

**MINUTES**  
**LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**April 20, 2009**

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 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, and Tommy Pharo.

Members absent: Linda Rouse Sutton.

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 4:00 p.m. Ms. Brown offered the invocation and Mr. Graham led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public made no comments.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Ms. Laura L. Sylvester of the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce addressed the Board regarding "The Festival on the Neuse." Ms. Sylvester stated the BBQ Festival on the Neuse will be held April 29-May 2, 2009. There are over 50 pig cooking teams registered for the event, which will be the largest in the festival history. Events are scheduled everyday throughout the festival. Ms. Sylvester invited the Commissioners to attend the opening ceremony to make comments of welcome to the festival participants and attendees. Ms. Sylvester updated the Board on the activities of the Tourism Development Authority (TDA). The TDA will have 1,822 visitors coming to Lenoir County this year for family reunions and other functions. The TDA has partnered with several agencies to offer special discounts to those families scheduling events in Kinston-Lenoir County. The Board thanked Ms. Sylvester for her update.

Mr. Wayne Pittman of the Pink Hill Area Preservation and Development Commission addressed the Board. Mr. Pittman stated the citizens of the Pink Hill community are very interested in making the old Pink Hill Elementary School a viable place for all. Pink Hill is in need of a community center, library, efficient Town Hall facilities, and wellness facility. These additions will enhance the businesses in the area by drawing people into town from Duplin, Jones and Lenoir Counties. The Commission is seeking a non-profit tax status as the Pink Hill Area Preservation and Development Committee in order to receive grant funding; the committee wishes to work closely with the Town of Pink Hill and its citizens. It is the concern of many Pink Hill residents that the building will soon be vandalized and be insufficient for use, making it an eyesore for the community. The Pink Hill Area Preservation Committee will take full responsibility for the building and its potential uses. Mr. Pittman asked that the Board request the building back from the Board of Education and donate the building to the committee. Mr. Graham stated the Board would be happy to send a letter of support to the School Board for this request, but the cannot commit to budgeting any funds towards the purchase and maintenance of the facilities. Mr. Pittman thanked the Board for their time and their support of the request.

## **ITEMS FROM CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS**

Item No. 1 was Items for the Chairman and Members of the Board. No items were discussed.

## **ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER**

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman stated the Board of Education has declared Bynum School as surplus property. Funding would become the main issue for all the surplus properties offered by the School Board. Mr. Jarman stated Administration has granted permission to the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce to park cars on the grass in front of the Board of Elections for the classic car show during the upcoming Festival on the Neuse. A request has been submitted by the Deep Run community to allow the use of golf carts for public highway use; a call has been made to Representative Van Braxton in regards to the request, but further research has to be completed before the request is granted. Mr. Jarman requested the Board hold its next budget work session on the afternoon of May 4<sup>th</sup> immediately following the regular scheduled Board meeting. County Assembly Day will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh from 1-5:00 p.m.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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| 3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: April 6, 2009  | Aytch/Jarman  |
| 4. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/LGPFC-Parenting Skills Grant: \$2,000: Decrease        | Jarman/Martin |
| 5. Budget Ordinance Amendment: Trust and Agency Fund: Finance/Extension-Family Caregiver: \$2,262: Decrease | Jarman/Martin |
| 6. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$204: Increase   | Jones/Martin  |
| 7. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$6,000: Increase   | Jones/Martin  |
| 8. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health (Adult Health Program): \$2,800: Increase               | Huff/Martin   |

