

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**February 20, 2015**  
**Retreat 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 in a Retreat on February 20, 2015 at 9 am. In attendance were Chairman David Kenner, Vice-Chairman Keith Sloan, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Freddie Houston, Councilman Lowell Jowers, Councilman Joe Smith, County Administrator Pickens Williams Jr. and Laura McKenzie from the Barnwell People Sentinel.

Chairman Kenner called the meeting to order and an invocation was given. A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Council reviewed overall goals from the 2013 retreat, discussing the goals that had been accomplished, the goals that are still being worked on, and those that do not appear possible to accomplish, such as securing the release of Chem-Nuclear long term fund interest.

**Council Goals for 2015**

**Councilman Buckmon**

- Improved recycling program
- Move agencies per 10 year space need plan
- Apply for Animal Shelter grant
- Improve relations with communities
- Reduce legal fees
- Continue paving dirt roads

**Councilman Creech**

- EDC and the SCA to continue working well together
- Improve Career Center, make sure industry has a voice in activities
- Tear down Shuron Building and use the area for an industrial site
- Water, Sewer to the SCAT Park
- Upgrade recycling centers
- A business in Hilda
- A pool at the YMCA

**Councilman Houston**

- Purchase SCA Building for office space
- Give special attention to growth of Blackville Industrial Park
- Government Committee – look at policies regarding nuclear activity in County – get more revenue from the activities
- Get technology to help employees perform their jobs

**Chairman Jowers**

- Litter clean up
- Re-evaluate all boards/commissions members
- County-wide water system
- County-wide police force
- Get more railroad access in County
- Work on another 1% Capital Project Sales Tax for County projects

**Chairman Kenner**

- Repair Courthouse – assess needed repairs
- Attention to Blackville Industrial Park
- More recreation in Towns
- Work w/ Community Development Corporations to get projects done
- Penny Capital Project Sales Tax
- Good relationships with Counties, SRS
- Address litter problems
- Work with Denmark Tech, USC-Salk to help our students
- Boys/Girls Club – support their activities

**Vice-Chairman Sloan**

- Salary increases for employees
- Long term facilities plan with outside assistance
- Acquire SCA building for County offices
- County wide water, sewer
- Penny Capital Project Sales Tax
- Have commercial and small business development in addition to industrial development
- Provide more funding to the EDC – Provide 5% of fee in lieu of tax money on new industry to EDC
- Work to build relationships with other Counties
- Review purposes of effectiveness of boards/commissions

**Councilman Smith**

- Restore the grass cutting, clean up position in buildings and grounds
- Work with City – put up a fence by Exxon at Wal-Mart to catch trash blowing
- Work on rail system
- Work on water system in County
- Courthouse – look at building new Courthouse complex
- Improve and keep good relationships with fellow Council members and communities

**Administrator Williams**

- Repair County buildings – Courthouse, Agricultural Building – have architect determine repair estimate
- Get EDC Director on board
- Penny Capital Project Sales Tax

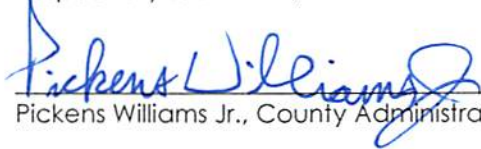
**Overall Goals**

- Railroad spurs needed in County
- Improve water/sewer
- Working better with other Counties, governmental entities
- Penny Capital Project Sales Tax effort

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Pickens Williams Jr., County Administrator

  
David Kenner, Council Chairman