

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 15, 2007

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 15, 2007 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, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Paul Taylor, Jr., and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Claude Davis, Earl Harper, Chris Humphrey and Claude Stroud.

Members absent: None

Also present were: Michael Jarman, County Manager; Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager; 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 4:00 p.m. Ms. Brown offered the invocation and Mr. Graham led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

None Scheduled

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS

Item No. 1 was Items from the Chairman and County Commissioners. Mr. Graham asked Mr. Russell Rhodes, Transportation Chairman, to present his resolution. Item No. 7 was a Resolution in Support of Funding to Provide Roadway Improvements at the New Site of the Contentnea/Savannah School at Tilghman Mill and Ferrell Roads. Mr. Rhodes stated the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Lenoir County Public Schools have agreed on a compromise of the roadway access. NCDOT does not usually participate financially in new school site access issues but as part of the compromise, NCDOT has agreed to fund the modifications to the turn lanes in and out of the school. According to Preston Hunter, District Engineer for the NCDOT, the school now has adequate collector facilities to get traffic off of the main roads onto the school property to improve safety. Chris Roberts, Architect for Lenoir County Schools, supports the design. Upon a motion by Mr. Taylor and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 5 was a Resolution Recognizing Ms. Rhondra Fleming as Teacher of the Year. Ms. Brown read the resolution aloud for members of the Board and the viewing public. Ms. Fleming thanked the Board for the recognition and will continue her love of teaching. The Board wished Ms. Fleming success in her future endeavors.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Item No. 2 was Items from the County Manager. Mr. Jarman reviewed a letter from Lenoir Community College (LCC) regarding the Aviation Education Center. LCC leases land for the Aviation Education Center located at the Global TransPark and owned by Lenoir County. The lease states that the lessee "shall not have the right to sublease its physical facilities, parking areas and other improvements without prior approval by the lessor."

Students of the center contract with Henley Aviation for the flight portion of their program. This partner has lost office space at the TransPark. LCC is concerned that Henley may cease operations in Kinston, which would devastate the college's aviation program. LCC along with the Board of Trustees request permission from the county to sublease extra space at the Aviation Education Center to Henley Aviation. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, LCC's request was unanimously approved.

Mr. Jarman reviewed a letter from Lenoir County Public Schools requesting funds received from the \$.025 sales tax increase and any funds from county Medicaid Relief be given to them. Mr. Jarman stated he has drafted a memo in response to the schools request. In general, the Board has reviewed the needs of the school and several other projects that need the Boards attention throughout the county. The schools can be assured that this Board and the citizens of the community are in full support of the schools. Mr. Graham stated the Board would look at this issue and several other issues that affect the county during budget work session beginning early next year.

Mr. Jarman stated the full agenda is accessible on the county web page along with the minutes. Mr. Jarman reminded the Board of the Bridge Dedication for Retired Sheriff Leo Harper in Deep Run at 11:00 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Davis, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent agenda items.

- 3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: October 1, 2007 Aytch/Jarman
Closed Session Meeting: October 1, 2007

- 4. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Finance/Sheriff: \$3,013: Increase Hollowell/Jarman

RESOLUTION

Item No. 6 was a Resolution Honoring Margaret Anderson. Ms. Brown stated she would present Ms. Anderson with the Resolution at the next Department of Social Service Board meeting.

