

MINUTES

LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 17, 2015

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2015, 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, Commissioners, Roland Best, Mac Daughety, Reuben Davis, Eric Rouse and Linda Rouse-Sutton.

Members Absent: Vice-Chairman Jackie Brown

Also present were: Michael W. Jarman, County Manager, Vickie F. King, Clerk to the Board, County Attorney Robert Griffin, Chris Harper, Special Projects Officer, members of the general public and news media.

Chairman Hill called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. Mr. Best offered the Invocation and Mr. Davis led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Davis, to excuse Vice-Chairman Jackie Brown from the meeting.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

Shannon Rouse Ruiz, Director of Peace Foundation, thanked the Board for allowing her the opportunity to present the proclamation in recognition of Paint Lenoir Purple. Ms. Rouse Ruiz stated this is the 2nd year the Paint Lenoir Purple Proclamation has been presented. Ms. Rouse Ruiz read the proclamation.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Rouse, the Paint Lenoir Purple Proclamation was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Susan Moore, DSS Director, stated Child Support Awareness Month is observed every year during the month of August. Ms. Moore read the Child Support Awareness Month proclamation. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Rouse Sutton, the Child Support Awareness Month Proclamation was unanimously approved. Common Consent

John Rouse, Division Engineer with NCDOT read the Resolution of Support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation in Regards to Intersection upgrades to Highway 11 at Ferrell Road in Lenoir County, NC. Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Ms. Rouse Sutton, Resolution of Support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation in Regards to the Intersection Upgrades to Highway 11 at Ferrell Road in Lenoir County, NC was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Mr. Rouse (NCDOT) stated the intersection at Ferrell Road near Contentnea Savannah School has become a concern especially during morning rush hour. The problem has been when school buses have to stop to make the right turn across the railroad tracks, the rear of the buses are hanging out in the south bound lane. This significantly slows down the flow of the traffic and has caused several accidents due to the rate of speed on the highway. This is a high speed corridor and the volume of traffic is growing, and something needed to be done.

Mr. Davis asked is there daily railroad usage at this particular crossing?

Mr. Rouse replied I would not say daily. I do not have the actual rail counts nor is it a frequently used crossing but it is a gated crossing.

Mr. Best asked if the future plans for the traffic included going to the location of the old theater to make a u-turn?

Mr. Rouse replied once complete they will only have to go approximately 500 ft and make the u-turn. The new plans will create a much safer area because currently a motorist must look in three different directions prior to crossing the highway.

Mr. Rouse stated the Queen Street Bridge is now under construction and the contractors have twelve (12) months to complete the bridge in order to receive incentives. If they go beyond the twelve (12) month period they will have to pay a fee instead of receiving the incentive.

We are finished with Woodington Middle School project and Patrick Phillippe, Principal and Jan Tucker, Assistant Principal are very satisfied with the results.

Mr. Hill asked if DOT has any plans for placing a flashing sign prior to arriving at the new light at the Intersection of 258 S. and Will Baker Road? This would give motorist a warning regarding the new temporary signal that has been placed at the intersection where Ma's Hot Dog House is located.

Mr. Rouse replied he had not heard anything regarding it, but he will check into it to see.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: July 20, 2015.
Regular Board Meeting: August 03, 2015.
2. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Process Funds: \$965.96. Increase.
3. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Process Funds: \$1,072.35. Increase.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, the consent agenda was unanimously approved. Common Consent

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS:

