

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 18, 2009

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 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, Linda Rouse Sutton.

Members absent: None

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 4:03 p.m.

Item No. 11 was the North Carolina Department of Administration Division of Veterans Affairs Request to Relocate Cemetery on State Property. Mr. Charlie Smith of Veterans Affairs addressed the Board. Mr. Smith stated the NC Division of Veterans Affairs has obtained property from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture to construct a 100-bed State Veterans Home in Lenoir County to meet the needs of the veterans that reside in the eastern region of North Carolina. A cemetery (no currently used) located within this parcel was recently cleaned and a monument erected to honor past Caswell Center residents. The NC Division of Veterans Affairs would be willing to relocate it to the current cemetery by the arboretum leaving it in the same condition. The cemetery will be relocated at the expense of the NC Division of Veteran Affairs. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Resolution to Award a Fire Protection Contract for the Grifton Fire District. Mr. Roger Dail, Director of Emergency Management addressed the Board. Mr. Dail stated Hugo Fire and Rescue requested a meeting with the Lenoir County Emergency Services officials to request that the county consider contracting with Hugo Fire and Rescue for the fire district that Grifton Community Fire Association now covers. According to Lenoir County's contract, it states that a contract may be terminated by either party at the end of any fiscal year by giving prior 90 days notice with their intent to terminate. Staff has researched General Statutes and the county's contract and has determined that the county commissioners have the authority to cancel a fire department's contract and award a new contract to another department to cover that area with fire protection. With the termination of the contract and the subsequent renewal of the new contract, the fire tax money that would previously go to the Grifton Community Fire Association will go to the department selected. According to Lenoir County Tax Department, the 2009-10 estimated fire tax money to go to the Grifton district is estimated to be \$17,171. Chief Andy Taylor of the Grifton Fire Department read a prepared statement to the Board. Mr. Taylor stated Grifton has been providing fire service to the Town of Grifton since its inception in 1952.

Grifton currently has a 6/9 fire rating and is striving to obtain a straight 6 at their next inspection. The Grifton Fire Department plans on continuing their service to the Town of Grifton. Mr. Alonzo Gray, Chairman of the Hugo Fire Department addressed the Board. Mr. Gray stated neither him nor the Hugo Fire Department wish to cause any ill-will. The Hugo Fire Department is a very well trained staff and answers many calls in the Grifton area; their request does not include the Grifton city limits. Mr. Dail stated that each department is very well trained and they are good departments. Mr. Dail stated he feels Hugo should be granted the request. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 13 was approved with Ms. Brown dissenting.

ADDENDUM

Resolution Supporting Grant Application to the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Inc. Rural Health Care Initiative Grant: \$480,000. Dr. John Ford, President-CEO-Clinical Director of NOVA, addressed the Board. Dr. Ford stated the NC Rural Economic Development Center is offering grants up to \$480,000 (\$12,000 per job created) to assist in the construction/renovation of health care facilities, that will result in job creation. NOVA has a "shovel ready" project that is fully conforming to the requirements of this grant. NOVA's project is an 18-bed Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) for children and youth to be built on the site of NOVA's existing Shackelford Rd. Residential Treatment/Level IV facility. The PRTF project will create 42 new, full-time jobs for Lenoir County, including 4 Registered Nursing, 4 Qualified Professionals, 2 Educators, and 32 Paraprofessional positions, with an annual personnel budget of \$1.526 million. BB&T has committed to meet the financing needs for the PRTF project. There will be no counties monies involved in this project; the county will serve as a pass-through agency. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Mr. Stroud, the resolution was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FROM CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS

No items from the chairman.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman stated Judge Paul Jones has written a letter regarding Lenoir County Courthouse Portrait Policy for retired Judges and Clerks. Portraits will not be purchased at the expense of the county. Ryan Dawson wrote a "thank you" note to the Board for the kindness and concern showed during the tragic events.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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| 3. | Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: May 4, 2009 | Aytch/Jarman |
| 4. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: \$4,571: Decrease | Jones/Martin |
| 5. | Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Process Funds: \$8,879: Decrease | Jarman/Martin |

PUBLIC HEARING/RESOLUTION

Item No. 6A was a Public Hearing Regarding the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Stroud the Public Hearing opened at 4:46 p.m. Major Chris Hill of the Lenoir County Sheriff's Department addressed the Board. Mr. Hill stated the total JAG allocation for the Kinston Department of Public Safety and the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office is \$221,661, which is evenly divided between the two entities. The Sheriff's Office is expected to receive \$110,830.50; with these funds the Sheriff intends to purchase the AFIX fingerprint system. This system will catalog the fingerprints of persons who enter the jail for the purposes of incarceration. The system is designed to identify persons who return to the jail and to allow investigators to quickly match latent fingerprints from crime scenes to known fingerprints in the AFIX database. The total cost of the AFIX system is \$45,000. The Sheriff will also purchase a video arraignment system for the jail; this system will provide a mass means to carry-out court arraignments via video connection. The total cost of the arraignment system is \$25,790.10. Finally, the Sheriff will phase-out the older flashing blue strobe lights mounted on the top of patrol car cruisers and replace them with LED lights. The Led lights are brighter and require less maintenance than the blue flashing strobe lights. This will enhance the safety of the motoring public as well as for officers who respond to calls or are parked on the highway. The total cost for 24 LED lights is \$41,040.40. There were no comments made by the public. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Pharo the public hearing closed at 4:54 p.m.

