

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 4, 2010

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 4, 2010 in the Board of Commissioners Main Meeting Room in the Lenoir County Courthouse at 130 S. Queen St., Kinston, NC.

Members present: Chairman George Graham, Vice-Chairman Claude Stroud and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Reuben Davis, Chris Humphrey, Tommy Pharo and Linda Rouse Sutton.

Members absent: None

Also present were: Michael Jarman, County Manager, Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager, Martha Martin, Finance Officer, Robert Griffin, County Attorney; Lashanda Aytch, Clerk to the Board; and members of the general public and the news media.

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Ms. Brown offered the invocation and Mr. Graham led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Presentation of the Lenoir County, North Carolina Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2009 by the Lenoir County Finance Department and Pittard, Perry & Crone: Mr. C. Dean Horne, CPA. Mr. Horne stated the section entitled "Management Discussion and Analyst" comes from Mr. Jarman and Ms. Martin, Finance Officer. This is the sixth year this section has been implemented in the report. The highest level of opinion that an auditor can give is called an "unqualified opinion." This means that all audit tests were complete and no items were reported. Lenoir County government has received an "unqualified opinion." Under Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General Fund (page 18) shows the reader what the county's original budget was, and what changes were made to that budget throughout the year. Total revenues budgeted were \$56,614,580 and actual revenues were \$54,318,963, represents a total of \$2,295,617 less in revenue than was anticipated. Total expenditures budgeted were \$58,478,480 and actual expenditures were \$52,260,219. Mr. Humphrey asked how the Department of Social Services (DSS) Funds affected the General Fund. DSS expenditures budgeted were \$18,281,836; actual expenditures were \$14,461,629, which represents \$3,820,206 in savings. Mr. Jarman stated the Undesignated Unreserved Fund Balance stands at 18%. The Board requested 20% Fund Balance, which County Administration continues to strive for. Mr. Humphrey asked what does the county actually have in its savings account. Mr. Jarman stated \$9.5 million is in the undesignated Fund. Mr. Jarman stated Non-Emergency would be discussed at length during the budget process. Mr. Graham thanked the management team and commissioners for their hard work in keeping Lenoir County moving forward. The Board thanked Mr. Horne and his staff for all their work as well.

Ms. Ann Davis and Ms. Isabel Fletcher Perry addressed the Board regarding the November 2012 Founding of Kinston. Ms. Davis stated the Founding of Kinston celebration would take place on November 3, 2012. Planning for this event actually began in 2008 to ensure total community support for the event. Ms. Davis stated the celebration has a lot of potential and is an opportunity to help the community economically as well. Ms. Davis noted that Ms. Perry was involved in the planning and celebration of the founding of Kinston celebration. Ms. Davis asked that the Board be involved in the planning stages of this event. Mr. Graham noted that Ms. Perry helped in the design process of the Lenoir County Seal and was a former commissioner. Mr. Graham nominated Ms. Sutton, Mr. Pharo and Ms. Brown to serve on a committee to bring planning information back to the Board.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman recommended the Board decline the following bid: 307 E. Blount St. Kinston, NC (\$200). Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown the recommendation was approved. Mr. Jarman also noted the annual secondary road statement as required by general statute 136-44.9 by NCDOT. Mr. Jarman stated the statement lists which secondary roads the NCDOT has made improvements to for the previous calendar year using Secondary Road Construction Funds.

Mr. Jarman stated the county is in the middle of constructing a second landfill cell. The current landfill cell is nearing capacity, which caused a minor accident over the holiday week. The “Pan” used at the landfill slid down the pile and tumbled over; there were no injuries reported and the equipment received minor damage. Due to the wet and poor condition the landfill was closed Thursday, December 31st to allow the landfill to dry-out. County Administration is in the process of working out a Solid Waste Transfer and Disposal Agreement with Waste Industries. The agreement will operate the Transfer Station for four (4) days a week and will allow hauling material to Waste Industries landfill site. Waste Industries will charge \$34 per ton which leaves the county \$5 per ton; to operate the Transfer Station. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, the Board approved the Transfer and Disposal Agreement as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda:

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| 3. | Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: December 7, 2009 | Kelly/Martin |
| 4. | Resolution Approving the Releases and Refunds to the Individuals Listed Herein | Martin/Jarman |
| 5. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: Finance/Sheriff’s Department: \$100: Increase | Huff/Martin |
| 6. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Sheriff Dept.: \$180: Increase | Huff/Martin |
| 7. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$404: Increase | Martin/Jarman |

PUBLIC HEARING

Item No. 8 is a Public Hearing Regarding the 2009 North Carolina Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program – Economic Development Category. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown the Public Hearing opened at 9:48 a.m. Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director addressed the Board. Mr. Pope stated the County intends to apply for \$1,000,000 in CDBG grant assistance under the Economic Development Category and \$1,000,000 in NC Rural Center Economic Development Infrastructure funds to install a 6-mile natural gas transmission pipeline from the intersection of NC 58/US 70 to the Sanderson Farms Plant in the US 70 Industrial Park west of Kinston, NC. Total project costs are estimated to be \$3,400,000. The pipeline will serve Sanderson Farms, Inc. who intends to construct a poultry processing plant and related facilities, and will allow for excess capacity in the Industrial Park. Mr. Pope stated in order to apply for the grant; the city and county had to agree to put up \$700,000 a piece to install the gas line. The county is also applying to the Tobacco Trust Fund for a \$1.4 million grant to help cover the potential costs. Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Pharo stated they did not feel comfortable voting to approve spending the \$700,000 for the gas line, when Piedmont Natural Gas agreed it would provide the gas to Sanderson Farms at the beginning of negotiations. After much discussion and no comments from the public, upon a motion from Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown the Public Hearing closed at 10:10 a.m.