Item No. 4 was a Resolution authorizing demolition of county owned building on 115 W. Bright Street by Eastern Carolina Demolition in the amount of \$6,800. Mike Wiggins, Maintenance Director, stated Lenoir County owns a building located at 115 W. Bright Street. For many years, the building housed MIS personnel until the MIS staff moved into the basement of the Courthouse. The building is in need of much repair and the Department of Social Services needs additional parking. The decision was made for the building to be torn down and the tree on the lot to be removed. County Maintenance solicited bids for demolition of the building and the removal of the tree. Eastern Carolina Demolition of Ayden, NC provided the lowest cost to the county for the demolition of the building. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, item No. 4 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 5 was a Resolution approving a grant application to the Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program (HMA). Roger Dail, EMS Director, asked Samuel Kornegay, Emergency Planner to come to the podium to explain the grant application process. Samuel Kornegay stated Lenoir County Emergency Services–Emergency Management Division is applying for grant funding through the Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program. This grant is for funding assistance in the implementation of a power redundancy system for Lenoir County EMS stations throughout the County. Over the past two months, Lenoir County Emergency Services – Emergency Management Division researched our critical facilities and determined that the EMS stations in the county did not have a generator backup in the event of power failure. However, during this time, it was noted a grant opportunity existed through North Carolina Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Branch. It was then determined that the power redundancy system would be fundable through the grant offered. The application process was then started in the hopes to strengthen our critical infrastructure to be more disaster resistant and better prepared. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Mr. Davis, item No. 5 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 6 was a Resolution approving Fireworks shows at the Lenoir County Fair. Roger Dail, EMS Director, stated the Lenoir County Commissioners must approve all fireworks shows held in the county, and must be granted prior to the issuance of permits. The Lenoir County Fair Association has hired Hale Artificier, Inc. to handle all fireworks within the approved area of the Lenoir County Fairgrounds. The Fire Marshal, or his/her designee, will ensure all fire codes are met. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 7 was a Resolution approving the purchase of a 2016 Ford F250 4x4 truck from Capital Ford in the amount of \$29,500.00. Roger Dail, EMS Director, stated the Lenoir County Emergency Services Department–Emergency Management Division assigns the Emergency Management Planner a vehicle for use in responding to the investigation of natural and man-made disasters. This position maintains inventory of all preparedness equipment, conducts meetings with local organizations in disaster planning/drills and assist the fire department personnel in the investigation of suspicious fires and illegal fire activity. This position is also required to perform inspections of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional facilities. The vehicle is also fully equipped to assist the EMS division in responding to incidents. Each of these functions require specialized equipment that must be transported in a safe and efficient manner. As a result of these job responsibilities, the Emergency Management Planner puts a lot of wear on his assigned vehicle between the after-hour responses and the daily activities required of this position.

The Emergency Management Planner's current vehicle is a 2008 Ford Expedition, with 190,593 miles on the odometer. The Board is requested to approve the purchase of one, 2016 Ford F250 4x4 truck, from Capital Ford of Raleigh, N.C. in the amount of \$29,500.00. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 8 was a Resolution authorizing Lenoir County Cooperative Extensions' acceptance of funds from the Lenoir/Greene Partnership for Children, Inc. and authorizing the Finance Officer to sign on behalf of the county. Tammy Kelly, Cooperative Extension Director, stated Parents As Teachers is currently in its 19th year functioning under Lenoir County Cooperative Extension and is funded by the Lenoir/Greene Partnership for Children, Inc. The Parent Educator currently reaches 40 families per month, with at least one visit and often two per month. PAT is a voluntary, preschool, home visit, education program that allows parents to become educators of their children in their own homes. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Ms. Kelly stated if anyone needed basic information regarding the Avian/Bird Flu they could contact Eve Honeycutt at the Cooperative Extension office.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution to adopt the approved Lenoir County Detention Center Health Plan. Sheriff Ingram stated in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 153A-225 that deals with medical care of prisoners, the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners is required to adopt a health plan for the care of inmates. As written in statute, the unit shall develop the plan in consultation with appropriate local officials and organizations, including the sheriff, the county physician, the local or district health director, and the local medical society. The plan must be approved by the local or district health director after consultation with the area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse authority, to be determined if it is adequate to protect the health and welfare of the prisoners. Once this is determined the plan must be adopted by the governing body. The Lenoir County Health Director, the Sheriff of Lenoir County, and Southern Health Partners, Inc. (the contracted provider of care to inmates) has approved the attached plan and request it to be adopted by the Board of Commissioners. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Rouse, Item No 9 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 10 was a Resolution approving purchase order with CDW for the purchase of two APC UPS Battery Modules. Sheriff Ingram stated in 2013, the W.E. "Billy" Smith Detention Center opened which brought the jail to a modernized and computer oriented facility. These systems computer hardware and software requires constant power to assure all settings and information is saved in the event of a drop in power. Battery backup systems were installed to assure no settings were lost when the power does go out and when the generators activate. These battery backup systems have batteries with a life expectancy of 24 months. The current batteries have been in service for 30 months and are no longer operable. The Lenoir County Maintenance Department researched companies who provided these batteries and provided the Sheriff's Office with a quote from CDW with the lowest price for replacement batteries for the backup systems at \$3,064.30. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 11 was a Resolution approving purchase order with Capital Ford in the amount of \$55,700 for two police interceptor utility vehicles. Sheriff Ingram stated the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office currently uses fleet vehicles to patrol the county and carry out their normal daily duties. One of the assignments of the patrol division involves the use of canines.

