

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Regular Meeting – April 19, 2005 – 6:00 p.m.
Linda N. Eddleman, Clerk to Council

MINUTES

All area newspapers, radio stations and television stations were informed of this meeting in compliance with the guidelines set forth in the *Freedom of Information Act*.

PRESENT

Chairperson Gracie S. Floyd, Presiding
Vice Chairman Larry E. Greer - District #3
G. Fred Tolly – District #1
Bill McAbee – District #4
Michael Thompson – District #5
William C. Dees – District #6
Cindy Wilson – District #7
Joey Preston – Administrator
Todd Davidson – County Attorney
Linda N. Eddleman - Clerk to Council
Tammie Shealy – Deputy Clerk to Council (Left at 7:40 p.m.)
ABSENT
Tom Martin - County Attorney

(During times of discussion and presentations the minutes are condensed and paraphrased.)

The official meeting of the Anderson County Council convened in the Council Chambers of the Historic Courthouse on Tuesday, April 19, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

Chairperson Gracie S. Floyd called the meeting to order and Mr. Michael Thompson gave the invocation. Everyone pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

On the motion of Ms. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2005 meetings as mailed with two corrections on page 6.

Major General Burchstead, a soldier in the Army National Guard, said that Anderson County has four National Guard units: Belton, Williamston, and 2 Anderson units and since 9-1-1 three has been mobilized and the fourth has been alerted for mobilization. He said that there was a procedure when units are mobilized to honor the most important center of influence to help the organization and soldiers in the mobilization process. When they looked at this the over-whelming choice was Anderson County. He thanked Anderson County for being out-front leading the effort to support the troops. On behalf of the South Carolina National Guard, Major General Burchstead presented the Council with a flag with the inscription for exemplary support of the Army National Guard an the citizens, soldiers, and families. Chairperson Floyd accepted the gift and then thanked Major General Burchstead. Mr. McAbee moved to approve Resolution #R2005-026 and Mr. Dees seconded. Vote was unanimous. Mr. McAbee presented a Resolution #R2005-026 – a resolution recognizing and honoring Major General Harry Burchstead for promotion to rank of Major General. Council presented Major General Burchstead with the framed resolution.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Matters -- Mr. Brooks Brown said that as he looked at the proposed budget he noticed that the Council was not fixing potholes but building bridges. He said that it could come back to "bite" Council.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH: Mr. David Scott, Human Resources Committee Chairman presented Mr. Derrick Singleton as the Employee of Month for April. He was presented a gift certificate to a local restaurant and commended for his outstanding service to the citizens of Anderson County.

PENDLETON LIBRARY PRESENTATION: Mr. Scot Simmons, Architect with Craig, Gaulden, and Davis, Inc. gave a brief presentation on the new Pendleton Branch Library. He presented preliminary drawings and said that the library would be located on the site of the old burned mansion in Pendleton. Council heard from Mayor Carol Burdette, Ms. Fran Shirley, and Mr. Carl Stone. Council received as information.

