

**PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018 AT 6:00 PM**

Board Members in Attendance

Neal Bennett, Chairman  
Harold Rozier, District 1  
Mike Streat, District 2  
Randy Dixon, District 3  
Lanier Walker, District 4

Staff in Attendance

Franklin Rozier, County Attorney  
Jason Rubenbauer, County Manager  
Amy Hitt, County Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Neal Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Commissioner Lanier Walker gave an invocation and led the pledge.

**MINUTES**

January 2, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 2, 2018 Closed Session Minutes

Commissioner Lanier Walker made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 2 Regular Meeting and January 2 Closed Session. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Matt Carter, PCIDBA Executive Director – 2017 Activities Report – shared some highlights of activities that have taken place in the last year. SGSL, LLC is looking at some rail infrastructure, about 10,000 ft of track, they purchased the Ferrell Gas property and are cleaning it up now, as well as have a purchase agreement on 244 acres of the industrial park property. This project has two other projects looking at coming to us as well. We were able to get Wayne Memorial an office here in PC with a 9 year contract on the building. We were able to assist the County in a refinance of the USDA loan they had which should save the citizens around \$150,000. The Southern Eagle Distribution plant was in the process of an expansion when it caught fire a week or so ago and they are now looking at relocating their facility to another place in the park and making an even larger plant. There are a couple of other projects that are in the works and there have been some solar projects completed in the count and there is another one in the works now. Mr Carter pointed out that over 66 million dollars of infrastructure has been added to Pierce County tax base from the recent projects. Chairman Bennett thanked Mr. Carter for the report and asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Mike Streat wanted to make a note that even though the Blackshear plant for Southern Eagle was currently not operating, all the employees are still working.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

2. County Manager Monthly Report – Jason Rubenbauer, County Manager shared the financial report for the end of 2017 showing that the total revenues for the year were

higher than the total expenditures for the year by about \$82,000 and the over all expenditures were below the budget by \$115,723.00. The Fire/EMA Coordinator, Leonard Roberts has reported that there have been a lot of fires lately and asks that people make sure they have a burn permit before they start a fire. We have applied for two separate AFG grants, one is for a new fire engine/pumper in the amount of \$411,000 and one for EMS 3 stretchers, Lifepak 15 moinitors as well as power lift systems in the amount of \$247,995.00. Roof at Nichols Street Annex is complete and we have had rain and no leaks. The EMS/Carter Ave project is moving ahead, the driveway has been poured and all asbestos and mold has been abated in the building. Work is moving on the fountain, lights have been installed and hopefully it will be back up and running at the end of the month.

3. Request to seek proposals for a new Type 1 ambulance. James Spivey, EMS Director shared that the last old ambulance that we have is not working and we need to make a purchase to replace it. Commissioner Randy Dixon asked that we look into trying to get it running after surplus so we can maybe get more for it.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to seek proposals for a new Type 1 ambulance. Commissioner Lanier Walker seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

4. Request to Re-Appoint Dan Bennett to the Pierce County Library Board for a 4 year term Jan 1, 2018 – Dec 31, 2021.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to reappoint Dan Bennett to the Pierce County Library Board for a terms of January 1, 2017 to end on December 31, 2021. Commissioner Harold Rozier seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

5. Request to appoint Raymond Todd to the Board of Assessors to fill an unexpired term from March 1, 2018 – December 31, 2022

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to appoint Raymond Todd to the Board of Assessors to fill an unexpired term that will be from March 1, 2018 to December 31, 2022. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

6. Request to seek proposals for an ancil fire suppression system to be installed in a wing of the old Grady Street school for County Archives. Chairman Bennett shared that the old system in the 1 room that is being used for Archives is not working and we need to look at doing something.

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to seek proposals for fire suppression system at the Grady Street School Archives. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

7. Request to make a capital purchase of some network switches and firewall upgrades at the courthouse and Nichols Street along with 20 computers (replacing the 20 most outdated in all departments) from SPLOST funds for approximately \$35,000.00.

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to move ahead with the needed upgrades on the computers, switches and firewall. Commissioner Randy Dixon seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

8. Request approval of the 2018 Qualifying Fees.

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Partisan:                      |            |
| County Commission Chairman     | \$ 720.30  |
| County Commission, District 2  | \$ 279.57  |
| County Commission, District 4  | \$ 279.57  |
| Solicitor General              | \$1,298.79 |
| Nonpartisan:                   |            |
| Judge, State Court             | \$1,365.79 |
| Board of Education, Chairman   | \$ 180.00  |
| Board of Education, District 2 | \$ 126.00  |

Board of Education, District 4

\$ 126.00

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to approved the fees as presented. Commissioner Lanier Walker seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

- 9. Consider request for local legislation from the Superior Court Judges to establish local supplement for Superior Court Judges. Commissioner Rozier asked if there is justification for the increase. Commissioner Dixon added that the workload has increased over the last few years. Commissioner Streat noted that maybe this will help get people through the system quicker and lessen the expenses at the jail.

February 7, 2018

Representative Chad Nimmer  
401-J State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Re: Local Legislation to establish local supplement for Superior Court Judges

Dear Chad:

On behalf of the Pierce County Board of Commissioners, please be advised that the Pierce County Board of Commissioners has approved an increase in the local supplement for the Judges of the Pierce County Superior Court as follows:

\$6,600.00 per year, per Judge; paid at \$550.00 per month, per Judge

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners supports local legislation to reflect this change.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

K. Neal Bennett, Chairman  
Pierce County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Harold Rozier made a motion to sign the attached letter and submit it to Rep Nimmer. Commissioner Lanier Walker seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

- 10. Seek engineering and design bids for East Horseshoe Road, North Horseshoe Road and Mershon Road (approximately 8 miles) – to include drainage improvement plan, leveling, resurfacing, widening, striping and other necessary improvements. Jason Rubenbauer, County Manager shared that this is an LMIG project that will take care of 70% of the project and the 30% match of county funds will come from SPLOST. Chairman Bennett added that this is Phase 1 of a 2 part project. This will be for half of the project.

Commissioner Lanier Walker made a motion to seek proposals for East and North Horseshoe Road and Mershon Road for drainage improvements, leveling, widening, resurfacing and striping. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Mike Streat made a motion to go into closed session at 6:47 PM. Commissioner Lanier Walker seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

- 11. Real Estate
- 12. Litigation
- 13. Personnel

Commissioner Randy Dixon made a motion to go back to regular session at 7:33 PM. Commissioner Mike Streat seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion approved.

Chairman Bennett stated that no action was taken in Closed Session.

**ADJOURN**

Chairman Neal Bennett adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM.

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Neal Bennett

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Harold Rozier

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Mike Streat

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Randy Dixon

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Lanier Walker