

Pierce County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 2, 2021 6:00PM

Commissioners in Attendance	Neal Bennett, Chairman Harold Rozier, District 1 Mike Streat, District 2 Randy Dixon, District 3 David Lowman, District 4
Staff in Attendance	Franklin Rozier, County Attorney Jason Rubenbauer, County Manager Amy Hitt, County Clerk

- 1. Call to Order – Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
- 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner David Lowman gave an invocation and Commissioner Randy Dixon led the pledge of allegiance.
- 3. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

Chairman Bennett recognized guest to the meeting Oakley Perry, County Administrator for Jeff Davis to the meeting. He expressed appreciation to all the surrounding communities for the outpouring of support on the loss of the EMS/EMA/911 Center. The support has allowed them to get right back to work.

- 4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes, January 5, 2021
 - b. Closed Session Minutes January 5, 2021

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting January 5, 2021 and the Closed Session January 5, 2021. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

- 5. Request to Reappoint Jacqueline Moses to the Pierce County Library Board for a 4 year term effective immediately through December 31, 2024.

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to appoint Jacqueline Moses to the Pierce County Library Board for a term that begins immediately and ends December 31, 2024. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

- 6. Discussion and request to approval final 2020 Budget Amendments to maintain compliance and close the 2020 Fiscal year.

AMENDMENTS 2020 BUDGET	December
Coroner	\$3,000.00
EMS	\$68,000.00
Resource Officer	\$3,000.00
Investigations	\$15,000.00

Sheriff Admin	\$20,000.00
Juvenile	\$6,000.00
Grady St School	\$1,500.00
Carter Ave - EMS	\$15,000.00
Fire	(\$42,000.00)
County Attorney	(\$4,500.00)
IT	(\$10,000.00)
Unpaved Roads	(\$75,000.00)
INCREASE TO BUDGET	\$0.00
TOTAL 2020 Amended Budget	\$ 9,760,440.00

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the 2020 Budget Amendments as presented. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

7. County Manager Report and December 2020 Financials.

Financial Report & County Manager Report

February 2, 2021

- Financial Report as of 12/31/2020
 - i. Total Revenues through this reporting period are up 16.54% over the same period of last year. The majority of this is due to the CARES reimbursement funds we received due to the COVID pandemic
 - ii. Total Expenses ended up at 86.91% of the projected budget for 2020
 - iii. I would like to commend all of our departments for their cooperation during this challenging year. With the strong leadership we have in place we were able to perform extremely well and I look forward to a very progressive 2021.
- County Manager Report
 - a. COVID-19 Update—
 - i. Cases are still high in Pierce County
 - 1. 1116 Confirmed Cases since the beginning of the pandemic
 - 2. 34 deaths
 - 3. 84 new cases in Pierce County in the last two weeks down from 101 as reported last Tuesday by the Georgia Department of Public Health
 - 4. Please continue to wear a mask in public settings, maintain social distancing, wash your hands regularly, and get the vaccine when it is available to you
 - b. Jail Addition Update—
 - i. The Jail Addition is moving forward despite the recent rains. There has been a delay in the foundation work because of the rain, but so far, the project is at about the 20% completion point, where we should be at about 29% right now.
 - ii. We have collected \$261,305.81 for this project through January 2021 have spent \$189,196.50 of those funds. We have the funds available in our reserves and I do not see any reason why we cannot fund this through the General Fund instead of incurring a loan at this point in time.
 - iii. In accordance with the SPLOST Guidelines, Counties may have reserve funds or fund balances in their general fund that they may be willing to “borrow” so long as strict accounting for SPLOST funds

is maintained and the purposes are solely those which were ratified by the electorate, borrowing from the general fund would be proper. I am proposing the creation of a Resolution that will establish the strict accounting for these funds which will include the Jail Addition, the Archives Building and the 911 Building which we intend to complete this year.

