## **REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Pike County Board of Commissioners held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse, Main Courtroom, at 16001 Barnesville Street, Zebulon. Chairman Briar Johnson convened the meeting and Commissioners Tim Daniel, Tim Guy, Jason Proctor and James Jenkins attended. County Manager Brandon Rogers, County Attorney Rob Morton and County Clerk Angela Blount were also present. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2)).

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER ...... Chairman J. Briar Johnson

- 2. INVOCATION......Ben Maxedon
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE...... Chairman J. Briar Johnson
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (O.C.G A. § 50-14-1 (e) (1))

County Manager Brandon Rogers addressed the Board requesting to amend the agenda to add Executive Session germane to Personnel.

Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Proctor to approve the amended agenda, motion carried 5-0.

- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2))
  - a. Minutes of the December 8, 2021, Regular Monthly Meeting.
  - b. Minutes of the December 8, 2021, Executive Session.
  - c. Minutes of the December 23, 2021, Special Called Meeting.

Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to approve the December 8, 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting minutes, December 8, 2021 Executive Session minutes, and the December 23, 2021 Special Called Meeting minutes, motion carried 5-0.

#### 6. INVITED GUEST

a. Driver, Adams + Sharpe to present the annual audit.

Reshann Adams addressed the Board stating Pike County has an unqualified opinion 'clean audit' for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. The annual report consists of a series of financial statements that includes three components: Government-wide financial statements; Fund financial statements; and Notes to the financial statements. Government-Wide Financial Statements is General Funds, Special Revenue Funds, and all the Component Units (Library, Recreation, Water & Sewerage, Development Authority, Agribusiness and Health Department). Pike County's total net position increased by \$4,128,744 or 24.42% from June 30, 2021. The increase is primarily due to CARES funding and American Rescue Plan Act funding. A large portion of the County's net position reflets its investment in capital assts (e.g., infrastructure, land, buildings, machinery, and equipment) less related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. The County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the County's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other resources since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. The liabilities are up from year 2020, mainly because of American Rescue Plan Act funds. Sydney Sharpe addressed the Board stating the fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the County's most significant funds, not the County as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the County uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes. Some funds are required by State law and by bond covenants. The Board of Commissioners establishes other funds to control and manage money for specific purposes (like the purchase or construction of major capital facilities within the County) or show that it uses certain taxes and grants properly. Governmental funds focus on (1) cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Such information is useful in assessing Pike County's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balances may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year. As of the end of the current fiscal year, Pike County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$8,801,403, an increase of \$2,387,532 in 2021. Approximately 51.80% of the fund balance (\$4,559,303) constitutes unassigned fund balance available for spending at the government's discretion. The remainder of the fund balance (\$4,242,100) is nonspendable, assigned, committed, or restricted to indicate that it is not available for new spending because it has already been committed for capital outlay or other purposes. The general fund is the chief operating fund of the County. At the end of the current fiscal year, the unassigned fund balance of the general fund was 4,610,712. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare unassigned fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unrestricted fund balance represents 38.51% of total general fund expenditures. The fund balance of the County's general fund increased by \$1,436,519 during the current year due to favorable increases in revenue and other financing sources only partially offset by minimal increases in expenditures and other financing uses. A more detailed analysis of these favorable variances can be read from the general fund financials. Revenues of Source from within the Governmental Funds - Property tax makes up 38% of revenues, Sales Tax 20%, Licenses & Permits 5%, Intergovernmental 11%, Charges for Services 4%, Fines & Forfeitures 3%, Other Tax 18%, and Other Revenues 1%. Expenditures of Source from within the Governmental Funds - Public Safety is 28% of expenses, Public Works 20%, Judicial 8%, Health and Welfare 4%, Culture

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& Recreation 3%, Housing & Development 3%, Intergovernmental 1%, Capital Outlay 10%, Debt Service 8%, and General Government 15%. The County's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities on June 30, 2021, amounts to \$9,088,226, net of accumulated depreciation, an increase from 2020 of \$591,474. Despite depreciation of \$789,752, the increase occurred due to the construction of the Concord Fire Station, the Animal Shelter, and other purchases involving machinery, equipment, and vehicles. Related long term debt totals \$2,487,242, and the net investment in capital assets, including depreciation and related debt, equals \$5,871,009. During the fiscal year 2021, the County incurred new debt of \$537,512 and made reductions in principal balances of \$1,422,992. Reshann Adams stated if the Board of Commissioners has any questions after regarding the audit, to please call.

#### Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Proctor to receive the audit report, motion carried 5-0.

b. Kenyatta Walker with McIntosh Trail regarding McIntosh Trail Community Service Board.

Kenyatta Walker, Chief Executive Officer for McIntosh Trail Community Service Board, addressed the Board of Commissioners stating if she can assist with anything to please contact her. Ms. Walker thanked Pike County for contributing to their annual budget every year. McIntosh Trail Community Service Board offers a number of community-based services to adults with developmental disabilities. Support is available within the home, at one of their facilities or within the community. Consideration of an individual's basic needs, desires and dreams are of utmost importance in service outcome planning. McIntosh Trail Community Service Board provides outpatient services for adults and adolescents with substance abuse disorders, mental illness, emotional and behavioral disturbances. In year 2021, McIntosh Trail served 156 residents of Pike County and currently have 102 active residents in Pike County that are using their services. McIntosh Trail does not have any physical buildings in Pike County; therefore, services are delivered in either Lamar, Spalding or Upson Counties depending on where the residents live in Pike County requesting service. In addition to outpatient services, McIntosh Trail provides an array of services and support to assist individuals to live successfully in the community.

#### 7. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONS, DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES, AUTHORITIES

a. Monthly Reports submitted from County Departments and County Authorities, including a Revenue/Expenditure Statement for all departments and a summary check register.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Guy to accept the Department Reports, motion carried 5-0.

b. County Manager Report

Update on County finances for the following funds/accounts:	
General Fund	\$2,620,910.24
Fire Dept. Donations	\$6,420.37
Cash Reserve Account	\$307,607.55
Jail Fund	\$38,101.81
E-911 Fund	\$270,538.99
DATE Fund	\$41,641.61
Juvenile Court Fund	\$12,448.75
Residential Impact Fee	\$1,175,272.11
Commercial Impact Fees	\$192,753.45
C.A.I.P FUND	\$38,233.90
General Obligation SPLOST Tax Bond Sinking Fund, 2016	
L.M.I.G. Grant (DOT)	\$531,030.84

c. County Manager Comment

County Manager Brandon Rogers thanked the auditors for their presentation and all their work on the audit.

Pike County's Bicentennial Kickoff will take place this morning at 10:30 a.m. on the Courthouse Steps for all who would like to attend.

The Georgia Department of Transportation would like to get the opinion of the Board of Commissioners regarding installing a RCUT at the intersection of County Line Road and SR 7 (Hwy 41). The intersection is located in Spalding County and Spalding County has already given their blessing for the RCUT. With the intersection being so close to the Pike County line, the Department of Transportation would like the input of Pike County. The reasons for the RCUT is to improve safety concerns at the target intersection.

Motion/second by Commissioners Jenkins/Proctor to approve the Department of Transportation to proceed with installing a RCUT at the intersection of County Line Road and Highway 41, motion carried 5-0.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated that the Recreation Authority has been contacted about a donation to the Recreation Authority for improvements to the Soccer Fields with grassing, The donation is specifically for reseeding and overseeding the grass areas at the Soccer Fields. It is expected to be two separate donations of \$1,500 each over the next year, totaling \$3,000.

### Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to accept the two donations, motion carried 5-0.

d. Commissioner Reports

District 1 – Commissioner Daniel – Received a few road calls.

District 2 – Commissioner Guy – The shoulders of the road need building up on County Farm Road from Highway 18 to the ballfields. County Farm Road is in bad shape on the city side also. Several people outside of the county travel these roads to the ballfields and needs roads need to be repaired and paved. County Manager Rogers stated part of County Farm Road was done on a SPLOST project, but the city did not want to be a part of that because the city has some waterlines that run under the road and the city is getting a plan together on upgrading the pipes under the road and once they are upgraded, they will repair and pave the road. Commissioner Guy noted on the county side of County Line Road, right at the ballfields, there is a bad pothole that needs repairing. Commissioner Guy wished everyone a Happy New Year!

