

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
JANUARY 4, 2011
MINUTES**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified and notice was posted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Barnwell County Council met on January 4, 2011 in Council Chambers at 6:00 PM. Those in attendance were Chairman Travis Black, Vice Chairman Freddie Houston, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman David Kenner, Councilman Keith Sloan, Councilman Joe Smith, County Administrator Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney J.D. Mosteller, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell.

Call to Order, Invocation, and Quorum

Chairman Black called the meeting to order and Councilman Smith gave the invocation. A quorum was declared.

Oath of Office

County Attorney J.D. Mosteller Administered the Oath of office to Councilman Buckmon, Councilman Kenner, and Councilman Jowers.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 7th Council Meeting and the December 15th Special Called Meeting. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Welcome

Chairman Black welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Special Presentation

A resolution of appreciation was presented to Judge Branna Williams by Chairman Black and a resolution of recognition was presented to the Williston-Elko Football Team by Councilman Houston and Councilman Sloan.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

Airport Commission

PF Beck, Chairman of the Airport Commission, gave an update which included the following:

- Cracks in the asphalt on the ramp, runway 17-35, two T-hangars and an open hangar have been sealed with a polymer sealant. S.C. Aeronautics paid 75 % of the total cost, the remaining 25 % was split with the FAA paying 95% and the Airport paying 5%.
- A new 15 foot bush hog mower was purchased to replace the 11 foot rhino mower.

- Upcoming projects for 2011 include having polymer sealant applied on the taxiway and having it restriped. Repainting the beacon tower and replacing the sliding gate also plans to be done.
- Possibly three test walls may have to be drilled. Should this occur, the FAA has verbally agreed to cover this expense.
- In 2010 the airport showed a net profit of \$24,523. This did not include salaries or fringe benefits.

Mr. Beck ended his update by giving a check for \$10,000 to Council for partial repayment to the County of salaries and fringe benefits.

SCRDA

Danny Black, with the Southern Carolina Alliance, gave an update which included the following:

- Kronotex, SC Project Tissue, and Southeast Renewable Energy are underway.
- Three additional projects have been examining the region.
- Lead Generation is working with the following:
 - "Locate South Carolina" is a new website in partnership with Aiken-Edgefield EDP. They have had 20 conference calls and anticipate three leads that may visit the region.
 - "Heavy Manufacturing", in partnership SCANA Corporation, targets heavy manufacturing opportunities and have had a few conference calls.
 - "InSite Consulting" is a new group that has just started.
- Industry Appreciation program will end January 31, 2011.
- The SCA held the ribbon cutting ceremony on November 30, 2011 for the SC Business Center.
- The SCA and Hampton County hosted a luncheon a December 2, 2010 and announced the opening of the Southern Carolina Commerce Park.
- The Regional Workforce Enhancement Committee has had a lot of activity and anticipate that DOE will be providing several million dollars for the higher education institutions.
- The Boys and Girls Club has been working for 4 month raising funds. They have hired a director.
- Chairman Jowers, from the SRS Future Missions TaskForce, and Mr. Black will be attending a public hearing January 6, 2011 for the Blue Ribbon Committee. Mr. Black commended Councilman Jowers for his work on the SRS Task Force.

Clerk of Court

Rhonda McElveen gave an update which included the following:

- On January 4, 2011, a State Grand Jury was selected.
- The week of January 9, 2011, Family Court will be in session.
- On Daddy's Day, 135 cases are scheduled.
- In 2010, the Solicitor's office disposed of 809 warrants.

Sheriff Carroll

Sheriff Carroll gave an update which included the following:

- In 2010, the Sheriff's Office made 1199 arrests and traveled 430,844 miles.
- Officers killed in 2010 nationwide was up 37 percent.
- Sgt. Croft will be retiring on December 31, 2010 and a reception will be held on January 14, 2011 from 12 to 2 p.m. The Sheriff welcomed everyone's attendance.
- The Sheriff has spoken with Corporate Motorola and Kelly communications and a vendor will be meeting with him on January 6, 2011 concerning furniture for the 911 Center.
- The Sheriff requested that a meeting be scheduled with the Judicial Committee to discuss issues regarding radio frequencies.