- c. Roads—
 - i. Billy and I are both receiving a large number of calls pertaining to the condition of our roads due to recent rains and standing water due to high water levels in the river and all tributaries. This is common during this time of year as we transition to Spring. Our crews are going to continue to work hard to get the roads in shape and we have a project list of approximately 200 reported problems. This does not include the issues that will have to be looked at near the area for complete corrections.
 - ii. We continue to ask for patience and support as we address these challenges. We are prioritizing based on public safety first.
- d. Pierce County Food Pantry
 - i. Farmers to Families Food Box Distributions
 - ii. Thursday, February 4, 2021 10:00 am to help prepare
 - iii. Citizens will begin arriving about 12:00 pm to begin picking up at Blackshear Church of God
 - iv. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are wanting to help

Pierce County Board of Commissioners					
Summary Financial Report					
December 31, 2020					
General Fund-Cash & Investments:	\$ 6,905,981.39				
	Original	Amended	YTD 2020		YTD 2019
General Fund - Revenues (YTD Totals)	Budget	Budget	Actual	%	Actual
Taxes	\$ 9,365,000	\$ 8,365,000	\$ 9,155,900	109.45%	\$ 8,200,876
Licenses/Fees/Permits	\$ 140,500	\$ 140,500	\$ 143,460	102.11%	\$ 158,693
Charges for Services	\$ 521,850	\$ 521,850	\$ 521,330	99.90%	\$ 742,448
Fines/Forfeitures	\$ 180,600	\$ 180,600	\$ 149,704	82.89%	\$ 179,668
Intergovernmental	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 975,443	886.77%	\$ 150,011
Other	\$ 169,500	\$ 169,500	\$ 111,072	65.53%	\$ 131,984
Total Revenues	\$ 9,487,450	\$ 9,487,450	\$ 11,056,911	116.54%	\$ 9,563,681
Expenditures Analysis by Function (YTD Totals)	Original	Amended	YTD 2020		YTD 2019
Function	Budget	Budget	Actual	%	Actual
General Admin	\$ 2,099,265	\$ 2,195,765	\$ 1,661,048	75.65%	\$ 1,626,576
Judiciary	\$ 1,113,637	\$ 1,113,637	\$ 1,008,537	90.56%	\$ 960,594
Public Safety	\$ 3,908,895	\$ 4,058,395	\$ 3,811,358	93.91%	\$ 3,439,443
Public Works	\$ 1,169,503	\$ 1,169,503	\$ 929,680	79.49%	\$ 923,482
Health & Welfare	\$ 343,115	\$ 343,115	\$ 147,144	42.88%	\$ 228,591
Community Development	\$ 456,343	\$ 456,343	\$ 581,278	127.38%	\$ 388,607
Contingency	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -
Total Expenditures	\$ 9,170,758	\$ 9,416,758	\$ 8,139,045	86.43%	\$ 7,567,292
Transfers to E911	\$ 41,692	\$ 41,692	\$ 41,693	100.00%	\$ 64,454
Trasnfers to Rec	\$ 275,000	\$ 301,990	\$ 301,991	100.00%	\$ 183,333
Total Expenditure/Transfers	\$ 9,487,450	\$ 9,760,440	\$ 8,482,729	86.91%	\$ 7,815,079
Payroll (Current Month)	Total Payroll	Overtime Pay	OT Hours Pd		
Road	\$ 21,661.54	\$ 247.53	13.00		
Sheriff Admin/Patrol/Detectives	\$ 67,393.36	\$ 12,122.25	470.75		
Jail/Work Detail	\$ 39,531.32	\$ 7,142.95	364.50		
EMS	\$ -	\$ -	-		
E911	\$ 11,972.43	\$ 1,445.86	79.00		
Other Depts	\$ 124,973.51	\$ 1,001.32	184.75		
Totals	\$ 265,532.16	\$ 21,959.91	1112.00		
Other Items (YTD Totals)	Year 2020	Year 2019	Increase (Decrease)		
Revenue-Loc Opt Sales Tax	\$ 1,384,280	\$ 1,138,646	\$ 245,634		
Revenue-TSPLOST	\$ 781,492	\$ 750,685	\$ 30,808		
Revenue-EMS Collections	\$ 1,893	\$ 210,913	\$ (209,020)		
Revenue-Fines & Forfeiture	\$ 149,704	\$ 179,668	\$ (29,964)		
Expenditures - Total Payroll	\$ 3,157,195	\$ 3,433,582	\$ (276,387)		
Expenditures - Overtime Pay	\$ 375,272	\$ 472,482	\$ (97,210)		
Expenditures - Electricity	\$ 235,995	\$ 236,842	\$ (848)		
Expenditures - Fuel Costs	\$ 171,062	\$ 207,154	\$ (36,092)		
Expenditures - Prisoner Housing	\$ 110,788	\$ 160,946	\$ (50,158)		

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion that Mr. Rubenbauer create a resolution to amend the 2021 General Fund Budget for Capital Purchases for the anticipated expenditures on the Jail Project, Archives Bldg and E911 Building with the revenues coming from fund balance. Commissioner Harold Rozier seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

8. Discussion and request to approve bids for Batting Cages at 728 Ware Street. Chairman Bennett shared that we received 9 bids for the batting cages and the low bid was from Atlas Manufacturing in Alapaha, GA for \$59,195.00.