Item No. 9B was a Resolution Supporting Agreement with Piedmont Natural Gas for Construction, Operating and Resale. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 9B was approved by a 5 to 2 vote with Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Pharo dissenting.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Approving Mileage Reimbursement for County Employees from \$.55 to \$.50 Per Mile Effective January 1, 2010. Mr. Jarman stated the Board is requested to decrease the mileage reimbursement rate for County Employees who are required to use their personal vehicles in the delivery of County Government services from \$.55 to \$.50 per mile- the IRS maximum. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11 was a Resolution Awarding Contract: Grinding Services: Landfill Vegetative Debris: John A. Powell Contracting. Mr. Tom Miller, Landfill Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Miller stated since the landfill fires, the landfill has taken a different approach to managing vegetative debris normally carried to the landfill. In short, instead of covering it with dirt (personnel and equipment intensive), the landfill now annually grinds the debris where the mulch can be used for cover material or removed from the landfill. A Request for Proposals was advertised in the Kinston Free Press. Bidders were instructed to submit proposals for the grinding of vegetative debris twice each year for a 3-year period. Sealed bids were publicly opened on December 10, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in the County Manager's Office. The County Manager, Assistant County Manager, Finance Officer, and Maintenance Supervisor were present at the bid opening as witnesses.

The following bids were received:

Contractor	Price per Ton
JD & L Operations, Kinston, NC	\$12.25
John A. Powell Contracting, Fuquay-Varina, NC	\$7.75

Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$26,754: Increase. Mr. Jack Jones, Director of Social Services, addressed the Board. Mr. Jones stated the amendment reflects line item adjustments to reflect new funding from Home and Community Care Block Grant. A 10% county match is required. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$103,730: Increase. Mr. Jones stated the amendment reflects additional allocations received. No county match required. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 13 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 14 was a Resolution Authorizing FY 2009-2010 Purchase for Two 2010 Ambulances from Select Customs Apparatus, Inc., WheeledCoach NTE: \$250,000. Mr. Roger Dail, Emergency Services Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Dail stated Lenoir County Emergency Services operates twelve ambulances and the two current models that need replacing are a 1995 E-350 and a 1999 F-450 ambulance. Both of these units have high miles and have high maintenance cost. Lenoir County Emergency Services did a Request for Proposal in December 2009 to purchase the two ambulances. Select Custom Apparatus won the bid at a price not to exceed \$125,000 per unit. Southeastern Emergency Vehicles also bid for a unit price of \$129,812. Staff has evaluated both proposals and recommends that the bid be awarded to Select Custom Apparatus. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 15 was a Resolution Authorizing the Chairman of Lenoir County Commissioners to Sign a Golden Leaf Grant for \$450,000 for the Woodmen Community Center. Mr. Bill Ellis, Parks and Recreation Director addressed the Board. Mr. Ellis stated Lenoir County and the City of Kinston have entered into an agreement with Woodmen of the World to construct a community center. This grant will help with the construction of this facility. The county's commitment to the project will be up to \$500,000. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 15 was unanimously approved. Mr. Ellis noted Mr. Johnny Sheppard will donate the ball fields and gymnasium of the old Pink Hill Elementary School to Lenoir County.

Item No. 16 was a Resolution Requesting an Addition to State Maintained Secondary Road System: Industrial Drive. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 16 was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 17 was a Resolution Appointing Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. The following reflects existing vacancies and appointments. The following items were tabled.

<u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u>	<u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Lenoir County Planning Board 1 st Appearance	Mr. Eric Rouse (Re-Appointment)	January 2013
Lenoir County Transportation Committee 1 st Appearance	Mr. Brian Lucas (Appointment/Replacement)	January 2013
Lenoir Memorial Hospital Board of Directors 1 st Appearance	Ms. Mary Cauley-(Primary) James Tull Hill, Jr.-(Alt.)	January 2014
Regional Aging Advisory Committee 1 st Appearance	Walter LaRoque (Re-Appointment)	January 2013

CURRENT VACANCIES:

Lenoir County Health Board – (1) Veterinarian, (1) Optometrist, (1) Pharmacist

Lenoir County Planning Board – Districts One (1), Four (4) and Alternate

Grifton Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy

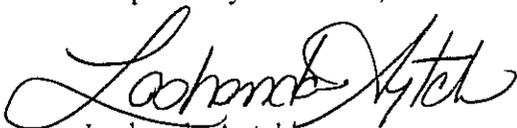
CJPP – Three (3) Vacancies

Kinston Board of Adjustment – Two (2) ETJ Members; (1) Primary – (1) Alternate

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown, the Board adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman
County Manager