The Sheriff's Office must have vehicles that can house the canine kennels and the equipment that is used for these dogs. The Sheriff has chosen the Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle as the canine vehicle. The cost of these vehicles was included in the approved fiscal year budget for the Sheriff's Office. One of these new vehicles will replace one canine vehicle that is at the mileage limit and the other will be for a new canine. In 2013, the Sheriff's Office had to retire one canine due to age and health reasons and that canine will be replaced this year using drug asset forfeiture money. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Best, Item No 11 was unanimously approved. Called to Question

Item No.12 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Cooperative Extension: Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)-Parenting Matters: \$1,719.96. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated Ms. Martin was on vacation and he would be presenting the following amendments. This amendment will allow us to bring forward unexpended funds from the Cooperative Extension's JCPC parenting matters grant from FY2014-2015. The JCPC unexpended funds are not as a rule rolled forward into the next fiscal year. However, this was a situation where part-time hours were earned in FY2014-2015, but were not expended until July, 2015. The part-time hours that were not paid until FY15-16, were budgeted as part of the FY14-15 grant funds. The county received verbal approval from Pam Stokes to count this expenditure in FY14-15, even though it will show as a part of the FY15-16 budget. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton Rouse, Item No 12 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 13 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Sheriff-Concealed Weapons Department: \$2,272.72. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to appropriate funds from the concealed weapon permitting and renewals. Based upon N.C.G.S. § 14-415-19, \$35 from each concealed carry permit and each concealed carry renewal are to be used by the Sheriff's Department to administer this article and any other law enforcement purpose. There was \$19,317.00 budgeted in the initial county budget for the concealed weapon department, but there was actually a total of \$21,589.72 in unexpended funds at June 30, 2015. Therefore the balance is being rolled forward into FY15-16. Upon a motion by Mr. Best and a second by Ms. Rouse Sutton, Item No. 13 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 14 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Capital Improvements Fund: Community Development: \$4,638.00. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to roll forward unexpended Parks and Recreation capital for FY2014-2015. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton Rouse and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 14 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 15 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Trust & Agency Fund: Finance/Innovative Approach to Literacy: \$6,918.23. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to roll forward unexpended funds from the Innovative Approach to Literacy Grant that was awarded to Cooperative Extension in FY 12-13, FY13-14, and FY14-15. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Rouse Sutton, Item No. 15 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 16 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Process Funds: \$10,868.52. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to re-appropriate Senior Health Insurance Information program (SHIIP) Grant funds not expended in previous years. From FY06-07 through FY14-15, a total of \$39,878.09 in revenue has been received. Of that amount received, only \$29,009.57 has been expended.

This leaves a total of \$10,868.52 of SHIIP grant funds to be rolled forward into FY15-16. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 16 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 17 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Health Department: \$12,435.35. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to bring forward unexpended funds from the Health Department's line for maintenance and repairs of the buildings and grounds at the SPCA center. A total of \$77,960 has been budgeted since FY10-11, with only \$65,524.65 of those funds being expended through FY14-15. The balance of \$12,435.35 is being rolled forward into FY15-16 to cover expenses at the SPCA. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 17 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 18 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Social Services: \$16,339.14. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to bring forward unexpended FY14-15 funds from the federal adoption incentive fund and budget in FY15-16. The Lenoir County Department of Social Services received these funds in FY04-05. These funds can only be used to enhance the adoption programs to secure homes for hard to place children. There is no time limit on the expenditure of the funds. The total amount received in FY04-05 was \$93,000, and through FY14-15, \$76,660.86 in funds has been expended. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 18 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 19 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Sheriff Department: \$16,419.20. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to roll forward unexpended funds from the State Criminal Alien Assistance program (SCAAP) from prior fiscal years in the amount of \$6,931.08 and to take off the budgeted amounts from this fiscal year. The difference in what was budgeted and what is being rolled forward is the net difference. If any funds are received in this fiscal year, they will be budgeted at that time. These funds are received from the U.S. Department of Justice office of Justice Programs and are given to help offset expenses incurred by the county in housing undocumented criminal aliens or aliens of unknown legal status who have been convicted of at least one felony or two misdemeanors and have been incarcerated during the reporting period of the award. Upon a motion by Mr. Best and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 19 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 20 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Process Funds: \$23,877.63. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to bring forward unexpended funds from EMPG grant for FY 08-09 through 2014-2015. From FY08-09 until 2013-2014 a total of \$98,618.13 has been received in revenues with only \$74,740.50 being expended. This leaves a balance of \$23,877.63 to be rolled forward into FY15-16. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 20 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 21 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Cooperative Extension. Kate B. Reynolds: \$108,881.55. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to set up grant funds from the Kate B. Reynolds grant. There have been three payments on this grant since FY11-12, with a total of \$231,843.00 being received. Through June 30, 2015 only \$87,842.42 of those funds has been spent, leaving a total of \$108,881.55 to be rolled into FY15-16. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best, Item No. 21 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 22 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Sheriff: \$198,222. Increase. Mike Jarman, County Manager, stated this amendment is to bring forward unexpended sheriff's civil process service fees from prior years. The law regarding fees for civil papers served by the sheriff's department changed in September 2004. The amount charged for fees has increased from \$5 to \$15 and now to \$30. Fifty (50%) percent of the amount collected shall be used by the sheriff's department for the enhancement of the service of civil papers. This process will have to be done each year to bring forward the unexpended funds into the new fiscal year. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 22 was unanimously approved. Common Consent

