

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 4, 2011

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, Monday April 4, 2011 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 Reuben Davis and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Mac Daughety, Linda Rouse Sutton, Tommy Pharo, and Eric Rouse

Members Absent: None

Also present were: Michael W. Jarman, County Manager, Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager, Martha Martin, Finance Officer, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, Latanya L. Green, Clerk to the Board(Interim),* and members of the general public and 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 Item No. 8 was a Proclamation Declaring April "Child Abuse Prevention Month." Ms. Sutton stated she serves on the Social Services Board and volunteers for the Guardian Ad Litem Program. Ms. Sutton commended the members of the organization for their hard work; Ms. Sutton read the proclamation aloud for the Board and the viewing public. Ms. Coleen Kosinski, District Administrator for Guardian Ad Litem Program Judicial District 8, addressed the Board. Ms. Kosinski presented the Board with a proclamation declaring the month of April Child Abuse Prevention and Volunteer Appreciation month. Last year there were approximately 966 reported cases of child abuse. Ms. Kosinski thanked the many volunteers who work in the challenging environment of child abuse and neglect for all their hard work. Ms. Kosinski asked the community to take action in child abuse awareness; last year 17 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. Ms. Kosinski stated the Child Abuse Prevention Month theme is "Pinwheels for Prevention." She asked everyone to wear the pinwheel pins to help stress the importance of child abuse prevention. The child abuse prevention flag represents the one in four children who are affected by child abuse. The flag will be displayed at the courthouse the entire month of April. Mr. Graham asked what the statistics are on child abuse. Ms. Kosinski stated there were 966 reports of abuse or neglect, with 767 children placed in child protective services. There are a lot of families struggling in this difficult economy; the mental health system has good providers to help in areas of domestic violence and substance abuse. Ms. Brown asked about the success of the Parents as Teachers program. Ms. Kosinski stated it is a wonderful resource that many parents can utilize during these difficult times. Judge Beth Heath stated she appreciated the opportunity to be involved in such a wonderful organization as Guardian Ad Litem; she hopes budget cuts will not affect the agency. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Mr. Jim McLain, Past Exalted Ruler, Kinston Elks Lodge #740, updated the Board on the Veterans Affairs Assistant Living Facility. Mr. McLain stated the Elks Lodge gives scholarships to deserving high school student annually, but very few applications are received from students in Lenoir County. The North Carolina Elks Organization awarded 20 students with \$1,000 each in scholarships and one \$10,000 scholarship in the field of nursing. Nationally the Elks have distributed \$2,296,000 in scholarships and \$715,350 for their drug awareness campaign. Mr. McLain stated the Elks are here to help the community. Mr. McLain stated he would like to work with County in obtaining a \$10,000 community enhancement grant; the Elks in conjunction with the County will have to apply for the grant. The Kinston Elks Lodge will be hosting a charity poker event on May 14, 2011. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. with meals provided. There will also be a 50/50 raffle with all donations going to the Veterans Affairs Assistant Living Facility. Once the Veterans facility is completed there will be no further Federal or State dollars budgeted. The County in conjunction with the City, as well as civic organizations will have to continue fundraising efforts to fully equip the facility. The Veterans facility is on schedule and due to be occupied in October with 100 private rooms. Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Graham for his help in recruiting the Veterans facility. Mr. Graham stated the facility will be vitally important in the growth of Lenoir County. Mr. Graham asked Mr. Jarman to read the letter from the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners thanking Lenoir County for their support of the North Carolina Veterans Park. The park will be dedicated on July 4, 2011 in Fayetteville, North Carolina. The Board thanked Mr. McLain for his presentation.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman asked the Board to review an email from Mr. Frederick Balboni Jr. of West Pharmaceuticals who is responsible for media events. Mr. Balboni thanked Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director for his hard work in helping West Pharmaceuticals with their expansion. Mr. Jarman stated the Association of County Commissioners District Meeting scheduled for April 21, 2011 in Martin County will rescheduled to April 27 2011, but no confirmation has been received to date. It is being reported the Governors Budget will still take lottery proceeds away from counties. Inmates convicted of misdemeanors will have to be held in county jail facilities resulting in a cost to the County of \$800,000. This will have a large impact on the citizens and the county budget; County Administration will keep the Board informed. Mr. Jarman reviewed a letter from Mr. Griffin regarding a proposal to provide legal services for 2011 Redistricting. Mr. Griffin will provide services at the rate of \$150.00 per hour, not to exceed \$14,500. This will include a creation of multiple alternative redistricting plans from which the Board can choose. Mr. Rouse stated the State Legislature will do the redistricting process for free; the County does not need to take on \$14,500 in cost now. It has been suggested Ms. Erica Churchill, of the State Legislature, will draw up a redistricting proposal at no cost. Mr. Griffin stated he would like to know if Ms. Churchill will be available to answer questions from the Board and the public and be available for county meetings if necessary. Mr. Griffin stated he has called Ms. Churchill several times, and sent several emails, but has not heard from her to date. Mr. Jarman stated the surrounding counties are using outside firms to complete this process. Mr. Griffin mentioned a software program that can be utilized by the County's GIS Department to complete initial leg work to keep cost down. Mr. Joey Bryan, MIS Director, stated the software program is free, but will need to be tested to ensure compatibility with the County's current GIS system.

