

**MINUTES**  
**LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**December 4, 2006**

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 4, 2006 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 Paul Taylor and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Chris Humphrey Earl Harper and Claude Stroud.

Members absent: Claude Davis

Also present were: Michael W. Jarman, County Manager; Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager; Robert W. Griffin, County Attorney; Lashanda Aytch, Clerk to the Board; and members of the general public and the news media.

*Administration of Oaths of Office: Newly Elected Lenoir County Board of Commissioners: By the Clerk of Court, Ms. Dawn Stroud:*

*Claude E. Stroud*  
*George W. Graham, Jr.*  
*Chris Humphrey*

***Election of Chairman***

**Attorney Robert W. Griffin**

***Ms. Brown nominated Mr. George Graham; there was no opposition to the nomination and no further nominees; Mr. Graham was named Chairman by unanimous approval by the Board – One Year Term.***

***Election of Vice-Chairman***

**Attorney Robert W. Griffin**

***Mr. Graham nominated Mr. Paul Taylor; there was no opposition to the nomination and no other nominees; Mr. Taylor was named Vice-Chairman by unanimous approval by the Board – One Year Term.***

Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, the Board excused Mr. Davis from the meeting due to health reasons.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Mr. Harper along with fellow members of the Board presented Mr. Horace Wayne Pittman with a plaque and county flag for his service to Lenoir County as a Commissioner. Mr. Pittman thanked the Board and the citizens of Lenoir County for allowing him to serve the community for the past four (4) years.

Mr. Ely Perry – Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce presented a resolution entitled - Resolution of Support for Funding of the CSS Neuse Regional Civil War Museum and Exhibition Center by the Historic Sites Division of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources. Mr. Perry read the resolution aloud for members of the Board and the viewing public. Mr. Perry stated the resolution had been approved by other entities and shows community support for the project. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, the CSS Neuse Regional Civil War Museum was unanimously approved.

Ms. Cindy Raforty – Lenoir County Council on Aging presented the Board with a Resolution of Appreciation for their support of Lenoir County Council on Aging Programs. Ms. Raforty read the resolution aloud for members of the Board and the viewing public. Mr. Graham asked about the progress of the Demain Building that is being transformed into a senior center. Ms. Raforty stated there is still an enormous amount of money to be collected to complete the center, but donations are coming in regularly. The Board thanked Ms. Raforty for the resolution and the recognition.

Ms. Jackie Brown recognized Ms. Linda Bryant, employee of the Department of Social Service, who is retiring January 1, 2007 with 17 years of service. Ms. Brown read the resolution aloud for the Board and members of the viewing public. Ms. Bryant thanked the Board for the opportunity to work for Lenoir County.

Mr. Jarman introduced an agreement between the Lenoir County Public Schools System and the South Lenoir Booster Club. Mr. Jarman stated the property would be purchased and donated to the school by the South Lenoir Booster Club contingent upon the School Board improving the property. The school system will spend \$24,275 to fence and improve the property. Upon a motion by Mr. Taylor and a second by Mr. Humphrey, the Board unanimously approved the agreement.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Harper, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

- 1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: November 20, 2006 Aytch/Jarman
- 2. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: Crisis-C P & L: \$340. Increase Jones/Hollowell
- 3. Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: DSS: Crisis Intervention: \$137,558. Increase Jones/Hollowell
- 4. Resolution Approving the 2007 Calendar of Board Meeting Dates & Times Board/Aytch
- 5. Resolution Approving the 2007 County Holidays Board/Aytch

**RESOLUTIONS/BUDGET ORDINANCE:**

Item No. 6 was a Resolution Approving a One-year Contract with Young Williams, P.C.: \$85,000. Mr. Jack Jones, Director of Social Service, addressed the Board. Mr. Jones stated DSS has been trying to fill the vacant position of a Child Support Program Manager III since July 2006. Several applicants have been interviewed and withdrawn their nomination for the job. Four (4) other candidates were qualified and recruited for the position, but each individual declined the job opportunity. The two main concerns of the applicants are the salary and time. There are applicants who would like to look at this job opportunity next year. There are no applicants internally who are qualified or interested in the Child Support Program Manager III position to date. There are three vacancies consisting of the Child Support III Supervisor, Child Support Supervisor I and Processing Assistant IV that have been vacant the entire fiscal year. The child support budget is \$1.2 million; the county share is \$409,328, which is 34% of the budget. If the county does a good job in collecting child support payments the county receives incentives for the monies collected. The county is in the 77<sup>th</sup> percentile in the state with regards to collections, which is down from the 87<sup>th</sup> percentile. Young Williams Child Support Services assist county agencies with child support services.

