & County Manager Report

September 6, 2022

- **Financial Report as of 7/31/2022**

- a. Current revenues continue to remain steady
- b. EMS collections continue to increase
- c. Electricity costs are 3% higher than 2022
- d. Fuel expenses have increased 85% over last year

- **County Manager's Report**

- a. Departmental updates:*

- i. Planning & Codes

- 1. 5 new home permits in August for a total of 45 this year
 - 2. Fees and permits revenues are up 8% over last year

- ii. Elections

- 1. Pierce County is hosting the regional Elections meeting
 - 2. Early voting will begin October 17, 2022 and will continue through November 4, 2022
 - 3. Mid-term elections will be held November 8, 2022

- iii. EMS

- 1. 304 calls for service in August
 - 2. Collections are continuing to come in regularly

- iv. Fire

- 1. 59 calls for service in August
 - 2. An inspection of the jail was recently conducted by the State Fire Marshall
 - 3. Conducted a walk-through of the schools in August for emergency preparedness and planning

7. Discussion and request for action pertaining to Ordinance 2022.09.06.01 to create a Recreation Board, to establish an effective date and for other lawful purposes.

Chairman Bennett introduced the proposed Resolution for the creation of the Pierce County Parks & Recreation Board. Commissioner Rozier asked County Attorney, Franklin Rozier, if he had time to review and respond to the proposal, which he replied that he had not had the opportunity.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to table the proposed Resolution until the County Attorney had time to review and offer his recommendations. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was tabled.

8. Request to remove Ellington Plantation roads acceptance from the table.

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to remove Ellington Plantation roads acceptance from the table. Commissioner Harold Rozier second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

9. Discussion of the request for action pertaining to the roads in the Ellington Plantation subdivision.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to deny the request to accept the roads in Ellington Plantation for now until our current roads can be addressed. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. The motion was unanimously approved to deny the acceptance of the roads.

10. Discussion and Request for action on a Memorandum of Understanding between the Pierce County Industrial Development and Building Authority, Stewart Candy Company, and the Board of Tax Assessors of Pierce County for an ad valorem tax abatement.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion on a Memorandum of Understanding between the Pierce County Industrial Development and Building Authority, Stewart Candy Company, and the Board of Tax Assessors of Pierce County for an ad valorem tax abatement. Commissioner David Lowman second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

11. Discussion and Request for action for the proposed 2022 millage rate of 15.894 mills to be used for the operation and maintenance of Pierce County Schools.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the proposed 2022 millage rate of 15.894 mills to be used for the operation and maintenance of Pierce County Schools. Commissioner David Lowman second the motion, and all voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

12. Discussion and Request for action on a Memorandum of Understanding between Action Pact, Inc., and the Pierce County Board of Commissioners for the

administrative and operational management of the Pierce County Senior Citizens Center.

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to approve on a Memorandum of Understanding between Action Pact, Inc., and the Pierce County Board of Commissioners for the administrative and operational management of the pierce County Senior Citizen Center. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

13. Discussion and Request for action for the purchase of three (3) 2022 Ford F-150 trucks for the Office of the Sheriff in an amount not to exceed \$120,930 from the 2020 SPLOST Fund.

Commissioner Harold Rozier made a motion to approve the purchase of (3) 2022 Ford F-150 trucks for the office of the Sheriff for an amount not to exceed \$120,930 of 2020 SPLOST funds. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

14. Discussion and Request for action for the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds to cover the remaining costs of the Georgia Mass Appraisal Solutions and Services, Inc. (GMASS) revaluation of properties in Pierce County in an amount not to exceed \$330,000.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve for the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds to cover the remaining costs of the Georgia Mass Appraisal Solutions and Services, Inc (GMASS) revaluation of properties in Pierce County in an amount not to exceed \$330,000. Commissioner Harold Rozier seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

15. Discussion and request for action to move forward with advertising public hearings and posting of the 2022 millage rate and 2023 budget.

Commissioner David Lowman made motion to approve to move forward with the advertising public hearing and posting of the 2022 millage rate and the 2023 budget. Commissioner Randy Dixon second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

16. Discussion and Request for action for the annual Pest Control Services bids.

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the lowest bidder, Sunbelt Pest Control, not to exceed \$240.00 monthly and \$2,880.00 yearly. Commissioner Harold Rozier second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

17. Discussion and Request for action for the annual Culvert Pipe supplier bid.

Commissioner David Lowman Made a motion to approve the annual Culvert Pipe supplier bid to Cherokee Culvert. Commissioner Harold Rozier second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

18. Discussion and Request for action for the annual Fire Extinguisher/Jail Hood Systems inspection bid.

Commissioner Harold Rozier made a motion to approve the annual Fire Extinguisher/Jail Hood Systems inspection bid to Loftin Fire. Commissioner Randy Dixon second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

19. Discussion and Request for action for a three (3) year Residential Solid Waste Collection agreement.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion for an approve for a three (3) year Residential Solid Waste Collection agreement to the lowest bidder Ryland Environmental. Commissioner Harold Rozier second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

20. Discussion and Request for action for the Professional Auditing Services for Pierce County.

Commissioner Harold Rozier made a motion to approve the Professional Auditing Services for Pierce County to Mauldin & Jenkins. Commissioner David Lowman second this motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

21. Adjourn—Chairman Bennett adjourned the meeting at 6:52 PM.