SUMMARY COURT BUDGET PRESENTATION: Chief Magistrate Nancy Devine introduced several magistrates in attendance. Chief Magistrate Devine gave a brief budget review of the Magistrates budget in Anderson. She said that the Anderson Office last month saw over 2,500 people. She said their goal was to uphold the independence of judiciary. She said that Sheriff Crenshaw had agreed to provide her with a deputy if County Council gives him the requested employees in his proposed budget. She asked for an increase in jury fees from \$34,000 to \$60,000. The United States and South Carolina Constitution and South Carolina law guarantees all parties the right to due process of law, the right to a trial by a jury of their peers, and the right to face their accusers. They are ordered to dispose of criminal cases in 60 days, and civil in 90 days by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. They have implemented centralized jury trials and jury pools that have decreased the cost of jury trials by over \$100 per trial. As of April 15, they had 751 requests for jury trials that are 90 days old. Now that the County has the judges to try the cases, they must work diligently to dispose of them. She asked for one new full-time clerk who would travel to the district magistrate's office to assist with data entry, scheduling and insuring that the Chief Justice's Order on Financial Record keeping is followed. In summary, Magistrate Devine said that they were asking for a \$35,000 operating increase, one new employee, and change one part time employee to full time. Mr. Greer asked Magistrate Devine was she asking for one full time deputy, one full time clerk, and one part time employee to full time and a \$35,000 increase in her operating budget. She replied yes. Mr. Dees said that he was very much concerned with the security position. Mr. Thompson said that he's visited and spoken with Magistrate Devine on a couple of occasions about the security situation. He said that Council needs to act quickly and make this request a "high priority" request. Mr. Dees said that he too was concerned very much about the security issue in the Magistrate's department. He said that when you request one position it will actually take two; allowing sick days, vacation, and etc. so obviously one assigned position would cost the Sheriff's office more than one position. He said that he thought her requests were quite reasonable. Council received as information.

Chairperson Floyd presented third and final reading of Ordinance #2005-010 – an ordinance authorizing the leasing of available Commercial Office Space at the Anderson Regional Airport to Anderson Aero, LLC; and other matters related thereto. Mr. Dees moved to approve and Ms. Wilson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Council Member Michael Thompson presented first reading of Ordinance #2005-012 – an ordinance amending Section 2-351(3) of the Anderson County Code of Ordinances pertaining to Anderson County Council Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Councils; and other matters relating thereto. He said that his predecessor made appointments to serve on boards and commissions after he left office. Mr. Martin advised him on how the problem could be handled. He then moved to approve the Ordinance on first reading and Mr. Dees seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd presented Resolution #R2005-012 – a resolution endorsing and supporting the South Carolina Attorney General's Methwatch Program as well as legislation pending in the South Carolina General Assembly related to curtailing the production and use of Methamphetamine in Anderson County, as well as throughout the State of South Carolina; and other matters related thereto. Chairperson Floyd moved to approve and Mr. Tolly seconded. Chairperson Floyd read the Resolution in its entirety. Vote was unanimous.

APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. Tolly moved to appoint Mr. D.K. Oglesby, Jr. to the Planning Commission. Mr. Dees seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Tolly moved to appoint Mr. Brooks Brown to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Greer seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to reappoint Mr. Freddie Banks to the Airport Commission. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to reappoint Mr. Marvin Greene to the Board of Assessment Appeals. Mr. Greer seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to reappoint Mr. Van Clinkscales to the Construction Board of Adjustment Appeals and Mr. Greer seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to reappoint Mr. Roy Mack to the EMS Advisory Commission and Mr. Greer seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to appoint Ms. Janie Turmon to the Human Relations Council and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Mr. Barry Woods to the Airport Commission and Ms. Floyd seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Mr. Butch Allread to the Athletic Commission. Mr. McAbee seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Ms. Mitizi Borden to the Broadway Lake Committee and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Ms. Helen Austin to the Economic Advisory Board and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Mr. Albert Atkins to the Farmers Market board and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to appoint Mr. Walter L. Warnick to serve on the Library Board and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Mr. Jackie Alewine to the Sports and Entertainment Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Mr. Ron Gilreath to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Thompson seconded and vote was unanimous.

Ms. M. Cindy Wilson moved to reappoint Ms. Rosemary Moore to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Ms. Wilson moved to reappoint Mr. Charles Sitka to the Economic Advisory Committee and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Ms. Wilson moved to reappoint Mr. John Lesley to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Thompson seconded and vote was unanimous.

Ms. Wilson moved to appoint Ms. Teresa Morgan to the EMS Advisory Committee and Mr. Thompson seconded and vote was unanimous.

Council recessed at 7:00 p.m. Chairperson Floyd called the meeting back to order at 7:10 p.m.

REQUESTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Tolly moved to appropriate \$1,000 from District 1 Recreation Account for the Anderson Braves 15 year old baseball team for their state tournament participation. The motion was seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to reallocate \$15,000 of the \$50,000, previously allocated for the paving of city streets, for roadwork for the Salvation Army. Mr. Dees seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to appropriate \$2,000 from District #2 Recreation Account for the Belton Arts Council summer programs. Ms. Wilson seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Dees moved to appropriate \$5,000 for payment on the lights at Hurricane Springs Park from District 6 recreation account. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Tommy Thompson said that the time had come to upgrade and replace hardware and fixtures in the 9-1-1 Center. Seven years at 24 hours a day, seven days a week service has taken its toll on the equipment. After next year, maintenance on the system cannot be guaranteed, he said. National standard for replacement is 3 years. So the county is four years pass due. He asked that the process for implementing their upgrades be started. This can be funded by the 9-1-1 Tariff Fund, which is returned to the County through the state. The proposed upgrades will also add dispatch positions to permit additional response agencies to join the county's center, he also said. Mr. Preston said that he recommended first reading of the ordinance (2005-015). Mr. Greer made a motion to approve to get the ordinance on the floor for discussion and Mr. Dees seconded. Ms. Wilson said that the information was handed to them as they came into the meeting tonight and they did not have any time to review. Ms. Wilson asked where the collections from the E-9-1-1 tariff funds stand. Mr. Preston said that he did not have a balance but there was a restriction on how you can spend the money. It generates approximately \$750,000 per year and must be spent on this type program, he said. Mr. Greer asked if it was correct to say that this would not affect the property taxes in Anderson County in any way since the total debt retirement and interest will come from the 9-1-1 tariff. Mr. Preston said he was correct. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION ON VIOLATIONS – BIG BEAVERDAM CREEK PHASE 1A AND 1B: Ms. M. Cindy Wilson

Ms. Wilson: To start this brief presentation, the request was actually that our County staff, the Administrator, consultants, and engineer provide to our Council members the nature of the violations on Phases 1A and 1B of Big Beaverdam Sewer Project and also to explain those and what measures were going to be taken to make the necessary corrections. Also the cost of doing such. I want folks to realize that every council member has the right, not just a privilege, but also the right to place topics on the agenda for each meeting for a period not to exceed 45 minutes. This request was not only, not honored, but the twenty minutes was chopped to 5 minutes by, I understand, our Administrator. So folks can draw their conclusions now of what I know at present. On February, excuse me; on August the 9th of 2004 Mr. Les Parker with the Corp of Engineers visited two segments one each on phases 1A and 1B. He made quite a few notes and a lot of photographs and I understand that violations proceedings against, enforcement proceedings against the County began shortly thereafter. Mr. Mark Caldwell, with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, along with the US Army Corps of Engineers and South Carolina DHEC and other agencies. He visited on February 25. He went to parts of all three phases of the Big Beaverdam Sewer project; 1A, which is currently under construction – almost complete, and 1B that is complete and parts of Phase 2, which has not been started. All these permits that were involved so far were issued under what is called Nationwide 12 Permitting - Streamline permitting. I am going to quote from his letter. It begins – 'From my observations it is glaringly apparent that the completed work did not adhere to General Condition 3 (and others) as test management practices were non-existence over the vast majority of the project resulting in significant sedimentation in the adjacent creek and wetlands. As a result the creek is severely incised in many locations and the creek bed has been covered due to adjacent upland run-off. Down stream impacts were also evident due to the lack of sediment and erosion control. The downstream water column was clouded with suspended sediments. Adjacent private properties have been negatively impacted through flooding and erosion. I also believe that several other General Conditions were violated, including number 5 – Equipment in wetlands without mats and soil disturbance, Number 6 – regional conditions noted below. Number 19 – Mitigation, avoidance and minimization, Number 21 – Management of water flows, Number 22 – creation of impoundments, Number 24 – temporary fill removal, and Number 26 – fill within the 100-year flood plain. Several of the Regional Conditions as referred to in General Condition #6 have also been ignored. Specifically numbers 1 through 4, 11, and 19 through 21. Additional General and Regional Conditions have been violated, however, I cannot ascertain this as I do have the proper documentation. Even though the service does not have the wetland delineation to review, I believe the ½ acre wetland impact limitation specified in NWP number 12 was exceeded in the course of the authorized work. Additional wetland acreage was impacted through direct fill and sedimentation from the above-mentioned lack of BMPs. Many of the functions – the creek and adjacent wetland systems in this area have been destroyed or severely impeded, flood control and surface water purification being the most impacted. With this email, the US Fish and Wildlife Service requests the US Army Corps of engineers take necessary steps to ensure restoration of habitat destroyed or damaged by the completed project and require mitigation for impacted areas. If necessary, and possible, the Service feels the applicant should reapply under a COE Individual Permit for the entire project to allow a thorough review by the resource agencies of South Carolina.' This is a very serious issue. It is going to be very costly, I suspect to repair and replace the damaged areas. It all goes back to the 1B project was an endorsed project in my Council District and across the County. It was a very worthwhile project and it was horribly put into place. Design South Engineers has a part in this. Our own County consultant, Mr. Pearson, and all of county folks that were supposed to be involved with insuring that these conditions were met. I demand by the next meeting that we have answers from our Administrator and associated staff folks as to why this happened and what's going to cost to correct. Thank you.

