

**MINUTES  
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
March 2, 2009**

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 2, 2009 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 COMMENTS**

No Public Comments were heard.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director, reviewed the 2008 Lenoir County Performance Agreements and provided an economic development update. Mr. Pope addressed the Board regarding Crescent Road/Harvey Parkway. Mr. Pope stated new road access spurs economic development. Infrastructure needs are vital to eastern North Carolina and the completion of the Parkway will be a welcomed addition. Mr. Griffin stated Harvey Parkway has been twenty years in the making. Mr. Pope presented the Board with contact information from companies who are hiring for the construction of Spirit Aeorsystems.

**ITEMS FROM CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS**

Item No. 1 was Items for the Chairman and Members of the Board. Mr. Graham stated on March 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at Lenoir Community College a meeting will be held regarding an education academy in the field of engineering. Mr. Graham stated this academy would allow Lenoir County to grow engineers in the community.

Mr. Pharo addressed Briery Run Road and the lack of lighting in the area. Mr. Jarman recommended forwarding the information to Mr. Russell Rhodes, Transportation Committee Chairman, for further discussion.

Ms. Brown presented the Board with Food and Nutrition Information from the Department of Social Services. Ms. Brown stated applications for food stamp assistance has increase rapidly.



Item No. 11 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Solid Waste Fund: Finance/Landfill: \$15,000: Increase. The amendment sets up the new solid waste tax disposal distribution. A new law was enacted July 1, 2008 which required all operators of MSW Landfills to remit a \$2.00 per ton fee at the end of each quarter to the department of revenue. Counties that operate a MSW Landfill will receive a small portion of this fee back. This portion the county receives is to be used primarily for recycling programs or any other necessary operational cost within the Landfill. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Resolution Authorizing the Relocation of the Levi Mewborne Family Cemetery. Mr. R. Ward Sutton of R. Ward Sutton Cemetery Services based in Rocky Mount, North Carolina addressed the Board. Mr. Sutton stated it is the desire of the North Carolina Global TransPark to relocate the cemetery under the guidelines set forth in North Carolina General Statute #65-13 which allows for the disinterment, reinterment of abandoned graves by landowners after securing permission of the governing body in which such abandoned cemetery is located. The North Carolina Global TransPark has agreed to pay the costs for the relocation of the cemetery. Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Resolution Authorizing the Award of one Contract for Demolition Services Related to the 2006 CDBG Concentrated Needs Grant Project: \$3,900. Ms. Martin stated RSM Harris Associates submitted a request for demolition proposals to area demolition contractors on a property associated with the 2006 CDBG Concentrated Needs Project. Charles Hughes Construction was the lowest qualified bidder for the clearance/demolition of one parcel in the L-1 (Local Option) portion of the 2006 CDBG Concentrated Needs Project. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Humphrey, Item No. 13 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 14 was a Resolution Authorizing the Approval of an Economic Development Grant Agreement for Best Diamond Packaging, LLC totaling \$50,000. Mr. Pope stated Best Diamond was founded in 2003 and began operations in a portion of the Dopaco facility. The business has grown from its original projection of 20 jobs to 38 jobs today with annual revenues exceeding \$20,000,000. Best Diamond has been an excellent corporate citizen in Lenoir County since 2004. The company will be relocating to 2500 Airport Rd., Kinston, and will install industrial machinery, equipment and leasehold improvements on real property valued in excess of \$4,500,000. Best Diamond will create an additional 12 jobs. Best Diamond was at risk to two other sites in North Carolina, which would have resulted in a loss of 38 jobs. As with all Economic Development Agreements, the agreement is performance based and will be monitored by the Lenoir County Economic Development Department. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 15 was a Resolution Authorizing Replacement of an 80 Ton Chiller in the Lenoir County Courthouse: Ed Phillips, Inc.: \$64,500. Mr. Mike Wiggins, Maintenance Director addressed the Board. Mr. Wiggins stated in 2007 the air conditioning system in the courthouse shutdown. The small 60-ton unit was replaced and repairs to the 80-ton chiller were done to keep the larger unit temporarily working. In August 2008, the 80-ton chiller shut down after numerous breakdowns and repairs; the unit is 27 years old. Maintenance requested and received quotes from two (2) local HVAC Contractors. Ed Phillips, Inc. of Kinston was the lowest responsible bidder. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 15 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 16 was a Resolution Authorizing the Award of Three Contracts for Rehabilitation Services Related to the 2007 Single Family rehabilitation Project: \$122,697. Mr. Brendan Noland of the Wooten Company addressed the Board. Mr. Noland stated the County received \$392,000.00 in Single Family Rehabilitation funds from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency to rehabilitate up to eight units in Lenoir County. The Wooten Company was chosen to oversee the SFR07 project. The Wooten Company sent out bid requests on February 9, 2009 to local licensed general contractors asking them to submit bids for the rehabilitation work. The bid opening was held on February 20, 2009, in the boardroom of the County Commissioners. The recommendation is to award the rehabilitation of the three homes identified in the 2007 Single Family Rehabilitation project to the lowest qualified bidders. The bid in Case #8 (Canady) came in at \$50,590.00, but the project will allow only \$48,000 to be invested in the rehabilitation work whenever the unit has lead issues. This work is contingent upon the receipt of clear title work and proof of ownership from legal counsel. Approval will allow the rehabilitation of these three homes to begin. This project must be complete by June 30, 2009. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton 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. No appointments to date.

<u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u>	<u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>

**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)**
- Grifton Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy**
- CJPP – Three (3) Vacancies**
- Kinston Board of Adjustment – Two (2) ETJ Members; (1) Primary – (1) Alternate**

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham the meeting recessed to the Budget Work Session at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By



Lashanda Aytch  
Clerk to the Board



Michael W. Jarman  
County Manager