

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 4, 2009

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 4, 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 Aytech, 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

Dr. Brantly Briley, President of Lenoir Community College (LCC), addressed the Board regarding a Public Safety Training Facility. Dr. Briley stated Lenoir Community College would like to be considered for ownership of Bynum Elementary School. Dr. Briley stated Bynum School would make an excellent Public Safety Training Facility, with the potential to become a regional training facility. Dr. Jay Carraway of Lenoir Community College stated the facility would be shared with LCC, City of Kinston and the County of Lenoir to centralize law enforcement and EMS training. This facility would move the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) from LCC to the Bynum facility and free up much needed space at the college. The Bynum facility is over 60,000-sq. ft. and would be a great opportunity for everyone. Mr. Scotty Hill, Assistant Police Chief, stated the facility would allow for practical exercises; the state has also expressed an interest in developing the facility for regional training purposes. Mr. Hill stated the community does not want another abandoned building and vandalism will occur shortly after the school vacates the facility. Mr. Humphrey asked what would be the expenses to the County. Dr. Briley stated to operate the facility for the first year would cost \$200,000 and \$150,000 per year to maintain the facility; utilities averaged \$70,000 last year. Dr. Briley stated there would be a number of state employees at the facility as well as city staff members. Mr. Graham asked the Board if they were in support of the Public Safety Training Facility concept. Mr. Jarman stated that several questions must be answered before the Board can commit any funds to the project. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo the Board favored the facility concept and will evaluate the project as more information becomes available.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Mr. Joey Huff, Lenoir County Health Director addressed the Board. Mr. Huff stated the citizens of Lenoir County are very fortunate to have a local health department, hospital and emergency services department who are working very hard in keeping abreast of the H1 N1 (Swine Flu) virus. Mr. Huff stated conference calls have been received daily from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services detailing the issues and plans for the pandemic. H1 N1 has one confirmed case in Jacksonville, North Carolina. There is no vaccine available at this time for the current outbreak, so it is important for people to take good health habits (i.e. wash hands often, stay home when sick, avoid close contact with infected people). More information regarding HI N1 can be obtained by calling the Care Line at 800-662-7030, or www.ncpublichealth.com, or www.CDC.gov.

ITEMS FROM CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS

Item No. 1 was Items from the Chairman and Members of the Board. Mr. Humphrey introduced a Resolution to Review and Approve or Veto any Forced Annexations within Lenoir County. Mr. Humphrey read the resolution aloud for the Board and the viewing public. Mr. Stroud stated he does not believe in forced annexation. Mr. Graham stated annexation is a function of municipalities and is not a county function; he questions whether the County should vote on something it has no control over. Mr. Davis stated he has mixed emotions in regards to annexation and is concerned with the timing of annexation due to the hardships it would cause families during this tough economic times. Mr. Davis stated the County should not infringe on the city's power. Ms. Brown stated the County should not take a stand regarding annexation. Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Mr. Pharo, the resolution was approved by a four to two vote with Mr. Graham and Ms. Brown dissenting.

Mr. Stroud presented a Resolution Supporting Local Control of Local ABC Boards and Opposing Forced Mergers of Local ABC Boards. Mr. Stroud stated the State is trying to take away control of ABC stores and put it in the hands of private industry. Mr. Stroud stated ABC Boards keep the sales of liquor well regulated. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Stroud, the resolution was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman stated the Board has received a response from the School Board regarding the request to utilize the gymnasium and ball fields at Pink Hill and Contentnea Elementary Schools. The School Board has stated "if the county commissioners are interested in a given property, it must purchase the entire property (not just the gymnasium and ball fields)." Mr. Jarman stated he recommends the county not accept the schools at this time. Two letters have been received from Children's Village Academy requesting Bynum School; this request should be made to the School Board. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, the County declined interest in the two properties, but will send a letter of support to the school board on behalf of the Pink Hill Area Preservation Commission to acquire the Pink Hill property. Mr. Graham asked Mr. Bill Ellis, Parks and Recreation Director, if not acquiring the properties would make the recreation department suffer. Mr. Ellis stated the department will not suffer, parents will have to drive a little further for recreational activities; Mr. Ellis stated he agrees with the recommendation. Mr. Jarman reminded the Board of the Prayer Breakfast on May 7, 2009 at Lenoir Community College in the gymnasium.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: April 20, 2009 Aytch/Jarman
4. Resolution Approving the Releases and Refunds to the Individuals Listed Herein Parrish/Martin
5. Budget Ordinance Amendment: Federally Seized Property Fund: Sheriff-Federally Seized Property: \$3,000: Increase Smith/Martin

