

**MINUTES**  
**LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 16, 2011**

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Monday May 16, 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, Lashanda A. Hall, Clerk to the Board, and members of the general public and news media.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Mr. Ken Jones, Eastpointe Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Jones stated Eastpointe's budget totals \$22 million; \$15 million of those funds being in indigent care. Lenoir County's allocation is \$246,342; \$100,000 of this allocation funds the lease of the current Eastpointe facility on Lenoir Memorial's Campus. Since July of FY 10-11, a total of 4,492 new screenings have occurred. In comparison to the population, Lenoir and Duplin are serving above their population percentage while the remaining counties, Sampson and Wayne were close but still remained below their population percentage. From July 2010 through February 2011 Lenoir County has had 1,139 (25%) new consumers at Eastpointe.

Mr. Jones stated the Department of Health and Human Services is pursuing a policy for statewide expansion of a successful existing Medicaid 1915(b)(c) Waiver that has been in operation in North Carolina since 2005 in Davidson, Rowan, Cabarrus, Stanly and Union counties. The primary goals of the waiver are to improve access to services, improve the quality of care, ensure services are managed and delivered within a quality management framework and empower Local Management Entities (LMEs) to build partnerships with consumers, providers and community stakeholders to create a more responsive system of community care. Expansion of the current waiver will result in greater consistency across the state in the services that are provided, in how services are accessed, and in expectations and requirements for providers. As a publically managed waiver it allows for the potential of reinvesting savings into existing or new services and supports predictability and stability in funding. In order to be a waiver site you must have both a Medicaid eligible population of at least 70,000 individuals and a total population of at least 500,000 by 2013. Eastpointe does not meet either of these requirements. LME's not meeting these size requirements have three options: do nothing and let the State decide where to assign your counties, develop a relationship with another LME and create a partner LME relationship under an inter-local agreement, or merge with another LME.

On April 26, 2011 the Eastpointe Board of Directors voted to submit an application jointly and pursue merger with The Beacon Center LME that represents Edgecombe, Nash, Wilson and Greene counties. The merger between Eastpointe and The Beacon Center LME would be accomplished by July 1, 2013. Mr. Jones requested a letter of support for this merger from the Board prior to June 30, 2011. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, the Board approved a letter of support and a resolution in support of the merger at a later date.

Dr. Terry Cline, Superintendent of Lenoir County Schools, addressed the Board. Dr. Cline thanked the Board for allowing him to speak on behalf of the School Board. Dr. Cline introduced Rita Hodges and Bruce Hill of the School Board and Lisa Davis, Finance Officer for Lenoir County Schools. Dr. Cline stated the Board of Education will be cutting 43 teaching positions, 3.5 Principal's AP's, 4.6 instructional support staff, and 4.6 Career and Technical Education (CTE's). This equates to \$1.23 million from allotments. With the reduction of teacher assistants, the concern is funding levels. The School Board has been funding at a K-2 level; with an expected 10% reduction, legislature will change this to K or K-1 levels, the impact would be as follows: Funding at K-1 level - \$1,560,050 = approx. 32 positions to cut: Funding at K Level - \$823,580 = approx. 55 positions to cut. Over the last three years we have cut over 175 total positions from the budget. Dr. Cline stated the Board of Education is requesting a 4% increase from the County equaling \$396,000. This 4% increase request will assist the schools' with the funding of the loss of teacher assistant positions. The state is also placing the cost of purchasing yellow school busses on the local school system which is another added expense. Dr. Cline thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

Dr. Brantley Briley, President of Lenoir Community College (LCC), addressed the Board. Dr. Briley stated LCC graduated 459 students on May 12, 2011. Dr. Briley stated the mission for LCC is to offer quality educational programs and services that provide opportunities for the intellectual, economic, social and cultural development of its students and the community. Dr. Briley stated the County's allocation was \$2,185,000; the college is currently facing a deficit of \$155,022. To cover that deficit the college will have to carryover \$84,141 from its capital line to help cover this deficit. This will leave a balance of \$40,104 toward the deficit. LCC is requesting a \$224,380 increase in funding from last year for a total of \$2,509,380. Dr. Briley thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

Ms. Judy White, Executive Director Lenoir County American Red Cross, addressed the Board. Ms. White stated when tornadoes hit Greene County three weeks ago citizens of Lenoir County were there to help. These volunteers helped with staffing a shelter, delivering food, water, and helping with clean up. Ms. White introduced the volunteers who responded to the disaster as follows: Bonnie Ard, John Butler, Mary Jo Butler, Blake Curtis, Angie Edwards, Ray Edwards, Cory Gosnell, James Gurganus, David Hansley, Tim Heath, Trent Herring, Kathy Jones, Rickey Jones, Jeff Nice, Harold Swinson, Bob Tolar, Jan Tolar, Bryan Wade, Cari Wade, Judy White and William Wiggins. Ms. White will be retiring this year and introduced Mr. Chuck Waller who will be taking her place. The Board thanked the volunteers for their service to Greene and Lenoir Counties.