Mr. Jones stated the company could help DSS fill the Supervisory III position under a managed contract for one year. They can also bring the expertise and resources that they have from teams all across the nation that work with their organization and help set up a plan to improve the numbers at DSS. The County receives two incentives to collect child support. Lenoir County CSE collection last year was \$6,670,166. The county share is \$8,000 to uphold the Young Williams contract of \$85,000. The Young Williams Group will supervise the employee; the employee can not hire nor fire anyone. Mr. Harper asked what is the future outlook of implementing this type of program. Mr. Jones stated the hope is collections will increase and a qualified person will be found internally to do the job permanently. Mr. Graham stated the Board would like DSS to train and develop employees within the agency to take over this supervisor role. Mr. Graham stated an internship would be a great way to get someone in to learn the job and eventually take over the position. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Taylor, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Item No. 7 was a Resolution Appointing Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc.

<b><u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u></b>	<b><u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>TERM EXPIRATION</u></b>
<b>Nursing Home &amp; Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> Appearance</b>	Nell H. Smith Julia Price Chester Stocks Jean King Anne Gaddis Jane Phillips Della Rouse (Re-Appointments)	<b>November 2009</b> M: Brown S: Harper
<b>Grifton Planning Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Appearance</b>	Michael Houston (Re-Appointment)	<b>August 2009</b> M: Brown S: Harper
<b>Lenoir County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) 1<sup>st</sup> Appearance</b>	Glenn Elmore	<b>June 2007</b>

Mr. Stroud was appointed to the Lenoir County Health Board and Green Lamp Inc. Board. He will keep his position as Chairman of the Lenoir County ABC Board

**CURRENT VACANCIES:**

- Lenoir County Health Board – One (1) Vacancy; (1) Veterinarian**
- Grifton Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy; Expired Term; Does Not Desire Re-Appointment**
- JCPC – One (1) Vacancy; 1-Juvenile Attorney;**
- Lenoir County Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy; Resignation: District Six**
- CJPP – Four (4) Vacancies**
- Kinston Board of Adjustment – Two (2) ETJ Members; (1) Primary – (1) Alternate**

**ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER/COMMISSIONERS/COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Item No. 8 regarded Items of Interest. Mr. Jarman stated the County Employee Christmas Luncheon would be held on December 15, 2006 from 11:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the Shriner’s Club. The County Commissioners Dinner will be held on December 18, 2006: 6:00 p.m. at The Barn Steakhouse. The UNC School of Government will hold the 2006-2007 Essentials of County Government Conference. Mr. Jarman stated under the Lee Act for Economic Development Projects, Lenoir County has been reclassified from a Tier 3 County to a Tier 1 County. This is a great opportunity for Economic Development in Lenoir County.

Sheriff Smith stated that he would like to get the major players in the criminal justice system together as a committee to discuss the jail population situation. Mr. Graham asked Sheriff Smith to meet with Mr. Harper, Mr. Humphrey, and Mr. Stroud, as Commissioner Committee Appointees to select committee members in the criminal justice system to discuss the jail situation in depth to come up with viable solutions.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Ms. Brown, and unanimous approval, closed session was entered at approximately 10:36 a.m. and the following cited: Number five (5) To establish or instruct the public body’s staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price or other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other materials terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper, a second by Mr. Humphrey and unanimous approval, closed session was adjourned and open session reconvened at approximately 10:58 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Graham stated that a property issue was discussed and the Board took no action. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper the Board adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By

Lashanda Aytch  
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman  
County Manager