## **PROCLAMATION/BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS**

Item No. 9 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Non-Departmental: \$14,000: Increase. Mr. Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager addressed the Board. Mr. Hollowell stated the Amendment appropriates unanticipated additional revenues from the issuance of concealed weapons permits. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Humphrey, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10A was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health (General Program): \$17,000: Increase. Mr. Joey Huff, Health Director addressed the Board. Mr. Huff stated the amendment appropriates state funding to provide assistance to local health departments in any determined need; this will make a transition into a new state health information system. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 10A was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10B was a Resolution Authorizing Lenoir County Health Department to Execute a Purchase Order Contract to Dell Marketing: \$13,250. Mr. Huff stated the State is in the process of transitioning into a new health information system, the North Carolina Information System (HIS). This system will replace the functionality of the current Health Service Information System and portions of the Purchase of Medical Care System as well as implement additional functions to provide a total solution that meets the Department of Public and Local Health Department needs for care and practice management. The anticipated rollover date for the new system is June 2009. State funding is available to provide needed computer equipment to accommodate staff members that will be involved with the new system. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 10B was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Non-Departmental: \$500,000: Increase. Mr. Hollowell stated the amendment covers unanticipated workers compensation expenses. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Capital Reserve Fund: \$2,751,658: Increase. Mr. Hollowell stated the amendment budgets funds from the North Carolina Education Lottery. In February of this year, the state withheld the March distribution of school lottery funds to help balance their budget. Because the lottery funds that had already been transferred to public school building capital had not been allocated for debt service at the state level, it was feared that the state might try to withhold these funds as well. Application was made to the state to allocate the funds for debt service and the application was approved on March 27, 2009 in the amount of \$2,751,657.12. This will insure that the funds are available to make school bond debt service payments. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Resolution Approving the Proposed 2009-2010 Secondary Road Improvement Program for Lenoir County. Mr. Neil Lassiter of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) addressed the Board. Mr. Lassiter stated the 2009-2010 Program totals \$1,545,000. The Program goes as follows: SR 1141: John Green Smith Rd consisting of 5.10 miles from US 258 to SR 1208: Propose to widen pavement from 18' to 22'; estimated cost of \$270,000; SR 1557: Hull Road consisting of .25 miles from SR 1572: Propose to install a left turn lane at Rouse Rd; estimated cost of \$50,000; SR 1534: Haywood Hill Road consisting of .50 miles from SR 1001 to Greene County: Propose to Grade, Drain, Base and Pave; estimated cost of \$250,000; SR 1317: Kinsey Ginn Road consisting of 1.4 miles from NC 903 to SR 1318: Propose to Grade, Drain, Base and Pave (Partial Funding); estimated cost of \$448,000; SR 2003: Industrial Drive consisting of .26 miles from end pavement to SR 2021: Propose to Grade, Drain and Base; estimated cost of \$230,000. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 13 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 14 was a Resolution Approving Purchase of Firearm Related Equipment. Major Chris Hill of the Sheriff's Department addressed the Board. Mr. Hill stated for the past 11 years the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office has used the .45 caliber H&K handguns. The department will be transitioning to the Glock .45 caliber handgun. As a result holsters designed to fit the Glock .45 handgun must be purchased. Finally, the purchase of 34-thirteen round .45 caliber magazines and tactical LED lights will enhance the capabilities of these firearms. The Sheriff's Office has purchased firearms and ammunition from Arrington's for the past several years. This company will provide 66-Glock patrol holsters, 34-thirteen round magazines, 17 detective holsters, 15-tactical holsters, 15-tactical LED lights, and two .45 caliber Glock handguns for the total of \$13,795.53. Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds will be used to purchase these items. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 15 was a Resolution Authorizing a 5-Year Lease of a New Digital Mailing System: Anza Mailing Systems: First Year - \$3,468; Second through Fifth Year \$6,480 per year. Mr. Hollowell stated County departments, except the Department of Social Services, currently use the Pitney Bowes mailing system (postage meter-scales) located on the second floor of the old Wachovia Building. The current five (5) year Pitney Bowes lease, in the amount of \$11,040 per year expires September 30, 2009. Postage mailing systems are leased because the postage meter inside of the unit belongs to the US Postal Service. You can not own the postage meter. The current five (5) year Pitney Bowes' mailing system lease expires September 30, 2009. The County solicited lease prices from Pitney Bowes, Hasler, Inc., and Anza Mailing Systems. Anza provided the lowest cost lease that will meet the postal needs of the County. The lease includes all equipment, meter rental, maintenance, unlimited resets, software updates, rate change protection, delivery, installation, and operator training and initial supplies. Listed below is a breakdown of the bids received:

	<u>ANZA</u>	<u>HASSLER</u>	<u>PITNEY BOWES (Verbal)</u>
Year 1	289 x 12= \$3,468	650 x 12=\$7,800	920 x 12= \$11,040
Year 2	540 x 12=\$6,480	650 x 12=\$7,800	920 x 12= \$11,040
Year 3	540 x 12=\$6,480	650 x 12=\$7,800	920 x 12= \$11,040
Year 4	540 x 12=\$6,480	650 x 12=\$7,800	920 x 12= \$11,040
<u>Year 5</u>	540 x 12= <u>\$6,480</u>	650 x 12= <u>\$7,800</u>	920 x 12= <u>\$11,040</u>
Total	\$29,388	\$39,000	\$55,200

Comparing the current expiring lease with Pitney Bowes and Pitney Bowes' new proposal, the bid from Anza represents total savings of \$25,812 over the five (5) year term. The new lease with Anza will commence on July 1, 2009. . Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 15 was unanimously approved.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Item No. 16 was a Resolution Appointing Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. The following reflects existing vacancies and appointments.

<b><u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u></b>	<b><u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>TERM EXPIRATION</u></b>
<b>Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP)</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Appearance	Earl Harper Evelin Linton Carla Bass (Re-Appointments)	March 2011 <b>M: Brown</b> <b>S: Humphrey</b>
<b>Juvenile Crime Prevention Council</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Appearance	Linda Rouse Sutton (Appointment)	March 2011 <b>M: Brown</b> <b>S: Humphrey</b>
<b>Kinston-Lenoir County Library Board</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Appearance	Minnie S. Moultire (Re-Appointment)	April 2015
<b>Board of Equalization and Review</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Appearance	Stanley Roberson, Jr. Bill Howard (Re-Appointments)	January 2012
<b>Lenoir Community College Board of Trustees</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Appearance	Thomas H. Salter (Appointment)	June 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)**
- Grifton 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 5:16 p.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. The Board discussed an economic development project. The Board took no action. Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud and a second by Mr. Pharo, the Board moved out of closed session at 5:20 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud and a second by Mr. Pharo Open Session re-convened at 5:20 p.m. Mr. Graham stated an economic development project was discussed, the Board took no action during closed session. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Stroud the meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lashanda Aytch  
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman  
County Manager