Mr. Mark Sutherland of the Military Growth Task Force addressed the Board regarding the importance of the task force in Lenoir County in the future. Mr. Sutherland stated the military in North Carolina employs 151,000 people and has an economic impact of \$26 billion. Mr. Sutherland expressed the importance of North Carolina's two (2) shipping ports and four (4) aerial ports of embarkation. Mr. Sutherland stated the Task Force is requesting \$10-15,000 by June 30, 2011 to show Lenoir County's support and interest in the Military Growth Task Force efforts. Mr. Graham stated the Board is currently working on the FY 2011-12 budget and will discuss this issue at their next budget work session.



Item No. 6 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Fire Districts: Fire Protection: \$69,245: Increase. Ms. Martin stated the amendment appropriates funds to cover estimated revenues and expenditures for all fire districts for the remainder of FY 10-11. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and second Mr. Daughety, Item No. 6 was approved.

Item No. 7 was a Resolution Approving Purchase Order Execution for Actuarial Valuation of Health Care Plan of Lenoir County: Cavanaugh MacDonald Consulting, LLC: \$5,000. Ms. Martin stated an actuarial study of Lenoir County’s post-employment benefits is required to be conducted under GASB Statements 43 and 45. Preparation of the study will be phased in over a three (3) year period based on the size of the unit of government. Lenoir County’s first study was completed in FY07-08. The results of these studies will be presented to the Board prior to budget work sessions. The Board can use these studies to assess the future liability of the County’s post-employment benefits package and determine if changes need to be made to the plan. The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and the North Carolina League of Municipalities have entered into a long term arrangement with Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC to prepare the actuarial studies at a reduced rate for all units of government in North Carolina. This study must be updated each year. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and second Mr. Daughety, Item No. 7 was approved.

Item No. 8 was a Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Laptops and Printers for each of the 22 Voting Precincts: \$27,664. Ms. Dana King, Board of Elections Director, addressed the Board. Ms. King stated the purchase of laptops and printers at each polling site would reduce the poll workers needed at each site by one person. Board of Elections would be able to provide a more cost efficient and time saving process for the voters of Lenoir County with the aid of laptops and printers. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and second Mr. Pharo, Item No. 8 was approved.

Item No. 9 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 In accordance with procedures set forth in G.S. 153A-176, the County Manager’s office is requesting the approval of the Board to sell the following vehicles by auction on GovDeals.com within the next 90 days. Proceeds resulting from the sale, less expenses will be appropriated to the Vehicle Replacement Fund. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and second Ms. Sutton, Item No. 9 was approved.

	<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Serial Numbers</u>
1.	2005 Ford	2FAHP71W55X141509
2.	2004 Ford	2FAHP71WX4X137907
3.	2001 Chevrolet	2G1WX15KX19121785
4.	2007 Ford (Wrecked)	2FAFP71W57X136708
5.	2004 Ford	2FAHP71WX4X137910
6.	2005 Ford	2FAHP71WX5X141507
7.	2001 Ford Truck	1FTYR10U21PB27360
8.	1999 Ford	1FAFP6535XK167759
9.	2002 Ford	2FAFP71W82X134380
10.	2001 Dodge	1B4HS28N51F603157

**APPOINTMENTS**

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Approving Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. The following reflects existing vacancies and appointments. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Mr. Daughety the following second appearance applicants were approved.

<b><u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u></b>	<b><u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>TERM EXPIRATION</u></b>
<b>Lenoir County ABC Board</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Appearance	Coley Little (Re-Appointment)	June 2014
<b>Eastpointe Board Members</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Appearance	Rita Hodges Emily Moore (Re-Appointments)	June 2013
<b>East Carolina Workforce Development Board</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Appearance	Debbie Beech-Burrell Bruce Parson (Re-Appointments)	June 2013

**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**

**ADDENDUM**

Mr. Pope presented the Board with a Resolution and Economic Development Agreement for Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. Mr. Pope stated Pioneer is a subsidiary of DuPont and is one of the world’s largest seed companies. Pioneer develops, produces and markets hybrid corn, sorghum, sunflower, soybean, alfalfa, wheat, canola, and vegetable seeds. Pioneer has become more involved in the bio-technology field and holds more than 40% of the North American seed and corn markets. Pioneer now wishes to expand by constructing a new Research and Development Center that represents a \$2.3 million in Lenoir County. Mr. Pope noted the agreement is performance based, as with all economic development agreements in Lenoir County. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, the Board approved the Resolution and Economic Development Agreement with Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

The Board agreed to hold its next budget work session immediately following their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 6, 2011. The Board instructed County Administration to get in contact with the Chamber of Commerce and the Committee of 100 to discuss leadership and support of the quarter-cent sales tax referendum. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Davis the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By

Reviewed By

Lashanda A. Hall  
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman  
County Manager