Item No. 6B was a Resolution Approving the Proposed Expenditures of the Recovery Act Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 6B was unanimously approved.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 7 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health (Adult Health Program): \$12,000: Increase. Mr. Joey Huff, Health Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Huff stated the amendment appropriates additional state funding to support HIV and pregnancy programs at the Lenoir County Health Department. Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 8 was a Resolution Requesting Approval of the Lenoir County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) County Plan for FY 2009-2010: \$281,199. Mr. Huff stated the JCPC is the local planning body for developing community-based alternative to Youth Development Centers and to provide community-based delinquency and substance abuse prevention strategies and programs. The action is required in the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina to develop the Lenoir County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council County Plan for FY 2009-2010. Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud and a second by Mr. Pharo, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 9 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Transportation Fund: Operations: \$33,808: Increase. Mr. Hollowell stated the amendment budgets additional revenues and expenditures and unanticipated salary expense for the remainder of FY 08-09. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: School Capital Fund: School Building: \$80,000: Increase. Mr. Hollowell stated the Amendment appropriates funds for Public School Building Capital projects that were approved by the Department of Public Instruction. These projects have been completed and the state's 75% share of the cost of the completed projects has been drawn down. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Resolution of the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners Supporting an Alternative Method of Recognition for Veterans Status to Merchant Marine Seamen of WW II. Mr. Jarman stated County Administration has not had enough time to review the information stated on the support resolution and does not feel comfortable making a recommendation of approval at this time. Mr. Jarman asked the Board to table the resolution until more information can be obtained. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 12 was tabled.

Item No. 14 was a Resolution Approving Purchase Order Execution for Actuarial Valuation of Health Care Plan of Lenoir County: Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC: \$5,000. Mr. Hollowell stated an actuarial study of Lenoir County's post-employment benefits is required to be conducted under the Government Account Standards Board (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 FY 07-08. The results of these studies will be presented to the Board prior to budget work session. 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 agreement 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 a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 15 was a Resolution Authorizing the Award of Two Contracts for Demolition Services for the 2006 CDBG Concentrated Needs Project: \$9,179. Ms. Martin stated Lenoir County was awarded \$700,000 for CDBG Concentrated Needs project on July 31, 2006. This project has allowed the rehabilitation of homes, acquisition and clearance of parcels, relocation of families and provided water and drainage improvement in the Willie White Road and Mays Store Road area of Lenoir County. Bids were taken for the demolition of two structures in that area on May 7, 2009. The contracts will specify that the contractor will be allowed to do only the number of approved structures, and only the activities specified by the county and/or the project administrator. On May 7, 2009, bids were received from four demolition contractors for the demolition of two structures. For the Dortha Sutton property, Rick Bostic Construction and Demolition was awarded at \$3,279; and for the Prentice Sutton, Charles Hughes Construction was awarded at \$5,900. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 15 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 16 was a Resolution Approving the Purchase of Vehicles from the Work First (TANF) Block Grant: \$58,506. Mr. Jack Jones, Director of the Department of Social Services addressed the Board. Mr. Jones stated Lenoir County will under spend the Cash Assistance Allocation from the Work First (TANF) Block Grant by more than \$500,000 this year. These are 100% Federal dollars that if left unspent, will be reverted back to the state. Options for the use of this money are very limited; therefore, DSS has requested approval from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Controller, to direct charge to our TANF program three (3) vehicles with an estimated cost of less than \$25,000 each.

Child Protective Services Investigators and Work First Social Workers will use these vehicles. There is no county match required. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 16 was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 17 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>
Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) 2 nd Appearance	Meredith Golembieski Annette Strickland Turik Dawn G. Stroud (Re-Appointments)	May 2012 M: Brown S: Pharo
Lenoir County Economic Development Board 1 st Appearance	James Allen Perry (Appointment)	December 2012
Lenoir County ABC Board 1 st Appearance	Emmette C. Taylor (Appointment)	June 2012
Kinston-Lenoir County Parks and Recreation Commission 1 st Appearance	Charles R. Blake, II (Appointment)	June 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

ADJOURNMENT

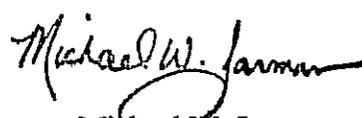
Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman
County Manager

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET PLANNING WORK SESSION
Administration Building Conference Room
May 18, 2009

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners began their scheduled budget work session on Monday, May 18, 2009 at 2:00 p.m., at the Administration Building Conference Room, 101 North Queen St., Kinston, NC.

