

MINUTES

LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 04, 2014

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 04, 2014, in the Board of Commissioners' Main Meeting Room in the Lenoir County Courthouse at 130 S. Queen St., Kinston, NC.

Members present: Chairman Craig Hill, Vice-Chairman Jackie Brown and Commissioners, Roland Best, Mac Daughety, Reuben Davis, Eric Rouse, and Linda Sutton.

Members Absent: None

Also present were: Michael W. Jarman, County Manager, Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager, Martha Martin, Finance Officer, Vickie F. King, Clerk to the Board, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, members of the general public and news media.

Chairman Hill called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Ms. Brown offered the Invocation and Mr. Best led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: July 21, 2014.
2. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health: (Adult Health-STD/HIV) Increase to Budget \$50.00.
3. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Health: (Adult Health-STD 340B) Increase to Budget \$473.00.

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Hill stated before we move to Item No. 4, he has a request from Mr. Daughety to take a look at Item No. 12 with the possibility of pulling Item No. 12. Mr. Hill stated Item No. 12 is open for discussion at this time. Mr. Daughety asked the Board to consider pulling this Resolution because he received a phone call last week from someone with the Eastern Carolina Council RPO.

Mr. Daughety stated they reviewed the Resolution and had concerns with some of the statements mentioned. Mr. Daughety stated they felt the statements were based on assumptions of what the Commissioners anticipate happening, rather than what is actually happening. Mr. Daughety stated they thought it would be better for the Board to table this motion and send it back to the Transportation Committee for their review, and they would have conversations with them. Mr. Daughety stated they are not going to do anything with the RPO points until the end of month, and they would have two weeks to come back and present it to the Board at their next meeting. Mr. Daughety stated the member of the RPO that called him wanted to make sure the Board was receiving the correct information in this Resolution. Mr. Daughety stated he also has concerns with the Resolution, because it's asking the Board to take a position on an item where we have appointees on the RPO. Mr. Daughety stated there are voting members that should be communicating the Board's position, and those members are also serving on the Transportation Committee. Mr. Daughety stated in the City of Kinston, the Mayor is participating in the RPO and we in Lenoir County are very well represented in our voice with the RPO. Mr. Daughety stated the concerns in the Resolution can be voiced and voted on by the Board's representation. Mr. Daughety stated it is his suggestion and request to the Board that we send the Resolution back to the Transportation Committee and let them get with the leadership of the RPO, particularly with the planning folks, who strategically can help guide them, and look to see if they need to refine it or if they even need to bring it back at all.

Mr. Hill asked if there were any other concerns? Mr. Rouse stated he felt the Board should leave the Resolution like it is, because everybody that's represented on the RPO is well aware of the Resolution. Mr. Rouse stated he has had no communications and no one has contacted him in regards to the Resolution. Mr. Rouse stated Robert Wil met with Transportation last Wednesday. Mr. Rouse reminded the Board they voted unanimously about a year ago to make Part C of the Harvey Parkway a priority. Mr. Rouse stated the Board has a limited timeframe in which comments can be made, so it would be his opinion to leave the Resolution as is, go ahead with the vote, and let them know our position. Mr. Rouse stated he has made it very clear, the Mayor has made it very clear, as have all of the representatives. Mr. Jarman stated this did go through the proper channels. There were two members of the RPO at the Transportation meeting. There was some discussion regarding what needed to be in the Resolution and if the wording was correct and was it what they wanted to accomplish. A motion to postpone the adoption of the Eastern Carolina Planning Organization Ranking Priority Resolution died for lack of a second. Mr. Hill stated they would vote on it, when it comes up in the Agenda today.

Item No. 4 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Trust and Agency Fund: Innovative Approach Literacy (IAL): \$4,537.50: Increase. Ms. Kelly, Cooperative Extension Director, introduced one of Cooperative Extensions 4H summer volunteers, Joel Dixon, who will be attending the State County Commissioners' meeting. Ms. Kelly stated one of the requirements is for the student to attend a County Commissioners' Meeting.