Administrator

Administrator Williams gave an update which included the following:

- The Assessor's Office is continuing to receive quotes on the costs of scanning back up files.
- The Business Office was able to obtain very good interest rates for the County for the financing of the following:
 - CSI Software-four years at a rate of 1.37%
 - A 2011 backhoe-three years at a rate of 1.55%
- Emergency Management received notification from FEMA that the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved and will expire December 23, 2015.

Committee Reports

Councilman Buckmon appointed Janet Muldrow to the EDC Board, Richard Myers to the Hospital Board, and Timothy Wiggins to the Airport Commission. Councilman Houston made a motion to have Chairman Black take the vacant seat on the Southern Carolina Alliance Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sloan. Councilman Sloan requested a roll call vote.

Chairman Black-Abstained
Councilman Buckmon-Yes
Councilman Houston-Yes
Councilman Jowers-Yes

Councilman Kenner-Yes
Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Smith-Yes

The motion passed.

Councilman Jowers appointed Johnny Bessinger to the Transportation Committee. Councilman Kenner made a motion to appoint Evelyn Coker to the Regional Home Consortium Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sloan and it passed. Councilman Sloan made a motion to reappoint Administrator Williams to the Lower Savannah Council of Governments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Buckmon and it passed.

EDC Committee

There was no report.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams gave an update which included the following:

- Administrator Williams had spoken with Treasurer Gibson in late December and it did not appear that the County would need to utilize the Evergreen Account. Additionally, once approved by Council and processed by the DOE, the revenue generated from the DOE Payment In Lieu of Taxes will hopefully be enough to keep the County from having to borrow operating funds for several months.
- The \$500,000 under Account 760 was compact funds for Crane Corporation, which was received at the first of July.

Government Committee

There was no report.

Health Care Committee

There was no report.

Housing Committee

There was no report.

Judicial Committee

There was no report.

Personnel Committee

Councilman Kenner gave an update which included the following:

- The Personnel Committee met on December 14, 2010 to continue refining the personnel manual. They hoped to have a workshop before the February meeting and be able to go over the manual with County Attorney J.D. Mosteller and Attorney Winters.

Services Committee

There was no report.

Safety Committee

There was no report.

Transportation Committee

Chairman Travis Black stated that all of the 2010 Road Projects were complete except for some small grass work and some paving of the hospital parking lot.

New Business

1st Reading of an Ordinance Related to a FILT Agreement for SC Tissue

This Ordinance was approved in name only.

Resolution and Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning Department of Energy Payment-In Lieu of Taxes

Motion was made by Councilman Sloan to approve the Resolution and Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning the 2010 Department of Energy Payment In Lieu of Taxes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith and it passed.

Resolution Concerning Reduction of Force at Savannah River Site

Motion was made by Councilman Sloan to approve the Resolution Concerning Reduction of Force at the Savannah River Site. Councilman Houston asked that it be clarified that this Resolution's purpose is for the layoffs to be proportionate to the number of Barnwell County citizens working at the site. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kenner. Councilman Sloan requested a roll call vote.

Chairman Black-Yes	Councilman Kenner-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Sloan-Yes
Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Smith-Yes
Councilman Jowers-Yes	

The motion passed.

Consideration of Request for Waiver of Temporary Hiring Freeze

Motion was made by Councilman Kenner to approve the Request for a Waiver of the Temporary Hiring Freeze for a position in the Probate Judge's Office. The motion was seconded by Councilman Buckmon and it passed.

Executive Session

Councilman Jowers moved to go into Executive Session. Councilman Smith seconded this motion. There was no action taken in Executive Session.

Open Session

Councilman Sloan made a motion to authorize the attorneys to proceed with the repairs to the County Administration Building. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Councilman Sloan made a motion that a letter be sent to the Hospital Board consistent with that recommended by Council. The Letter will be signed by Chairman Black. The motion was seconded and it passed.

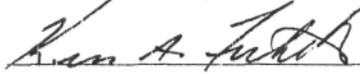
Councilman Sloan made a motion that the letter being sent to the Hospital Board specifically include the substance of the Letter of Intent that County Council signed with HMP. Specific directions to avoid any actions that wouldn't comply with the Letter of Intent that we have and directions to specifically rescind any actions that the

Barnwell Hospital Board may have taken since the date the execution of the Letter of Intent with Barnwell County that would have violated those intentions should be included in the letter. The motion was seconded and it passed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim A. Futrell
Clerk to Council/Admin. Asst.



Travis Black
Council Chairman