Chair: Mr. Preston, do we have a copy of the letter that she has. Do you have a copy of the letter that she read?

Mr. Preston: I don't have a copy of that.

Chair: They didn't send you a copy of it?

Mr. Preston: no. Ma'am.

Chair: Did they send a copy to anyone on our staff?

Mr. Preston: I don't know. I have no idea, but I have Mr. Pearson here that can address...

Wait a minute. Right now I want to deal with the letter thing here, okay. The letter has said that we were in violation of certain things right? I want to see it myself. I want to see a copy of this letter myself. I want to read it myself.

Mr. Preston: I do not have one...

Chair: And they did not send you a copy?

Mr. Preston: No ma'am.

Chair: (to Ms. Wilson) Did they send you a copy? So you are the only one that got a copy?

Ms. Wilson: I've shared it with you several weeks ago and it's in front of you right now.

Chair: Where? Where did you put it in front of me?

Ms. Wilson: It was sat beside the package from Summary court.

Chair: Did y'all get a copy of it (directed to all members of Council)?

Ms. Wilson: I put one again at each Council's seat.

Mr. Dees: Madam Chair. I believe what's being referred to is an email as opposed to a letter. Is that correct, Ms. Wilson?

Ms. Wilson: They sent me a copy of the email.

Mr. Dees: That's all I have is an email.

Chair: Mr. Preston can you speak to this? I'm going to ask Mr. Pearson to speak.