Item No. 8 was a Resolution Authorizing Payment to the Lenoir County Committee of 100, Inc. (C-100) for Advancing the Cost of Lenoir County's new Web-site Design/Implementation: \$6,500. Mr. Pope stated the process began in 2005 to redesign the Economic Development web-site. The Committee of 100 approved spending up to \$40,000 toward a \$53,000 estimate to re-design and create a new web-site for the Economic Development Department, County of Lenoir and the City of Kinston. The C-100 further approved that if necessary they would advance both the City of Kinston and County of Lenoir portions at \$6,500 each. Lenoir County MIS Department was involved in the planning and implementation/design of the new web-sites. All the web-sites have received many complements; the site is updated regularly by local staff members. Upon a motion by Mr. Taylor and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution Authorizing the MIS Director to Purchase a Cisco Ironport Anti-Spam/Anti-virus Appliance for \$8,465 from Storbase to Replace the Brightmail Email Server. Mr. Joey Bryan, MIS Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Bryan stated Lenoir County along with several other counties have been experiencing major Spam and viruses problems via e-mail. After serious study, it was determined that the e-mail the county was receiving was on average 68% Spam mail of many varying nature. The county's firewall was not designed to handle these problems; the damage the viruses were causing to the network led staff to seek a solution. BrightMail is a software package made by the fortune 500 company Symantec that runs on the equipment the county has in-house. It is not only a Spam filter with a quarantine package, but also includes Symantec's Virus product, offering the county a second level of protection after the firewall. The county is in the process of switching to an all Cisco operation and the best appliance in the market at this time is Cisco's Ironport. The Cisco Ironport is the recommended appliance to replace the county's Brightmail server software. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Authorizing Purchase of an Online Tax Search, View, and Pay System from Sturgis Web Services. Mr. Darrell Parrish, Tax Administrator, addressed the Board. Mr. Parrish stated the Tax Department has been exploring the options available for accepting credit card payments and providing online tax information. The number of requests for taxpayers wanting to pay their tax bills with credit cards or debit cards, both online and in the Tax Office has increased annually. The increase in the availability of public records via the Internet has resulted in an increase in the requests received by the Tax Department. The services provided by Sturgis will give citizens the capabilities to view tax records online and pay bills via credit or debit cards. The information would include the delinquent tax bills for the past nine (9) years plus current year information. The benefits of this service to the Tax Department are two-fold; it would meet the demand of taxpayers wanting to pay with credit/debit cards and most importantly, increase the efficiency of the Tax Department. Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11 was a Resolution Awarding Contract: Grinding Services: Vegetative Debris to Powell Contracting: \$46,464. Mr. Jarman stated since the landfill fires, the county landfill has taken a different approach to managing vegetative debris, normally carried to the landfill. Instead of covering the debris with dirt, the material is grind where it can be used for cover material or possible landscaping projects. Sealed bids were received and publicly opened on October 3, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Manager's Office by the County Manager with the Clerk to the Board as witness. The landfill estimates a total of 6,500 tons needs to be ground; the regular charge at the landfill for vegetative debris is \$12 per ton. Powell Contracting bid \$7.12 per ton making them the lowest responsible bidder. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12 was a Resolution Approving Contract with Vanguard Professional Staffing: \$241,431. Mr. Jack Jones, Director of Social Services (DSS), addressed the Board. Mr. Jones stated in an effort to assist with continual recruitment, retention and quality assurance, the DSS Board is seeking to temporarily contract with Vanguard Professional Staffing for Social Workers and Income Maintenance Caseworkers to staff vacancies in the Child Welfare Program, Work First Services and Economic Services. Vanguard offers temporary experienced employees to cover vacancies for full-time or part-time schedules. DSS has numerous vacancies in the Work First and Economic Services Divisions that have proven difficult to fill. Vanguard has agreed to provide qualified temporary Income Maintenance Caseworkers to work in Medicaid and Food Stamp programs as necessary.

Temporary caseworkers will also be provided to implement the Work First Demonstration Grant that will enhance efforts to meet the Federal participation rates required by Federal law. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Stroud, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 13 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 Planning Board 2nd Appearance	Peggy Boone (Re-Appointment)	August 2010 M: Brown S: Davis
Jury Commission 1st Appearance	Dorethea Branch (Re-Appointment)	July 2009 Approved
Lenoir County Health Board 1st Appearance	Dr. Joseph E. Agsten (Appointment)	September 2010

CURRENT VACANCIES:

- Lenoir County Health Board – One (1) Vacancy; (1) Veterinarian**
- Grifton Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy; ETJ Position**
- JCPC – One (1) Vacancy; 1-Juvenile Attorney**
- Lenoir County Planning Board – District 1, 3, & 6**
- CJPP – Four (4) Vacancies**
- Kinston Board of Adjustment – Two (2) ETJ Members; (1) Primary – (1) Alternate**
- Lenoir County Transportation Committee – At Large Member – Business Community**

Mr. Graham stated on behalf of the entire Board he wanted to thank County Administration, Department Managers and employees for the hard work they do everyday for Lenoir County.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By

Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman
County Manager