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 6 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Employee Insurance Fund: Employee Insurance: \$300,000: Increase. Ms. Martha Martin, Finance Officer, addressed the Board. Ms. Martin stated the amendment appropriates funds to cover increased costs in claims and administration costs. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 7 was a Resolution in Support of Dopaco to Expand its Manufacturing Facility in Kinston/Lenoir County, North Carolina. Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Pope stated Dopaco must construct a rail spur for its expansion of its current facility at 1447 Enterprise Blvd. Dopaco plans to invest \$25,376,000 and to employ an additional 123 people. Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud and a second by Mr. Pharo, 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. Mike Wiggins, Maintenance Coordinator, addressed the Board. Mr. Wiggins stated the county has a small inventory of various vehicles that have outlived their useful life. The vehicles will be auctioned on GovDeals.com and proceeds will be appropriated to the Vehicle Replacement Fund. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution Authorizing the Health Department to Execute a Purchase Order Contract to Gately Communication Co. NTE: \$5,007. Mr. Huff stated the resolution is for the purchase of two (2) laptop computers, computer mounts, printer and supplies for Animal Control vehicles. This equipment will allow animal control officers the capability of entering/retrieving information in a more timely manner and provide a more efficient method of record keeping while in the field. Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Authorizing Maintenance Contract for Priority Dispatch to Include Software/Cardsets for EMD, EPD & EFD and ProQA NTE: \$9,195. Mr. Roger Dail, Emergency Services Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Dail stated the purchase of the maintenance contracts from Priority Dispatch on the EMD software and card-sets and the EPD and EFD card-sets is necessary to ensure that the Communications Division is maintaining the level of care as recognized nationally by the medical, fire and law enforcement professions. The maintenance contracts allow for the Communications Division to receive all upgrades to these dispatch protocols, as they become available, at no additional cost to the County. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11 was a Resolution Approving the Purchase of Four In-Car Computers and Four Portable Printers form CDS: NTE: \$12,200. Mr. Dail stated the EMS Department responds to a variety of calls and has found that in a lot of cases that computers are required to obtain different information, dependent on the type of call. Some information can be stored on the computer, while other information can be obtained online. Portable printers will be used to print other information to share with other emergency responders on scene. Staff has determined that in-car computers are the best resource for keeping and obtaining information, while out in the field. It has been determined that emergency calls are very “fluid” and that quick access to information in a lot of cases can help expedite information that will aid the responders at any call. Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of a Blanket Purchase Order for Squires Auto Generator & Starter Service, Inc. for \$15,000 for FY 2008-09 for Vehicle Maintenance Repairs. Ms. Sue Powell, Transit Coordinator, addressed the Board. Ms. Powell stated the resolution approves Squires to repair transit vehicles should the need for services arise. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13A was a Budget Ordinance Amendment and Resolution Appropriating \$43,797 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds. Mr. Jack Jones, Social Services Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Jones stated the Board is requested to appropriate \$43,797 in ARRA funds to be used by the County Director of Social Services for establishing a new Income Maintenance Caseworker II in the Food and Nutrition Services Program (FNS), to cover the costs of overtime for FNS staff, to hire temporary or contracted staff as needed in response to the rapid increase in the demand for Food and Nutrition service in Lenoir County. The total FNS cases for Lenoir County have already increased by 500 hundred cases this year and is expected to grow by another 200 cases before the end of the Fiscal Year. The increase in FNS benefits made available by the ARRA is very timely especially in light of the present economic downturn. The additional ARRA Administrative Funds are also very timely as additional manpower and overtime is needed to keep up with the rapidly increasing demand for services in the nation, the state, and in Lenoir County. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 13A was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13B was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$43,797: Increase. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 13B was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 14 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>
Kinston-Lenoir County Library Board 2 nd Appearance	Minnie S. Moultire (Re-Appointment)	April 2015 M: Brown S: Stroud
Board of Equalization and Review 2 nd Appearance	Stanley Roberson, Jr. Bill Howard (Re-Appointments)	January 2012 M: Brown S: Stroud
Lenoir Community College Board of Trustees 2 nd Appearance	Thomas H. Salter (Appointment)	June 2013 M: Brown S: Stroud
Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) 1 st Appearance	Meredith Golembieski Annette Strickland Turik Dawn G. Stroud (Re-Appointments)	May 2012

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**

RECESS

The Board recessed the meeting until 1:00 p.m. to hold a Public Hearing regarding the proposed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Application.

OPEN SESSION/PUBLIC HEARING

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown the Public Hearing opened at 1:03 p.m. Ms. Sue Powell, Transit Coordinator, addressed the Board. Ms. Powell stated the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 2009, signed into law by President Barack Obama on February 17, 2009, includes Federal funding for transit capital improvements. Lenoir County transit will be applying for the following: Replacement Vehicles \$120,600, Expansion Vehicles 135,9000, Associated Capital \$110,172, Advanced Technology \$15,000 and Preventive Maintenance \$182,800; total application \$564,472. With no questions from the public, the hearing was closed at 1:14 p.m.

Resolution Approving the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 Application for FY 2009-2011: Replacement Vehicles \$120,000, Expansion Vehicles \$135,900, Associated Capital \$110,172, Advanced Technology \$15,000 and Preventive Maintenance \$182,800: \$564,472. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Davis, the resolution was unanimously approved.

Mr. Jarman stated the use of golf carts in the Community of Deep Run is now House Bill 973. Mr. Jarman stated in speaking to Representative Braxton, there are already 30 to 40 communities that have passed this law. The Bill stipulates that the driver of the golf cart must be 16 years of age and no night driving is permitted. Mr. Jarman asked the Board to send a letter of support of HB 973. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Brown, the Board agreed to the support letter.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown, the meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By

Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman
County Manager