Mr. Pearson: Madam Chairman and Councilpersons. (Trouble with the mic) We have received no copy of any thing like that from the Fish and Wildlife. The only correspondence we have from the Fish and Wildlife is from Mr. Caldwell's supervisor and from Mr. Timothy Hall. And in his correspondence to Mr. Preston he does state that Mr. Caldwell did visit the site and what he thought, and he reported what he thought could be possible violations, but that it would be up to the corps and he could not make that determination. Mr. Timothy Hall also went further and said that it was unfortunate that the newspaper article, which appeared after this visit, was not all together factually in terms of content or information reported. So that's all I know about that. We did have arranged to visit Mr. Les Parker from the Corps on the 5th of this month and walked the site and he mentioned none of the things covered by Mr. Wilson a few minutes ago. We do have three locations on Phase 1 B on the gravity portion that we have stabilized the creek banks. He wants us to re-grade the creek banks to broaden them out and make a milder slope to broaden out the flood plain through that area rather than have a steeper bank as they were when we went through. There was another location that where we have filled over the sewer line he wants us to move some of that fill so that the rain water can sheet flow over this area over the sewer line through that area. One other location there where we had left the pipe in a creek or ditch where we could have access to come up and down the line for maintenance purposes. Mr. Parker said that he would like for us to remove that pipe. He said if we wanted to we could reopen the permit and amend the permit to leave the pipe so we would have access. We said no that we didn't want to do that we would take the pipe out and then if need be next year we would apply to the corps for a maintenance assess permit and they would grant it so we could put the pipe back in so we could have access to this area. In one other location he wanted us to remove some silt. We had silt fences up as required by the storm water permit and it worked very well because Mr. Parker said even though the storm water permit requires the silt fences to catch the silt during construction according to the corps he wants us to remove this silt and remove the silt fences. And take this silt and put it above-higher ground above where the sewer line actually is. And then re-stabilize ...stabilize that area where we removed the silt. And one other area on Phase 1B that he wants us to remove some riprap where we had stabilized the creek and re-grade the creek again and also broaden out the slopes of the creek bank to make a broader flood plain through area as the creek flows. On phase 1A there was four locations required by the Storm water permit we put in riprap what they call check dams, to catch the silt. One of two of these was rainwater creeks. Only flow is when we have storms. There was one that did have running creek in it but we put in check dams to check the silt during construction. Now according to Mr. Parker this riprap and check dams will have to be removed. And we will stabilize those areas once we take out the riprap. Like I said there was a discrepancy, well not a discrepancy, but a conflict between a couple points between the storm water permit and the Corps of Engineers permit.

Mr. Preston: That's DHEC's permit.

Mr. Pearson: That's DHEC's storm water permit and the Corps' permit. Mr. Parker said that they are currently in discussions with DHEC to try to get these discrepancies or conflicts ironed out so that we won't have this type of problem again.

Chair: Council members, I am going to ask that we please vote to extend the time on this agenda item because we are going to need some more time to discuss this. So that's in the form of a motion.

Mr. Dees: Second.

Chair: Question. All in favor of extending the time. Thank you. Seven and 0. Seven and zero. Go ahead.

Mr. Pearson: I don't have a cost for these items yet, but the items on Phase 1B have been completed by the contractor and we have not gotten out and re-looked to be sure that he has made the corrections properly but we will be doing that in the next day or two. And we will be getting the costs for that work shortly. We have contacted the contractor for 1A to come in and make these minor repairs. When we do that I'll be able to give you a cost for that.

Chair: I might be calling on you again in a few minutes. What I see here is this. Ms. Wilson received an email sent to Les Parker from Mark Caldwell. Ms. Wilson received an email that Mark Caldwell sent to Les Parker, his superior. We received a letter from Timothy Hall who is from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. And I want to read to you what it says. 'Regarding the Beaverdam Creek field visit, our office received a call from Ms. Wilson relaying her concerns about the project. At that time, she did not specifically notify us that she was on the County Council. We took her call to be a concerned citizen requesting our assistance in reviewing this project. As I have stated that we frequently meet with citizens to provide technical assistance. Since Mr. Caldwell was going to be in the Greenville area reviewing other permits he set up an appointment to meet Ms. Wilson on the site. It was through subsequent conversations with Ms. Wilson that Mr. Caldwell became aware that Ms. Wilson was on the County Council but she did not specifically identify herself as representing the county. Mr. Caldwell was also unaware that a newspaper report would be at the site. Mr. Caldwell, acting as a representative of the servants provided his professional judgment as to what he thought could be possible violations of the national wide permit. He also made it clear that it was up to COE to make any official determinations regarding possible permit violations. But he would forward his information to COE unfortunately the newspaper article, which appeared after the site was not all together factual in terms of context or information purposes. Mr. Caldwell followed our standard procedure. We received a call from a concerned citizen. We met with the citizen. We provide the findings of a possible permit violation. It is now up to the COE to make an official determination as to whether any violation occurred.' Now Mr. Pearson that's when you come in. Did they let you know that we had some official violation occurring?