Item No. 23 was a Resolution Approving Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No 23 was unanimously approved for Matthew A. Young appointment to the Kinston-Lenoir County Tourism Development Authority. Common Consent

Item No. 24 was items from the County Manager, Mike Jarman. Mr. Jarman stated at the last meeting we entertained a bid for property located on 703 East Washington Street. At that time I asked you to decline that bid. The bid was raised to \$2,000 and I am now recommending you accept the bid. The gentlemen intends on making repairs and placing the property back on the tax books. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Best, the bid was unanimously approved for the property at 703 East Washington Street. Common Consent

Mr. Jarman stated at this time we will watch a video from the NCACC (North Carolina Association of County Commissioners). The only other thing I have is regarding the sales tax distribution which seems to be a big topic. I have received calls from representatives and the governor's office to see how it will impact us. If you have any questions feel free to give me a call and we can discuss in further details. They are looking at it from a 50/50 perspective (half by per capita, half by point of sale) which shows us having a slight increase in revenue. It also shows the calculation method for the school funding changing. With that, we really don't know how much is earmarked for us. We may have additional funds, but there may be with strings attached. We need more information.

Mr. Hill stated he received a call to be a presenter at the conference on the topic of economic development. I appreciate the great work Mark Pope and Amanda Conner provided in helping me with the presentation.

Mr. Rouse stated he would like to provide some information regarding TIP Projects, Non-TIP Projects, and Resurfacing. Replacement bridges #42 and #43 over Neuse River on US 70 Business (Queen Street) was awarded to Thalle Construction Company, Inc. and road closure began August 3, 2015.

On NC 11 they will construct left turn lanes at existing median openings from south of State Road 1826 Mewborn Avenue to North of State Road 1719 Odham Road. The lowest bid was above the available funding, so they are attempting to re-scope the project.

In regards to the Kinston Riverwalk multi-use path that goes from Pearson Park to the power plant the contract was awarded to Lanier Construction. The contractor plans to start on August 17th with a completion date of December 16, 2015.

Smithfield Way was extended from State Road 1548 Hill Farm Road to US 258. The first layer of asphalt has been completed by Barnhill Contracting. The second layer will be placed in conjunction with the Hill Farm Road project. Hill Farm Road is extending the existing turn lane on State Road 1548 (Hill Farm Road) past Kinston Fire Department, Station 3 to 465 feet north of State Road 2021 (Smithfield Way). This was awarded to Barnhill Contracting Company. Utilities are currently being relocated before the rest of the project is completed. Resurfacing of the secondary roads was awarded to Barnhill Contracting Company available July 1st, with the completion date by November 13, 2015. Roads slated for resurfacing are Jonestown Road from NC 11 to US 258, widen from 18' to 24', Airport Road from the 2 lane section to NC 58, mill and resurface, and Carey Road from US 70 Business to Plaza Blvd. mill and resurface.

Mr. Best stated Sheriff Ronnie Ingram was recognized on Sunday as Citizen of the Year at Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Mr. Hill stated he attended the Faith and Culture Conference Saturday along with Commissioner Best, and it was a very positive conference. We had three members of the Lenoir County School Board to attend, Jon Sargeant, Garland Nobles, and Walter Anderson. The group is seeking a positive approach in looking at our school system. I realize it was short notice but I appreciate all who were able to attend.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Davis, a closed session was entered into at approximately 6:10 p. m. with 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.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Ms. Rouse Sutton and a second by Mr. Best and unanimous approval, the Board moved out of closed session at approximately 6:20 p.m. The meeting re-convened in open session at approximately 6:21 p.m.

Mr. Hill stated, we are back in open session. The Board went into closed session to discuss a potential industry in Lenoir County. No action was taken. Mr. Hill asked if there were any additional comments? There were none.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Hill and a second by Mr. Best, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie F. King

Clerk to the Board