

MINUTES
BARTOW COUNTY COMMISSIONER
SPECIAL CALLED PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 13, 2009
8:30 a.m.

Bartow County Commissioner Clarence Brown called the meeting to order, explaining that today is crossover day at the House of Representatives, and therefore any business that requires the passing of a bill in the House should be submitted to the House no later than Monday, January 16th.

Commissioner Brown signed a resolution authorizing the increase in Hotel/Motel Excise Tax from 5% to 6%. The additional 1% will be used to fund the operation of the new Civic Center. Commissioner Brown went on to say that it was never the County's intention to use County funds to operate the Civic Center. Commissioner Brown also stated that he did not feel that the additional 1% would deter people from staying in the local hotels, adding that many of the surrounding counties already charge this amount or more.

Ms. Ellen Archer with the Cartersville/Bartow Tourism Council stated that the increase in excise tax should raise hotel/motel receipts an average of 10%, with an increase of approximately \$200,000 expected per year. Ms. Archer added that she expects the Civic Center to have an economic impact on Bartow County of \$10 million minimum per year. Bartow County officials are taking a pro active step to assure that the operation of the Civic Center does not fall back on the local governments.

After answering questions from the media, the meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Gill
County Clerk
Bartow County, Georgia