During discussion all members agreed the goal is to get the redistricting process completed correctly at the lowest cost possible to the citizens. Several members voiced concern with allowing the State Legislature to complete the redistricting process for the County. The Board requested Mr. Jarman to send a letter to Ms. Churchill asking her to answer questions relating to cost and process of completion. Mr. Graham was in support of Mr. Griffin completing the redistricting process do to his years of service not just to Lenoir County, but all county citizens. The Board agreed to table the issue until further information is received by County Administration. Mr. Jarman stated the County has received a \$12,000 bid on 211 W. Washington in LaGrange. Mr. Jarman suggested the bid be tabled until the next meeting so signage can be placed on the property. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and second Ms. Brown the bid was tabled. Mr. Jarman asked the Board to review the Notice of a Citizens Informational Workshop regarding replacement of bridges 42, 43, 26 and 28 on Queen Street. Mr. Jarman stated there is some concern growing from citizens regarding the closure of these bridges. Mr. Daughety stated Department of Transportation (DOT) officials are aware of some of the public concern of the closure of the bridges. Representatives Stephen LaRoque and Brent Jackson are aware of the concerns and have been in contact with DOT and County officials. Mr. Daughety stated the closure of the bridges need to be discussed completely; the bridges are scheduled to be closed for a minimum of two (2) years with a maximum of four (4). This closure will have a large impact on businesses on the South end of the County. Congestion will also be a major problem for the County as well as the City when the bridges close. Members of the Board discussed the concealed weapons bill and the impact it may have on counties. There has been no determination on the final interpretation of the bill.

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: March 21, 2011 | Green/Jarman |
| 4. | Resolution Approving the Releases and Refunds to the Individuals Listed Herein | Martin/Jarman |
| 5. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health: \$1,450.00: Increase | Huff/Martin |
| 6. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: Non-Departmental: \$2,180.00: Increase | Martin/Jarman |
| 7. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$3,650.00: Increase | Jones/Martin |

PROCLAMATION/BUDGET ORDINACE/RESOULTIONS

Item 9 was a Proclamation Declaring April 12, 2011 “Caswell Development Center Day Mr. Graham read the proclamation aloud for the Board and viewing public. Mr. Graham stated Caswell Developmental Center specializes in residential, programmatic, and support services for people with developmental disabilities. Caswell Center is celebrating its 100th anniversary and will continue to be a leader in serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No.10 was a Proclamation Declaring April 10-16, 2011 "Public Safety Communicators" Week. Ms. Jeri Daffron, Deputy Director of Emergency Services, read the proclamation aloud for the Board and the viewing public. Ms. Daffron stated emergency staff members are rarely seen by the public. They work long hours answering the public's daily cries for help. They are often instrumental in saving lives and reducing property damage when tragedy strikes. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No.11 was a Resolution Approving Conveyance of Real Property for Arnold Family Road CDBG Project to the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Ms. Martin stated Lenoir County received a federal grant to improve dilapidated housing on a dirt path named Arnold Family Road, which is located off Lemuel Dawson Road adjacent to NC Hwy 11 (Greenville Highway). Dilapidated housing was removed and replaced with modular homes. The dirt path was paved and brought up to State secondary road standards. The CDBG project has been completed. As Lenoir County is not in the business of owning and maintaining roads, the North Carolina Department of Transportation agreed to accept ownership of the road and drainage easements from Lenoir County. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Resolution Requesting the Establishment of Fees for Rabies Vaccinations. Mr. Joey Huff, Health Director stated NCGS 130A-187 requires the local health director to conduct rabies vaccination clinics annually. NCGS 130A-188 requires the Board of County Commissioners to establish the fee (\$7.00) for rabies vaccination at County sponsored vaccination clinics. The clinics are conducted with local vets in the spring at a discount to citizens. Mr. Huff stated there is a correction to the date of the clinic instead of Tuesday, September 28, 2010 it should be Tuesday, April 12, 2011. This action is necessary to comply with applicable laws. Mr. Huff stated this will save the County money, and it is done in the spring and fall with a great response. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Resolution Authorizing the Emergency Repair of a D6R Dozer, by Riley's Welding Service in the amount of \$2,987.50. Mr. Tom Miller, Landfill Director stated the D6R Dozer owned by the landfill is constantly moving dirt all over the landfill. The unit was purchased in 2003 from Gregory Poole Inc., at the cost of \$250,326.50. When the engine was removed for repair, it was discovered that the equalizer bar pinholes needed to be line bored bushings replaced. Replacing the bushings while the engine is out will greatly reduce the labor cost to perform this function. Mr. Miller stated after bids were received, Riley's Welding Service was the lowest bid. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and second by Ms. by Ms. Brown Item No. 13 was unanimously approved.