Members present included: Chairman George Graham, Vice-Chairman Claude Stroud and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Reuben Davis, Chris Humphrey, Tommy Pharo and Linda Rouse Sutton.

Members absent: None

Also present were: Michael W. Jarman, County Manager, Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager, Martha Martin, Finance Officer, Lashanda Aytch, Clerk to the Board, County Department Managers and members of the news media.

Mr. Graham welcomed the Board members to their second Budget Work Session.

Mr. Jarman introduced the recommendation for the FY 2009-10 Budget as follows:

- FY 09-10 General Fund Budget of \$60,993,669 is in balance with a tax rate of \$.81 per \$100 of assessed valuation
- Other Funds are in balance
- Appropriation from Fund Balance is \$0
- We have shown appropriations from our Fund Balance in previous years but have not actually used funds. We stated "the year we actually use the appropriation from Fund Balance we will need to take corrective action." It appears we will use fund balance in 2008-2009
- The FY 09-10 Budget is \$267,125 more than the FY 08-09 Original Budget. This is a 4/10 of one-percent (.4%) increase over what was budgeted last year!
- General Fund Expenditures increased by only ½ percent (.5%) over 2007-08 Actual Expenditures
- Most of our increase is debt service for school bonds
- There are no furloughs or layoffs of current employees
- There are no salary increases shown for employees (with double digit unemployment and many of our citizens facing unusual hardships county employees have a great attitude in working to keep the tax burden for our citizens as low as possible)

Mr. Jarman stated Lenoir County's employees total 452.

The following charts and topics were discussed:

- Summary of Expenditures
- Summary of Revenues
- Revenues versus Expenditure Trends
- Revenues with a historical adjustment
- Revenue/Expenditure General Fund/Fund Balance Forecast
- Summary of Authorized Positions

Mr. Jarman stated Lenoir County Public School requested the following:

- Lenoir County Public School is Requesting the Following Funds:
 - \$1,182,500.00
 - \$1,013,000.00
- Additional Revenue for Current Operations =
- Additional Revenue to Cover State Positions =
- **Total Local Increase =**
- Plus Current Allocation From County =
- **Total Allocation Requested from County =**

The request is \$2,195,500 different from last years' request at 23.1%. The county will appropriate \$9,800,000 in operational expenses and \$1,775,000 in debt service; this will make an increase of 3.16%.

Mr. Jarman reviewed the funding history of the SPCA as follows:

Previous Year Actual	Year	Funded Amount	Percent Increase	Requested Amount	Difference	Percentage
60,580	07-08	62,094	2.5%	97,488	35,394	58.4%
62,094	08-09	95,000	52.3%	105,363	10,363	69.7%
95,000	09-10	95,000	0%	150,000	55,000	57.9%

*Note: \$20,000 for Capital Improvements in Health Department Budget

As noted above in the chart, the SPCA has requested \$150,000 for FY 09-10, an increase of 57.9%. It is noted that the County increased funding to the SPCA in FY 08-09 by 52.3% totaling \$95,000. County Administration recommends no increase for FY 09-10.

In regards to the Regional Law Enforcement Center, Mr. Jarman stated the following:
Sheriff's Office and EMS Staff have not been involved in planning meetings to date

- BLET
 - Utilizes one (1) classroom and an outdoor physical training course
 - Two (2) classes per year 10-15 students
- EMS
 - Curriculum program is new (started January 2009); less than 10 students
 - Several night and weekend classes offered may have 20-50 students
 - Additional lab space is needed

Potential uses for facility

- House BLET Program
- House EMS Program
- Offer State Law Enforcement Program
- Offer Fire Training (Municipal and Volunteer)
- House Municipal Training Staff (7 Staff members)

Mr. Jarman stated more information must be obtained before a decision can be determined.

Mr. Jarman stated there are worthwhile projects that could benefit our community; however, with the current state of our economy we should not increase our property tax burden. The \$.25 cent sales tax was then discussed to help ease the property tax burden. All Commissioners agreed that better education has to be provided to the citizens of Lenoir County in regards to the \$.25 cent sales tax.

The Board thanked Mr. Jarman and all county departments for the hard work in keeping the budget in balance. Mr. Jarman stated all county departments' managers and employees were willing to make sacrifices through these tough economic times.

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown the Board recessed at 3:43 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. to hold their regular scheduled meeting.

RECEIVED

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By

Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman
County Manager