

**MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 1, 2010**

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 1, 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; 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

Mr. Harold Thomas, DuPont Plant Manager, addressed the Board. Mr. Thomas stated DuPont has resided in Lenoir County since March 1953; the company is very proud to be part of the community. The Kinston DuPont plant was the 1st polyester plant in the United States employing 3,600 people. Today those numbers have dropped to 200, but the company is looking for growth opportunities. DuPont has invested \$47 million in the Kinston Plant since 2008 in the creation of a polymer called Sorona. Sorona is a bio-tech product that is stain resistant and reusable. Sorona makes carpet, clothing and many other products. The plant has been making products for Toyota for three (3) years for its hybrid vehicles. Mr. Thomas stated the plants primary customer is Mohawk Industries; Mohawk manufactures carpet and flooring material. DuPont is in discussions with Mohawk to locate their "spinning" equipment at the Kinston location. This expansion could bring 600 more jobs to the local economy. Mr. Thomas stated there is plenty of room on the 654-acre site and the site would fully accommodate Mohawk Industries. The company will also invest \$5.4 million to switch from coal to natural gas. They will be investing an additional \$12 million to remove obsolete equipment to make room for further growth possibilities. Mr. Thomas noted that Mr. Pope and Mr. Jarman have been great to work with and are the major reason why DuPont has remained in Kinston. Mr. Thomas extended an invitation for the Board to tour the facility at any time. The Board thanked Mr. Thomas for his report.

Mr. Joey Huff, Health Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Huff stated a residential care facility reported multiple cases of the Norovirus two weeks ago. The Norovirus is a disease also known as stomach flu or viral gastroenteritis. Twenty-one residents at the facility became ill; residents were taken to the hospital and local doctor's offices. The illness must run its course before one can feel relief. Hand washing is a must to control/prevent the spread of the diseases. Mr. Graham asked about obstetrician care at the Health Department. Mr. Huff stated Kinston Ob operated by Dr. Samuel Gilmore and Dr. Mike Brooks will be closing after July 1, 2010. This will make Kinston Community Health Center (KCHC) the only clinic offering obstetric services in Lenoir County. The Health Department has yet to contract with KCHC for obstetric service.

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS

Item No. 1 was Items from the Chairman and Members of the Board. Mr. Graham stated he and several Board members received phone calls last week regarding the recognition of the Kinston High Football Team. There was a concern the Board was not treating all schools fairly in receiving county recognition. Mr. Graham stated the Board does not have a policy in place for the recognition of achievements. Mr. Graham asked Board members if a policy was necessary. After a brief discussion, Board members concluded the county has always and will continue to have an “open door” policy for recognition and achievements.

Mr. Graham presented the Board with a Proclamation for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Stroud, the proclamation was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman informed the Board of the webinar for Ethics training on March 25th; the City Council will be taking the class and have invited the Board to join them. The webinar will start at 4:00 p.m.; the Board agreed to attend.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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| 3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: February 15, 2010 | Hall/Jarman |
| 4. Resolution Approving the Releases and Refunds to the Individuals Listed Herein | Parrish/Martin |
| 5. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health: (WIC Program State):
\$1,507: Increase | Huff/Martin |

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 6 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Non-Departmental: \$45,000 Increase. Ms. Martin stated the amendment budgets funds from the Fund Balance of the General Fund to cover unanticipated property tax refunds and costs associated with the sale and transfer of foreclosed properties to the new owners. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 7 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$102,641: Increase. Mr. Jack Jones, Social Services Director, stated the amendment was a line item adjustment to reflect additional allocations received. No County match is required. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 8 was a Resolution Declaring Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of the Surplus Property by Auction. Mr. Jarman stated in accordance with procedures set forth in N.C. General Statute 160A-269, County Administration is requesting the approval of the Board to sell the following listed properties through the negotiated offer and upset bid process. The sale of these properties will return them to private owners and add them once again to the tax scrolls. Mr. Griffin noted the properties on Tampa Street are in the flood zone of Kinston. Mr. Griffin stated bidders should be notified that they will not be able to build anything on the lots due to the 100 Year Flood Plain. Mr. Jarman stated administration will check out the properties before bids are accepted. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Asbestos Abatement Services for the 2009 CDBG Scattered Site Project: \$1,500. Ms. Martin stated Lenoir County was awarded \$400,000 for the CDBG Scattered Site project on November 6, 2009. This project would allow the clearance of existing dilapidated dwellings and the replacement of those dwellings in different areas of the County. Bids were taken for the abatement of asbestos of one structure on February 22, 2010. Enviro Assessments East, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder at a cost of \$1,500. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Humphrey, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Authorizing the Award of Three Contracts for Demolition Services for the 2009 CDBG Scattered Site Project: \$8,505. Ms. Martin stated Lenoir County was awarded \$400,000 for the CDBG Scattered Site project on November 6, 2009. This project will allow the clearance of existing dilapidated dwellings and the replacement of those dwellings in different areas of the County. Bids were taken for the demolition of three structures on February 1, 2010. The contracts will specify that the contractor will be allowed to do only the number of approved structures, and only the activities specified by the county and/or the project administrator. Mr. Davis stated he did not feel comfortable allowing a company to bid on county projects if they owed money to the county or were under some type of garnishment. Mr. Davis asked the Board to table the item until a policy could be put in place. Mr. Jarman stated he would need guidance from the Board in drafting the policy. The item was tabled until the policy could be drafted.

Item No. 11 was a Resolution Authorizing Emergency Replacement of a 10-Ton Heating and Air Conditioning Compressor located at the Cooperative Extension Building: Ed Phillip's, Inc.: \$3,231. Mr. Mike Wiggins, Maintenance Coordinator, addressed the Board. Mr. Wiggins stated the large meeting room in the Cooperative Extension Building (capacity of approximately 125) is without heating and air conditioning. Ed Phillips, Inc. is familiar with the system and can replace the compressor in a timely manner. The price of a new 10-ton unit is over \$10,000, it would require a longer lead time for ordering, and would require extensive demolition to the interior ceiling and walls to remove the old unit. Replacement of the compressor in this unit was recommended by the contractor. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 11 unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 12 was a Resolution Appointing Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. The following reflects existing vacancies and appointments.

<u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u>	<u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Lenoir Memorial Hospital Board of Directors 2 nd Appearance	Mr. Clifton Harrison (Primary) Mr. B. Holton Harrison (Alternate)	January 2014 M: Brown S: Sutton
Home & Community Block Grant Advisory Committee 1 st Appearance	Terrence Body	March 2013

CURRENT VACANCIES

- Lenoir County Economic Development Board – At-Large Member
- Lenoir County Health Board – (1) Veterinarian, (1) Optometrist, (2) Public Members
- Lenoir County Planning Board – Districts One (1) and Four (4)
- Gritton Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy
- CJPP – Three (3) Vacancies
- Kinston Board of Adjustment – Two (2) ETJ Members; (1) Primary – (1) Alternate

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, and unanimous approval, closed session was entered at approximately 10:30 a.m. and the following cited: Number four (4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by Lenoir County. Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director addressed the Board regarding an economic development issue. The Board took no action during closed session. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Stroud, the Board moved out of closed session at 10:57 a.m.

OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Stroud Open Session re-convened at 10:57 a.m. Mr. Pope discussed economic development issues with the Board; no action was taken. The Board adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lashanda A. Hall
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman
County Manager