

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 18, 2011

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 4:00 pm on Monday, April 18, 2011 in the Board 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, Tommy Pharo, Eric Rouse, and Linda Rouse Sutton.

Members Absent: None

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

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 pm. Ms. Brown offered the invocation and Mr. Graham led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Mr. Roger Dail, Emergency Services Director, updated the Board on the recovery of 10-year-old, Henry Javregui, who drowned near Hardy Bridge. The child's body was discovered around 10:30 a.m. on April 17, 2011. Mr. Dail asked the entire community to keep the family in their prayers as they travel to Mexico for funeral services. Mr. Dail stated 20-30 people per day helped in the search and should be commended for their hard work. Craven, Johnston, Alamance and Duplin Counties assisted in search efforts. Mr. Daughety stated he was very proud of the assistance given from local emergency service personnel and outside agencies during the crisis. Mr. Dail updated the Board on the tornadoes that tore through neighboring counties. Mr. Dail stated Lenoir County was very fortunate in dodging the major storm system that affected the area on April 17th. Lenoir County received minor damage reports. Greene County was hit hard by the storm and Lenoir County personnel have stepped in to help the county; Greene County has been declared a state of emergency by the Federal Government. The Board thanked Mr. Dail and his entire department for their assistance in both matters.

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS

Item No. 1 was a Resolution Expressing Concern Regarding the North Carolina Department of Transportation Highway Safety Improvement Program to Construct a Median along US 70 in Lenoir County from West of US 258 at Queen Street to NC 58. Mr. Daughety, who serves as the Interim Transportation Committee Chairman, introduced the resolution on behalf of the committee. Mr. Daughety stated the Board of Commissioners has postponed making a decision regarding the median until the Lenoir County Transportation Committee came back with their recommendation. There were two (2) meetings to allow for public comment regarding the median project; public comment was limited during the second meeting to allow transportation members the opportunity to debate the matter at length. The Transportation Committee has approved the resolution as presented today.

Mr. Rouse stated he has drafted a resolution concerning the median project with wording from the Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Rouse stated the Board of Commissioners should have a resolution opposing the project as well.

Mr. Graham stated the resolution drafted by Mr. Rouse has not been reviewed by the Transportation Committee and goes against the order of operations of the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Daughety concurred with Mr. Graham's statement; Mr. Daughety stated the Transportation Committee is a very active Board and did not draft the resolution without thought. Mr. Pharo stated it has been reported in The Free Press the data used to initiate the median project may have been flawed. Mr. Pharo stated Mr. Russel Rhodes had brought this information to the attention of the public and North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) officials on several occasions, but was dismissed. Mr. Pharo stated Mr. Rhodes should be offered an apology from NCDOT officials. Mr. Graham stated the Board of Commissioners had enough on their plate dealing with local issues. Ms. Sutton asked if the resolution could be amended making the resolution from the Board of Commissioners as well as the Transportation Committee. Mr. Rouse stated he did not see the problem with approving a resolution including the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Commissioners. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, the Board did agree to the amendment and unanimous approval of the resolution.

Ms. Lucy Marston, Tourism Director, addressed the Board regarding the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. Ms. Marston stated this is the 32nd year of the awards in various categories and Lenoir County has been awarded three (3) honorees. Mr. Stephen J. Jefferson was recognized in the "Individual Category," Mr. Richard A. King was recognized in the "Paid Director Volunteer Category," and Mr. Nicholas Wooten was recognized in the "Youth Volunteer Category." The Board thanked each recipient for the volunteer services they provide Lenoir County every day.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was items from the County Manager; Mr. Jarman recommended the Board accept the following bid: 211 Washington Street, LaGrange, NC (\$12,000). Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown the Board unanimously approved the request. Mr. Jarman informed the Board of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) District Meeting on April 27, 2011 in Martin County. Mr. Jarman stated he would like to know who is attending so travel arrangements can be made. Ms. Sutton stated she would be attending. Mr. Jarman stated the House has sent out its budget information which would impact Lenoir County by \$2 million; lottery funds have been taken; and the State is passing the responsibility of housing misdemeanants' to counties. Mr. Jarman informed the Board of a Budget Work Session on May 2nd, immediately following the regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Board will be hearing from outside agencies who want to discuss funding matters. The Festival on the Neuse will be held May 6-7, 2011; the Chamber of Commerce would like the Chairman to make opening remarks. County Administration is still working on a date and time for a joint meeting with the City of Kinston.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: April 4, 2011

BUDGET ORDINACE/RESOULTIONS

Item No. 4 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: School Capital Fund: School Building: \$114,738: Increase. Ms. Martin stated the amendment appropriates additional funds from the Fund Balance of the Public School Building Capital Fund (School Sales Tax) to assist in the purchase of two (2) new buses. Buses are an allowable expenditure in this fund. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No 4 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 5 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Jail: \$115,000: Increase. Ms. Martin stated the amendment is to appropriate additional funds to cover the housing expense of sending inmates to another county due to overcrowding in the county jail. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 5 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 6 was a Resolution Approving Lenoir County Fund Balance Management Plan. Mr. Hollowell stated in February 2009, the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. Fiscal Year 2010-2011 is the first year the County must implement GASB 54. A hierarchy of fund balance classifications has been created by GASB 54. The County Manager/Budget Officer should continue to be the authority to assign fund balances for specific purposes. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 7 as 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 Mr. Daughety, **Kendall Huffman** was appointed at the April 4, 2011 Board Meeting; the Board formally approved **Ashley Keffer to the Pink Hill Planning Board** on April 18, 2011 who was omitted from the resolution as a second appearance.

BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION	<u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Parks and Recreation Board 2nd Appearance	Kendall W. Huffman (Appointment)	March 2014
Lenoir County Board of Health 1st Appearance	Cliff Miller (Re-Appointment)	January 2014
Regional Aging and Advisory Committee 1st Appearance	Audrey Tyson Elaine Patterson (Re-Appointment)	May 2014
Board of Social Services 1st Appearance	Jackie Brown (Re-Appointment)	June 2014
Lenoir Community College Board of Trustees	Earl Heath (Re-Appointment)	June 2015

CURRENT VACANCIES:

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

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Davis, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By

Lashanda A. Hall
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman
County Manager