Item 14 was a Resolution to Authorize the Acceptance of Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) Financial Support in Recognition as the Southeastern Center for Parents as Teachers Educational Program, and Authorize Tammy Kelly to Execute the Contract. Ms. Tammy Kelly, Cooperative Extension Director, stated the Parents as Teachers Program is currently in its 16th year under Lenoir County Cooperative Extension and is funded by the Lenoir Greene Partnership for Children.

Parents as Teachers is a voluntary, preschool education program that allows disadvantaged parents to become educators of their children in their own homes. The NC Exceptional Children's Assistance Center has one of its learning components, the Parent Educator model and traditionally has a center in three regions of NC. The funding will serve to support salaries, supplies, training and travel. Ms. Kelly stated since they have been selected, hopefully this will offset cuts. Mr. Daughety stated this is one the most impactful programs, and they are doing an outstanding job. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and second Ms. Sutton, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 15 was a resolution authorizing the Lenoir County Cooperative Extension to Continue to manage and facilitate the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) and authorize Ms. Tammy Kelly County Extension Director to Execute the Contract in the amount of \$3,490. Ms. Kelly stated Lenoir County Cooperative Extension assumed the role of host to the SHIIP Program in FY 2006-2007. The program is implemented by a staff of trained volunteers, administered by Lenoir County Cooperative Extension. Volunteers are trained and updated by the Division of Seniors Health Insurance. Currently there are 3-4 trained volunteers who have agreed to continue to provide the consultations with seniors searching for information. The SHIIP Program is currently housed at Cooperative Extension in several surrounding cities. The SHIIP Program is an important resource for the senior citizens of Lenoir County. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Daughety Item No. 15 was unanimously approved.

ADDENDUM - Ms. Kelly presented the Board with the RAFFI- USA (Rural Advancement Foundation International) grant in the amount of \$22,596. Ms. Kelly stated the Lenoir County Farmers' Market provides community access to local foods and produce through local farmers that produce fresh vegetables and other vendors that produce and provide other items such as homemade baked goods, fresh eggs, local honey, etc. The RAFI-USA grant will provide support to the Farmers' Market for renovations and upgrades to the bathrooms, permeable parking, lighting, and ventilation improvements. The grant will also provide for additional supplies and funding for the market manager. The grant will be managed by the Lenoir County Cooperative Extension Director. Ms. Kelly stated the department is waiting until the City completes sewer system repairs before start of renovations. There will be an invitation sent concerning the grand opening of the Farmer's Market on April 15, 2011. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Sutton this item was unanimously approved.