Ms. Kelly stated the Innovative Approach Literacy Program is actually the Dolly Pardon Reading program, which 4H implements through their Parents as Teachers Program. Ms. Kelly stated the funds help to supplement some of the money they lost through the Partnership for Children. Ms. Kelly stated the funds will be used to augment the current Parents as Teachers Program. Ms. Kelly stated the Parents as Teachers Literacy Program helps parents to understand how they can impact their children's development and provide them with enriching activities. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 4 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 5 was a Resolution approving a contract with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspector Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services Division: \$21,800.00. Ms. Kelly, Cooperative Extension Director, stated the Beaver Management Assistance Program does help to control some of the destruction of beaver dams. Ms. Kelly stated Lenoir County joined BMAP in 1997 and has continued to reap benefits from this program. Mr. Jarman stated the beaver management issue has been here for years, and we have reduced this contract over time. We have been looking for ways to partner with the City and different people to find ways to increase this coverage. Mr. Jarman stated, not only does it cover the beaver side but they helped with the pigeon issue down town, so in the next year or in the next budget year, the Board might see more discussion about this. Mr. Jarman stated at some point, we need to find a way to start some incremental steps towards getting some additional work accomplished, for our property owners and businesses. Mr. Daughety stated it is becoming a larger issue in the Castle Oaks area, they are seeing the damage caused by the beavers near the streams. Ms. Kelly asked Joel Dixon to speak. Mr. Dixon stated the participating youths at the Youth Summit do simulations, putting themselves in the Commissioners shoes, simulating budget matters and how commissioners affect the community. Mr. Dixon stated he appreciates the commissioners and the work they do, because it affects how people live in Lenoir County. Mr. Hill thanked Joel for his efforts in participating in the summit, and it's quite rewarding to see young people stepping up showing an interest and being a future leader. Upon a motion made by Ms. Brown and second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 5 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 6 was a Resolution authorizing a Budget Revision for the 2011 CDBG Catalyst Project in the amount of \$49,500.00. Mr. David Harris, RSM Harris Associates, stated the amendment will provide for additional rehabilitation costs because bids received were a little higher than expected. Mr. Harris stated the reconstruction replacement housing cost was lower, so it balances out and there is not an overall increase in the budget. Mr. Harris stated due to the higher than anticipated costs received in the bidding process, the revision is necessary. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 7 was a Resolution authorizing award of a Contract for Rehabilitation Services of Two Homes: 2011 CDBG Catalyst Project: Meridian Design Build: \$92,659.00. Mr. Harris, RSM Harris Associates, stated this project will allow for the abatement of asbestos, the clearance of existing dilapidated dwellings and the replacement of those dwellings in the Spring Drive area of

LaGrange. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 8 was a Resolution approving additional costs of repair to remount a Chevrolet 4500 Wheeled Coach Ambulance Box on a New Chassis: Select Custom Apparatus: \$875.56 (Total Revised Cost \$64,838.84). Ms. King, EMS Assistant Director, stated EMS was requesting a revision to the original Resolution to remount the box, because when they removed the box from the old chassis, they noticed damages that required repairing before placing it on the new chassis. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution approving a grant application to the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation: \$250,000.00. Ms. King, EMS Assistant Director, stated the EMS Department is in the process of applying for a grant that would assist with the cost of a community based Para Medic Program. Ms. King stated they are trying to implement the program in Lenoir County and are working in partnership with Lenoir Community College. Mr. Jarman stated he would like to thank Mr. James Hood, who has been working with the community paramedic program. Mr. Jarman stated it appears to be a very favorable program for our community. Mr. Jarman stated they have been working to implement it within the existing parameters of their budget and with the existing staff, so we thank Mr. Hood and EMS for working hard to try something new instead of coming to the County asking us to pay for something they have not tried. Mr. Hill stated his only concern is when the grant funding runs out. What will happen once we move out of that framework? Mr. Hill stated he wanted to be very cautious about that moving forward and also try and provide the highest level of service possible within the framework we have. Mr. Hill stated it's real easy once you get grant money to add additional personnel. Mr. Jarman stated that after his discussion with the staff, this looks to be a program that will save money. Mr. Jarman stated this program will reduce the number of trips to frequent users of the EMS System; thereby, saving money. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Emergency Telephone System Fund: Emergency Telephone System: \$800,707.00: Increase. Ms. Martin, Finance Director, stated this amendment is to appropriate the remaining balance of the E911 fund balance to be used for the completion of the Jones/Lenoir Emergency Communication Center (JLECC) project. Ms. Martin stated this is money that has accumulated over the past few years, and with the emergency telephone fund they do not want you to keep a fund balance, because if you have a fund balance the State will cut your funding. Ms. Martin stated this \$800,707.38 will be transferred into FY 14-15 in order to complete the JLECC project. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11A & 11B were Resolutions approving the 2013-2014 Tax Collector's Annual Settlement and approving the Insolvent Personal Property Tax List.