Pierce County Board of Commissioners
Design & Construction of One (1) Steel Frame Building to Contain Three (3) Batting Cages
Bid Tabulation
Bid Opened 1/25/2021 at 10:00 AM

Bidder	Required Documents	Materials Cost	Labor Cost	Total Cost of Project
Kellerman Construction Valdosta GA	Yes	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 110,500.00
Altamaha Building Systems, Inc Surrency GA	Yes	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
Harper & Company Builders, Inc Douglas GA	Yes	\$ 49,001.00	\$ 34,903.00	\$ 83,904.00
S.O.A., Inc Perry GA	Yes	\$ 154,719.74	\$ 27,303.48	\$ 182,023.23
E.B. Morris General Contractors, Inc Ponte Vedra Beach FL	Yes	\$ 42,800.00	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 137,800.00
Riley Contracting, Inc Senoia GA	Yes	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 67,800.00	\$ 88,800.00
S & W Sales and Service Inc Fort Valley GA	Yes	\$ 76,928.62	\$ 67,445.45	\$ 144,374.07
Imperial Construction & Excavating, LLC Douglas GA	Yes	\$ 39,500.00	\$ 28,828.75	\$ 68,328.75
Atlas Manufacturing, Inc Alapaha GA	Yes	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 30,195.00	\$ 59,195.00

Commissioner Harold Rozier made a motion to approve the bid from Atlas Manufacturing for the Batting cages at \$59,195.00. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

9. Discussion and request to approve bids for Archives Building at Strickland Ave. Chairman Bennett stated that there were 10 bids submitted and the low bidder was Altamaha Building Systems in Surrency, GA at \$85,000.00.

Pierce County Board of Commissioners
Design & Construction of One (1) Steel Frame Building to Contain County Archives
Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Required Documents	Materials Cost	Labor Cost	Total Cost of Project
Kellerman Construction Valdosta GA	Yes	\$ 63,900.00	\$ 33,150.00	\$ 144,000.00
Altamaha Building Systems, Inc Surrency GA	Yes	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
Harper & Company Builders, Inc Douglas GA	Yes	\$ 67,716.00	\$ 42,736.00	\$ 110,452.00
E.B. Morris General Contractors, Inc Ponte Vedra Beach FL	Yes	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 110,100.00	\$ 177,100.00
Riley Contracting, Inc Senoia GA	Yes	\$ 37,000.00	\$ 89,000.00	\$ 126,000.00
S & W Sales and Service Inc Fort Valley GA	Yes	\$ 96,346.18	\$ 78,240.90	\$ 174,587.08
Imperial Construction & Excavating, LLC Douglas GA	Yes	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 40,500.00	\$ 98,500.00
Atlas Manufacturing, Inc Alapaha GA	Yes	\$ 39,950.00	\$ 52,045.00	\$ 91,995.00
Lamar Johnson Construction, Inc Waycross GA	Yes	\$ 68,947.00	\$ 40,666.00	\$ 109,613.00
Bliss Products and Services, Inc Lithia Springs GA	Yes	\$ 49,905.00	\$ 51,805.00	\$ 101,710.00

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to approve the bid from Altamaha Building Systems for the construction of the archives building at \$85,000.00. Commissioner Harold Rozier seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

10. Request to discuss and approve lease purchase options for a back hoe for the Road Department. Lease payments to be made from TIA Discretionary funds. These are state contract items and purchases that do not have to be formally bid.