District 3 – Commissioner Proctor – Asked County Manager to follow up on McCard Lake Road. County Manager Brandon Rogers stated that work was performed while the road was still a little wet from the rain and it caused more problems. Public Works is still going to repair everything. The motor graders are going to work extra hours this week and Monday. A third motor grader is running now.

District 4 – Commissioner Jenkins – Received a call regarding Chestnut Hill, the top of the hill is narrow and dangerous.

At-Large Chairman Briar Johnson – Thanked Probate Judge Ginny Blakeney for the annual review of the Probate Court. Johnson stated he enjoyed seeing the numbers. The Library Board provided a quarterly report, and Johnson noted he appreciates seeing what they have done in the last quarter.

The SPLOST and LOST numbers are up from November 2020 to November 2021. LOST is up \$37,000 and SPLOST is up over \$60,000. Chairman Johnson encouraged everyone to shop local in Pike County when they can.

Chairman Johnson stated the City of Zebulon contacted him regarding they have applied for a grant to help with funding to construct a sewer extension along US Route 19 to serve the proposed Pike Plaza LLC development and open up the corridor for economic development in that area. The City of Zebulon has asked for Pike County to provide them with a letter of support. The Water Authority has already given their support. County Attorney Rob Morton stated part of the negotiations with Pike Plaza LLC is that Pike Plaza LLC did not have the budgeted allocations to do the infrastructure. They did some research with some grant writers and found the Rural Innovation Fund grant, so this is a public/private partnership that is working with Pike Plaza LLC to get them the sewerage needs that they requested from the City of Zebulon.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Guy to authorize Chairman Johnson to sign the letter of support, motion carried 5-0.

e. County Attorney Report to Commissioners

County Attorney Rob Morton stated he appreciated all the support from letters, texts, gifts, calls from Pike County citizens, the Board of Commissioners and Officials. Morton noted Year 2003 was a big day for Tom Morton and Tom really appreciated the opportunity to serve this community and this body. Morton thanked everyone for their support. County Attorney Morton noted a lot was going on during the month of December including zoning appeals and an EEOC charge.

#### 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

#### 9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Elect Vice Chairman for the Pike County Board of Commissioners for 2022.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Guy to elect Tim Daniel to continue to serve as Vice Chairman, motion carried 4-1-0, with Commissioner Daniel abstaining.

b. Ratify signature of Chairman on Tom Morton Proclamation.

Chairman Briar Johnson read the Proclamation aloud and presented it to County Attorney Rob Morton.

# **Proclamation** Honoring Thomas H. Morton

- *Whereas,* Thomas H. Morton has been a dedicated and active member of the Pike County Community since 1988;
- *Whereas,* Thomas H. Morton and his firm Morton, Morton & Associates, LLC have served as the county attorneys for Pike County, Georgia since August 21, 2003.
- *Whereas,* the Pike County Board of Commissioners not only acknowledges the dedicated legal services provided to the Pike County Community by Thomas H. Morton, but the Board further recognizes the many hours of selfless community service performed by Thomas H. Morton in the Pike and surrounding communities. The public service of Thomas H. Morton, done in various ways and with several organizations, truly exemplifies what it means to be a trusted public servant;
- *Whereas,* Thomas H. Morton was more than a great attorney and trusted public servant. Mr. Morton was a dedicated husband, father, sibling, family man, and friend. He was truly loved by his family and many friends;
- *Whereas,* Thomas H. Morton was a dedicated man of God. He loved God and demonstrated his love through many years of dedicated service and faithful commitment to God and to God's Church; and,
- *Whereas,* on Thursday, December 9, 2021, his family and friends and the Pike County Community lost a true hero, family man, public servant, and man of God.
- *Now therefore, be it Resolved* by the Board of Commissioners of Pike County, Georgia that this Proclamation shall be issued to recognize Thomas H. Morton for his many years of dedicated service to God, to his family, and to the community including Pike County, Georgia;
- *Be it further Resolved* by the Pike County Board of Commissioners that a copy of this Proclamation shall be spread upon the minutes of this Board to memorialize the legacy of Thomas H. Morton and to express the sincere appreciation of the Pike County Board of Commissioners.

County Attorney Rob Morton thanked everyone. Morton also thanked Ben Maxedon who was a big part of the service. Morton noted the graveside was a more private event, and it was impressive to watch the Honor Guard from the American Legion escort the family in the pouring rain on motorcycles and trucks with their flags.

Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Proctor to approve, motion carried 5-0.

c. Approve/deny for Chairman to sign the Proclamation honoring Pike County Bicentennial.

Chairman Briar Johnson read the Proclamation aloud. The proclamation will be read and signed on the Courthouse steps at 10:30 a.m. for the Bicentennial Kickoff event.

# PROCLAMATION

## FOR THE PIKE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION KICKOFF

- WHEREAS, Friday, December 9, 2022, marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Pike County, Georgia;
- WHEREAS, Pike County was named for General Zebulon Montgomery Pike, Veteran of the War of 1812, and renowned Explorer;
- WHEREAS, The Pike County Board of Commissioners desires to honor the commencement of the Bicentennial Celebration of Pike County;
- WHEREAS, The year-long Bicentennial Celebration is intended to engage the citizens across the county in recognizing and celebrating Pike County's past, present, and future;
- WHEREAS, The kickoff of the year-long Pike County Bicentennial Celebration is today, January 12, 2022 at the Historic Pike County Courthouse in Zebulon, Georgia; and,
- WHEREAS, All citizens of Pike County are invited and encouraged to celebrate and take pride in the Pike County Community, including its leaders and its bright future.

### Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Proctor to approve, motion carried 5-0.

d. Consider Special Exception refund in the amount of \$200.00.

County Manager Rogers stated this is a Special Exception application filed by Zachary DeGarmeaux. The Special Exception was not heard; however, the fee was transferred to a Variance Application which was heard by the Board of Appeals on November 18, 2021. CM Manger Rogers recommends denial of the refund since the hearing was heard before the Board of Appeals.

#### Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Proctor to deny the refund, motion carried 5-0.

e. Consider request for tax refund for Hazel Lee in the amount of \$1,063.04.

Chief Appraiser, Greg Hobbs, stated this property is a single-family residence located at 1657 McCard Lake Road. This goes back to year 2020 when the County had so many appeals. Ms. Lee appealed her evaluation because it had increased. Mr. Hobbs stated he went out and looked at her property, when he realized she was being overcharged by almost 1200 sq ft. probably since the house was constructed around year 2000. The appeal was filed in 2020 and she has requested for a refund for years 2019, 2018, 2017 in the amount of \$1,063.04.

#### Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Daniel to approve the refund, motion carried 5-0.

f. Approve/deny Resolution to set Qualifying Fees for 2022 County Elections.

Qualifying fees are as follows: County Commissioner \$385.54 School Board Member \$72.00

#### Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Proctor to approve qualifying fees, motion carried 5-0.

g. Approve/deny for the sale of surplus personal property on GovDeals.

County Manager Brandon Rogers provided a list of items to sell as surplus. The list included 2008 Ford F-450 Cab & Chassis (Bad Motor), 1994 Ford F-350 Cab & Chassis, 2 - John Deere 5085M tractors (one has a bad transmission), Alamo Side Pan Mower, Alamo Boom Mower, 2- 2010 Dodge Chargers, 42 Light Fixtures Cooper Lighting, and miscellaneous office equipment to include monitors and computers. Agribusiness Authority is looking for a tractor to use at Chestnut Oak. CM Rogers stated the County could donate a tractor to Agribusiness Authority if the Board would like to or the County can keep the tractor and let the Agribusiness Authority use the tractor. Chairman Johnson asked if the County lets the Agribusiness Authority use the tractor, who will cover the maintenance. County Manager Rogers stated the Agribusiness Authority would ultimately be responsible for it. (Ex. if they needed blades, Agribusiness would buy the blades and the County would put them on for them). County Attorney Rob Morton stated the Agribusiness Authority is an extension of Pike County and serves citizens of the County.

Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Daniel to donate the John Deere 5085M tractor VIN# 1LV5085MHCB441265 to Agribusiness Authority, motion carried 5-0.

Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Daniel to approve to sell surplus property on GovDeals, motion carried 5-0.

h. Approve/deny contract between Board of Assessors and Traylor Business Services, Inc. related to personal property verification program.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated this is the annual contract that has been approved in the past and recommends approval.

#### Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to approve, motion carried 5-0.

i. Approve/deny contract between Probate Court of Pike County and Judicial Alternatives of Georgia related to probation services.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated this contract is for probation services for Probate Court and has been signed by the Probate Judge in the past. CM Rogers recommends approval.

### Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to approve, motion carried 5-0.

j. Discussion of the Griffin Judicial Circuit Allocation.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated that Pike County is part of a Multi County Judicial Circuit, Fayette, Spalding, Lamar and Pike Counties. Fayette County has determined they need to increase the salaries of all their employees and since the Judicial Circuit is housed out of Fayette County that effects

all counties in the circuit. The Judicial Circuit has the expenses to cover the increase between the time the increase is approved until July 1, 2022. Pike County's increase is \$9,164.00 per year. Spalding and Fayette Counties have already approved the increase. County Manager Rogers recommends approval of the allocation.

### Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to approve, motion carried 5-0.

k. Authorize Chairman to sign the ACCG Group Adoption Agreement.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated this is an update regarding the change in the name of the County's insurance from Blue Cross Blue Shield to Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Guy to authorize Chairman Johnson to sign the adoption agreement, motion carried 5-0.

1. Consideration of the Resolution for Annexation Legislation.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated ACCG has been working to update the laws on the annexation process that influences cities and counties. ACCG set up a study committee and met five times during the summer and fall. The committee came up with some ideas and changes to help the County with the annexation process.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to approve resolution of support, motion carried 5-0.

m. Consideration of the Board of Education request to modify Tax Exemptions and introduce local legislation.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated the Board of Education is requesting a tax modification for Tax Exemptions for residents 62 and older. The Board of Education is asking for the support of the Board of Commissioners to introduce this to the local legislation. Chairman Johnson stated he spoke with State Representative Beth Camp, and she is ready to go once approved by the Board of Commissioners.

#### Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Proctor to approve, motion carried 5-0.

n. Consider Pike County Water & Sewerage Authority request for the use of American Rescue Plan funds for the Reidsboro Road waterline project.

County Manager Brandon Rogers stated Pike County Water and Sewerage Authority would like to use American Rescue Plan Act Funds set aside for water infrastructure for the connection from the Midway well to the back side of the Reserve at Reidsboro. A bid packet has been advertised and if the approval of the funds is authorized, the bid will be awarded at the next Pike County Water and Sewerage Authority meeting in January.

### Motion/second by Commissioners Jenkins/Daniel to approve, motion carried 5-0.

### **10. PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE**

### **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. County Attorney Rob Morton requests Executive Session for consultation with the County Attorney, or other legal counsel, to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved, as provided in O.C.G.A. §50-14-2(1), germane to potential litigation.
- b. County Manager Brandon Rogers requests Executive Session for discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or interviewing applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2), germane to personnel.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Daniel/Guy to adjourn Regular Session and enter into Executive Session at 10:10 a.m., motion carried 5-0.

#### CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT

[A copy of the affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting]

#### STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PIKE

### AFFIDAVIT OF PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Members of the Pike County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, state under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief:

The Pike County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on <u>1-12-2022</u>.

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at <u>10:10</u> a.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law:

- Yes Consultation with the county attorney, or other legal counsel, to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);
- No Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4);
- <u>Yes</u> Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or interviewing applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);
- No Other Germane to authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property.

Pike County Board of Commissioners:

Tim Daniel, Commissioner	(L.S)
Tim Guy, Commissioner	(L.S.)
Jason Proctor, Commissioner	(L.S.)
James Jenkins, Commissioner	(L.S.)
J. Briar Johnson, Chairman	(L.S.)

This the 12th day of January 2022.

Sworn to and subscribed Before me this <u>12th</u> day of <u>January 2022</u>.

Robert L. Morton Morton & Morton Associates County Attorney and Notary Public

My commission expires: August 14, 2022.

# Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Guy to adjourn Executive Session and enter into Regular Session at 10:43 a.m., motion carried 5-0.

County Manager Brandon Rogers asked the Board of Commissioners to entertain a motion, due to the changes made to the 2022 salary worksheets, CM Rogers request approval of additional local supplement to the current Chief Magistrate Judge Marcia Callaway-Ingram in the amount of \$10,642.79.

Motion/second by Commissioners Guy/Daniel to approve, motion carried 5-0.

#### **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion/second by Commissioners Proctor/Guy to adjourn at 10:44 a.m., motion carried 5-0.

J. Briar Johnson, Chairman

Angela Blount, County Clerk