Mr. Parrish, Tax Administrator, stated the Tax Department has worked diligently to collect all taxes due on real and personal property. Mr. Parrish stated our collection rate has increased and he feels this increase is due to the changes in the state collecting license plate renewals. Mr. Parrish stated the change has been an adjustment for both the Tax Department and the Motor Vehicle Department. Mr. Parrish stated all uncollected taxes on personal property are declared insolvent after the close of fiscal year and will be credited to the Tax Collector. Mr. Jarman commended Mr. Parrish for the hard work he has done with two less people. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, Items No. 11A&B were unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Resolution of support for changing the Eastern Carolina Rural Planning Organization Ranking Priority. Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Resolution approving citizens to boards, commissions, etc. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Mr. Ken Albertson was re-appointed to the Lenoir County Tourism Board. Since this was the 1st appearance for Mr. John McNairy, Ms. Tammy Dawson, Ms. Anne Gaddis, Ms. Rouse-Sutton, Ms. Patrick, Mr. Huff, Ms. Cumming, Ms. Moore-Clark, Ms. Kosinski, Ms. Brown, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Smith, Ms. Pate, Ms. Short, Ms. Boyette, Ms. Williams, Ms. Croom and Ms. Nix, no action needed at this time.

<u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u>	<u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRATION</u>
Kinston Lenoir County Tourism	Mr. Ken Albertson (Re-Appointment) 2nd Appearance	2017

Item No. 14 was information from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman stated the first item was for bids received on several county properties. Mr. Jarman requested the Board accept the bid of \$400.00 for a lot on E. Washington Street in LaGrange, \$500.00 for a lot at 2680 Wallace Family Road, \$1,000.00 for property at 207 E. Highland Avenue. Mr. Jarman stated the county has received other bids on 207 E. Highland Avenue; however, situations with someone not lawfully staying on the property deterred bidders from continuing the bid. Mr. Jarman stated the property continues to get in further state of disrepair. Mr. Jarman stated the bidder has been made aware of the current situation; \$500.00 for a lot off of Gilbert School Road, and \$400.00 for 1313 Railfence Drive, which is in the Old Farm Sub-Divison, Mr. Jarman stated the county has not received any bids on the Railfence Drive property which is a nice lot that is currently overgrown. Mr. Jarman requested the Board accept these bids, start the upset bid process, and get the property back on the tax books. Mr. Jarman requested the Board decline an offer of \$1,000.00 for property at 209 E. Washington Street LaGrange to see if you can get a higher bid. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved.

Mr. Jarman stated it is time for the NCACC Legislative Goals Process. Mr. Hill encouraged everyone to look at last year's goals and see what was accomplished. Mr. Hill asked the commissioners to send him any ideas for goals, so within the next couple of weeks they can meet the deadline for submission to the NCACC. Mr. Hill stated he will get with Mr. Jarman, the county manager, and Ms. King, the clerk, to submit the information. Mr. Jarman stated it's a good practice to keep in touch with a lot of what is going on within the association, because we might not know what is going on with other counties. Mr. Hill mentioned the Wake Up Lenoir breakfast will be held at 7:30am tomorrow at the Queen Street Deli. Mr. Hill also mentioned the Lenoir Memorial Hospital sale/partnership being in the early negotiations stage, and another meeting will be held in October.

Mr. Best mentioned the Workforce Learning Summit to be held at Lenoir Community College on Wednesday, August 6, 2014. Mr. Best stated there will be representatives from LCC, Wayne Community College and James Sprunt Community College together to discuss how to adapt through workforce development. Mr. Best stated the summit is the 12th stop of a 21 stop tour of the State for North Carolina Community College President Scott Ralls to discuss a new strategic planning initiative called Align4NCWorks.

Mr. Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie F. King
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By

Michael W. Jarman
County Manager