Mr. Pearson: Fish and Wildlife- No. And the Corps of Engineers have not contacted us about the Fish and Wildlife letter.

Chair: Ok. So the only thing that Mr. Caldwell did was to come down here, visit the site, went back and said there could be some possible things but it wasn't up to him to site Anderson County but the COE if they found anything would let us know this. And we haven't heard a thing. Is that how it goes? That's how it goes. So back to what you first said (directed to Ms. Wilson) about being put on the agenda, each council member does have a right to put what he or she wants on the agenda. You said that you wanted something on the agenda and you got it. It's on the agenda. We're talking about it now. And also you could speak up to 45 minutes and it also says that the administrator sets the time approved by the Council member. You requested. It's on here. You requested 20 minutes. The Administrator gave you five and the council chair agreed with it. End of story.

Mr. Dees: I would like to know who has jurisdiction-the U.S. Fish and Wildlife or the Corps. of Engineers? Who has the ultimate jurisdiction? I mean who's in charge. The Fish and Wildlife or the Corps of Engineers?

Mr. Pearson: The Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Dees: Thank you.

Mr. Greer: Madam Chair

Chair: Mr. Greer.

Mr. Greer: Mr. Pearson, if you would. I heard very clearly what you said about your visit at the site with a representative of the Corps of Engineers, but I'm not sure I got a very concise understanding of what actually occurred. What I heard you telling me that they had some areas that they wanted some improvements over what was there and there was several on both phases. But did the Corps of Engineers at any time in any matter, written verbal or otherwise issue an official statement of a violation on that site?

Mr. Pearson: Not any of those items. No sir.

Mr. Greer: Neither written, verbal or in any form?

Mr. Pearson: No sir.

Mr. Greer: So there were no violations sited by the Corps of Engineers on Phase 1A or 1b.

Mr. Pearson: No sir.

Mr. Greer: Thank you.

Mr. Pearson: Madam Chair just to point out ...it's not uncommon to have an occasional violation and when you're out with so many permitting agencies. That's not uncommon for construction projects of this size. But Mr. Pearson and staff they're on top of it and they're going through right now with the final inspections. An this happens in many types of construction when you're building these types of sewer lines. When you have two agencies; DHEC and the Corps of Engineers they don't agree with each other on how things should be done so they have to get together and work out their disagreements so that we can figure out what to do -know what to do.

Ms. Wilson: Madam chair. To my knowledge, I have never talked with a Mr. Timothy Hall. Everyone I've talked with at the Corps of Engineers knows my position in fact there is correspondence on (tape ended-2-3 seconds lost) to take place now...there are some corrections.

Chair: Well, Ms. Wilson until this County is notified that there are some violations going out there we will go on and act accordingly. We will continue with the work that we've been doing out there, Mr. Preston.

Mr. Preston:

Yes ma'am.

Chair: Until we hear from these people that we are in violation, we are going to march right on through it. Anybody have anything else to say about this before I move on? Thank you.