Backhoe Comparison						
Description	CAT 420		JD 310 SL			
	48 mo. Lease	60 mo. Lease	48 mo. Lease	48 mo. Lease	60 mo. Lease	60 mo. Lease
Hours	4000 Hours	5000 Hours	4000 Hours	6000 Hours	5000 Hours	7500 Hours
Cost/Mo.	\$ 2,165.00	\$ 1,836.00	\$ 1,953.09	\$ 2,056.93	\$ 1,827.16	\$ 1,935.22
Selling Price	\$ 129,309.00	\$ 129,309.00	\$ 99,300.00	\$ 99,300.00	\$ 99,300.00	\$ 99,300.00
Maintenance Plan Cost	Included in Price	Included in Price	\$ 18,980.00	\$ 18,980.00	\$ 21,960.00	\$ 21,960.00
Extended Warranty	Included in Price	Included in Price	\$ 10,230.00	\$ 10,230.00	\$ 13,853.00	\$ 13,853.00
File/Orgination Fees	Included in Price	Included in Price	\$ 268.11	\$ 268.11	\$ 281.89	\$ 281.89
Total Lease Amount (includes Maintenance Plan)	\$ 103,920.00	\$ 110,160.00	\$ 128,778.11	\$ 128,778.11	\$ 135,394.89	\$ 135,394.89
Buyback Purchase Option	\$ 35,500.00	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 46,737.00	\$ 52,236.00	\$ 40,322.00	\$ 47,653.00
Total Lease Payments	\$ 103,920.00	\$ 110,160.00	\$ 93,748.32	\$ 98,732.64	\$ 109,629.60	\$ 116,113.20
NOTE Current average hours per year 780. With new approved 2021 staffing average hours per year will increase to approximately 1,300 hours per year.						

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approve the 60 month lease purchase of a CAT420 Backhoe for \$110,160.00 - \$1,836.00 monthly. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

11. Request to discuss and approve lease purchase options for a motor grader for the Road Department. Lease payments to be made from TIA Discretionary funds. These are state contract items and purchases that do not have to be formally bid.

Motorgrader Comparison				
Description	CAT 140-15		JD 670G	
	48 mo. Lease	60 mo. Lease	48 mo. Lease	60 mo. Lease
Hours	6000 Hours	7500 Hours	6000 Hours	7500 Hours
Cost/Mo.	\$ 4,217.20	\$ 3,659.51	\$ 4,753.61	\$ 4,367.99
Selling Price	\$ 301,504.00	\$ 301,504.00	\$ 277,500.00	\$ 277,500.00
Maintenance Plan Cost	Included in Price	Included in Price	\$ 27,813.00	\$ 31,920.00
Extended Warranty	Included in Price	Included in Price	\$ 12,316.00	\$ 17,540.00
File/Orgination Fees	Included in Price	Included in Price	\$ 271.02	\$ 278.98
Total Lease Amount (includes Maintenance Plan)	\$ 202,425.60	\$ 219,570.60	\$ 317,900.02	\$ 327,238.98
Purchase Option	\$ 136,290.00	\$ 125,475.00	\$ 132,538.00	\$ 118,438.00
Total Lease Payments	\$ 202,425.60	\$ 219,570.60	\$ 228,173.28	\$ 262,079.40

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to approve the 60 month lease purchase of a CAT 140-15 Motorgrader for \$219,570.60 - \$3,659.51 monthly. Commissioner Harold Rozier seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

12. Discussion and request to declare the building located at 253 Carter Ave to no longer be surplus property. Chairman Bennett reminded the Board that several years ago the property was declared surplus when we were trying to sell it. Since we are utilizing the building for daily operations, we need to remove this property from our surplus list.

Commissioner David Lowman made a motion to remove the property located at 253 Carter Ave from the surplus property list to be considered as property actively being used by Pierce County. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

13. Discussion and request to declare surplus the following vehicles 1989 Blue Bird Bus Vin #0949 and 1998 Ford Cutaway vin# 7499 and equipment Badger Grade All model 442 # 230391, Grain Hopper model 250-7 #752949, trailer with 1000 gallon stainless steel tank and tar trailer with tank.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to declare the 1989 Blue Bird Bus Vin #0949 and 1998 Ford Cutaway vin# 7499 and equipment Badger Grade All model 442 # 230391, Grain Hopper model 250-7 #752949, trailer with 1000 gallon stainless steel tank and tar trailer with tank as surplus property

for the purpose of sale. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

14. Request to appoint County Attorney Franklin Rozier and Attorney Rick Currie to represent Sheriff Ramsey Bennett in pending litigation with the City of Blackshear.

Commissioner Harold Rozier made a motion to appoint County Attorney Franklin Rozier and Attorney Rick Currie to represent Sheriff Ramsey Bennett in pending litigation with the City of Blackshear. Commissioner David Lowman seconded the motion and all voted aye. Motion was approved.

15. Discussion and request to approve the Pierce County Personnel Policy. Chairman Bennett stated that the personnel policy that is in place needs to be updated and he intends to meet with the constitutional officers to try and get them to buy in to the policy. The goal is that all employees would fall under the same standards and guidelines. Hope to be able to bring the policy back for approval in March or April.

16. Adjourn – Chairman Bennett adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Neal Bennett

Harold Rozier

Mike Streat

Randy Dixon

David Lowman