Item No. 16 was a Resolution Approving the Contract for Intensive Outpatient, Regular Outpatient, and Individual Counseling with Acumen Counseling Services, LLC in the amount of \$20,000. Mr. Carl Early, Criminal Justice Partnership Program Director, stated on March 21, 2011, the Commissioners approved the Criminal Justice Partnership Program to make application and receive funding relevant to its program through the Department of Corrections. The Criminal Justice Partnership Program began in March 2007. Substance abuse assessment and treatment is one of the faucets of the Day Reporting Program. In the past, the Day Reporting Program Center has contracted with Acumen Counseling Associates, LLC in Goldsboro for its substance abuse treatment services. The Criminal Justice Partnership Program's Day Reporting Center has attained a 52% success rate thereby saving the County and state approximately \$800,000 vs. the cost of incarcerating those offenders. Acumen has been very successful in the past, in its work with offenders. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton second by Ms. Brown Item No. 16 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 17 was a Resolution to Approve the Contract for Preparation of Central Cost Allocation Plan and EMS Medicaid Reimbursement Report for periods ending in June 30, 2011, 2012, and 2013: Maximus Inc. Mr. Hollowell stated for the past nine years, the County has contracted with T. H. McKinnie & Associates to prepare the Central Cost Allocation Plan and the EMS Medicaid Reimbursement Report. County Administration and the County Finance Officer decided not to extend the contract with T. H. McKinnie and Associates. The Central Cost Allocation Plan is very important to the Social Services Department. The allowable cost for Social Services proposed by the plan ending June 30, 2010 was \$1,094,937. The EMS Report is also vital to the Emergency Services Department, since it is the basis of the annual EMS Medicaid Reimbursement. Emergency and non-emergency Medicaid trips are considered in this report and the reimbursement of the County is based on average cost per trip of all EMS systems in the State. The proposal by Maximus for FY 10-11, also includes the option to renew the contract for the next two (2) fiscal years (FY11-12 and FY12-13) at the same cost per year. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Sutton Item No. 17 was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 18 was a Resolution Approving Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. The following reflects existing vacancies and appointments. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton the Board approved Kendall W. Huffman to the Parks and Recreation Board.

<u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u>	<u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Parks and Recreation Board 2 nd Appearance	Kendall W. Huffman (Appointment)	March 2014
Pink Hill Planning Board 1 st Appearance	Ashley Keffer (Appointment)	April 2014

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**

Mr. Rouse stated he would like the Planning Board Districts to reflect the Commissioners voting districts. Mr. Rouse asked if there are any requirements that need to meet in order to obtain these districts. Mr. Griffin stated there are areas outside of the Planning Board Districts that cannot be revised to fit Commissioners jurisdictions. Mr. Graham stated he received a letter from Dr. Brantley Briley, President of Lenoir Community College, regarding the reappointment of Earl Heath whose appointment expires June 30, 2011. Mr. Graham also requested that Ms. Brown to be reappointed to the Social Services Board. Mr. Jarman stated the two requests will be placed on the next Board meeting agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton second by Ms. Brown, and unanimous approval closed session was entered into at 10:58 a.m. and the following was cited: Number five (5) to establish or instruct the public body's staff or negotiating (i) the price or other material terms of contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; (ii) the amount of compensation and other materials terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract. Mr. Jarman discussed the purchase of property with the Board, no decision was made. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown the Board moved out of closed out of closed session at 11:26 a.m.

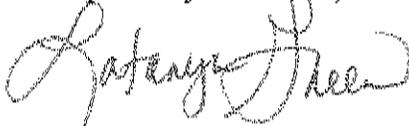
OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNEMNT

Ms Brown stated as a matter of courtesy she would like for everyone to turn off their cell phones or put them on vibrate while County Business is being conducted. Ms. Brown suggested that a reminder be made at the beginning of every meeting relaying the use of cell phones during county meetings is prohibited. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Daughety, the Board unanimously agreed.

Mr. Graham asked Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director to update the Board on economic activity in Lenoir County. Mr. Pope stated the Shell Building will be shown tomorrow. Sanderson Farms is up to 750 employees at the processing site and Spirit has 250 employees. Mr. Pope stated Ms. Nita Brinson Lee will be retiring in June and she will be missed. A program called "Job Boost" is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and the Governors' office. Job Boost refers people to available jobs to help them get off public assistance. Mr. Pope stated items in Raleigh remain very busy, but incentives are still being used to attract new business to Eastern North Carolina. Some Board members agreed that incentives are a major component in attracting new industry and Lenoir County has to market themselves accordingly. Bio-tech companies are growing rapidly and the expansion of West Pharmaceuticals in Lenoir County is a testament to the county's growth. The Board thanked Mr. Pope for his presentation.

Mr. Jarman asked for prayers from the Board for Mr. Graham's upcoming surgery and for continued prayers due to the loss of his sister. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown, the Board adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

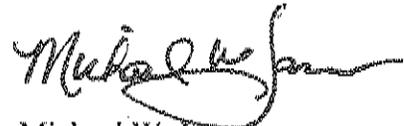
Respectfully submitted,



Lafanya Green

Interim Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman

County Manager