REQUEST FOR BUDGET PRESENTATION: Ms. M. Cindy Wilson said that she had asked the question why council has not received a budget calendar. And during the budget presentation when Council does have one, why does Council vote in title only. She said that in the bound budget book the numbers are different from the proposed budget notebook that Council voted on and approved. She asked for answers to her questions. She said that if Council makes an honest effort to go department by department and enterprise fund by enterprise fund that council can find areas that Council can re-prioritize spending. In the handout she provided to council, there were questions that she had and she is still waiting on answers from Council's March meeting. She said one was: "What are the legal liabilities to the County if a motorist is injured or killed on Stevenson Road bridge?" "Should we not temporarily close the road to traffic?" She asked for account information as to the \$300,000 added to a general obligation bond approximately three years ago for the purpose of repairing the bridge. If the money is in the capital projects fund #326 as one council member had been advised – why is the account labeled Detention center? Under Arbitrage rules or Federal laws has this money not been spent, why has it not been spent? She also requested that Council be brought up to date on all loans, bonds, and lease purchase agreements' status. She also requested that council know the answer why the County back in December would pay over \$15,000 out of cost-of-living departments spread out over 13 departments to purchase Chamber of Commerce checks, what she was told - \$25.00 per employee? She said she also requested what and why the county has paid the McNair law Firm more than \$288,000 in a two-week period during that time. Is that the purchase of the Stichery, she asked? She also questioned the more than \$18,000 in credit card bills that the county has for a two-week period and why the county was paying the Sheriff's travel expenses out of senior citizens' account. Mr. Greer said that Stevenson Road, in his district, was getting a lot of attention. He said it seemed to be that the Stevenson Road community does not want the road closed and it was evident by the petition that was presented when the \$300,000 was approved by the council two years ago now. He said that he takes issue with any insinuation that he, as a council member, and Mr. Hopkins, as the Director of the Transportation Department, are now concerned with the safety of the citizens down there. That was the reason the cul-de-sac was put in to assist those people with the school bus turn around. He said that they are working with the Corps of Engineers as to what can and can't be done. He also said that the cost to repair the road has gone up and they are currently searching for additional revenue for the road repairs. He said that he takes it as an insult that anyone would even imply that he is not concerned about the safety of his citizens. Mr. Greer asked Mr. Hopkins if he has told him that if he determines that the road is not safe for people to travel on - if he feels like it is necessary to close it - to close it? Mr. Hopkins replied yes. Mr. Greer said that for safety issues the road would be temporarily closed. Ms. Wilson asked if late at night, when it is dark and raining if the road was lite well enough for citizens to know that water is rushing across the road? Mr. Preston replied that if the County had to close roads for safety reasons – they would have to close about 25% countywide.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: (time requested 5/allotted 5 minutes)

- a. Certificates and Training: Mr. Hugh W. Lloyd – Asbestos Supervisor Update
- b. Letters of Appreciation:
 1. For: Mr. Joey Preston, County Council, and staff From: City of Belton's Administrator David Watson, Mayor Rufus Callaham, and Consultant Bob Burriss
 2. For: Mr. Fred Tolly From: Ms. Beth Cribbe, Director of Development Anderson Sunshine House
 3. For: Mr. Joey Preston and County Council From: Mr. John D. Henderson
 4. For: Mr. Michael Miller From: Maj. David Perry
 5. For: Mr. John Ferguson and staff From: Mr. Todd Smith
 6. For: Capt. John Chambers and Staff From: Ms. Linda Batten
- c. Reports:
 1. District Paving Account
 2. Anderson County 911 Dispatched Call Report for March 2005
 3. Animal Control report for March 2005
 4. Environmental Enforcement Monthly Report for March 2005
 5. Environmental Enforcement Sign Removal Report
 6. Building & Codes Monthly Report for March, 2005
- d. Minutes/ Minutes/Agendas: Anderson County Transportation Divisions Safety Meeting
- e. Letter to Mrs. Nichole B. Burdette
- f. News Article *Keeping S.C. Courthouses Safe*
- g. Detention Center Population and Length-of-Stay
- h. Article in *Carolina Counties*

- i. FY2005 Solid Waste Grant award to Anderson County
- j. ACTC approved projects
- k. Departmental Transfers

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Other Matters --- No citizens wished to speak during this time.

Chairperson Floyd reminded everyone of the County Council retreat scheduled for Thursday, April 21.

Chairperson Floyd moved to amend the agenda to add a proclamation. Ms. Wilson seconded and vote was unanimous. On the motion of Chair Floyd, seconded by Ms. Wilson, Council voted unanimously to approve a proclamation proclaiming May 2005 as Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Month.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda N. Eddleman
Clerk to Anderson County Council