

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 2, 2007

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 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; Vice-Chairman Paul Taylor and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Claude Davis, Earl Harper, Chris Humphrey, and Claude Stroud.

Members absent: None

Also present were: Michael W. 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 9:00 a.m. Ms. Brown offered the invocation and Mr. Graham led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Presentation of the Lenoir County, North Carolina Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006 by the Lenoir County Finance Department and Pittard, Perry & Crone: Mr. C. Dean Horne, CPA. Mr. Horne stated the section entitled "Management Discussion and Analyst" comes from Mr. Jarman and Mr. Hollowell, Finance Director. This is the third year this section has been implemented in the report. The highest level of opinion that an auditor can give is called an "unqualified opinion." This means that all audit tests were complete and no items were reported. Lenoir County government has received an "unqualified opinion." Under Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General Fund (page 18) shows the reader what the county's original budget was, and what changes were made to that budget throughout the year. Total revenues budgeted were \$50,949,161 and actual revenues were \$50,844,562, leaving a total of \$104,598 less in revenue than what was anticipated. Total expenditures budgeted were \$49,192,916 and actual expenditures were \$46,509,682, leaving a total of \$2,683,233 to the good. On the Balance Sheet: Government Funds (Page 15) the total for Governmental Funds was \$26,548,689. Mr. Humphrey asked how much does the county owe outstanding entities. Mr. Horne stated \$5.7 million is the amount the county owed as of June 30, 2006. Mr. Graham acknowledged the Board, Mr. Jarman, and Mr. Hollowell and other department managers for their hard work over this past fiscal year. Mr. Graham asked Mr. Jarman to put together the county's accomplishments for the year of 2006 with the cost of each goal and the cost of future goals for presentation to the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Graham pulled Item No. 3 from the agenda. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, the Board unanimously approved the remaining items on the Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: December 4, 2006 Aytch/Jarman
Closed Session Minutes: December 4, 2006 Aytch/Jarman
2. Budget Ordinance Amendment: Capital Improvements Fund: Hollowell/Jarman
Economic Development: \$50,000: Increase
3. Resolution Authorizing Emergency Rental of Bulldozer: Hertz Rentals: \$4,000 Miller/Hollowell

RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 4 was a Resolution Approving Presentation of Badge and Service Weapon to Retiring Lt. Gary Kornegay. Mr. Davis and Mr. Taylor presented Mr. Kornegay with a plaque and his service weapon for his 30 years of valuable service to the citizens of Lenoir County. Sheriff Smith thanked Mr. Kornegay for his support and continued service to his fellow officers. Mr. Kornegay thanked the Board for their support during his career in Lenoir County. The Board wished Mr. Kornegay good luck in his future endeavors.

Item No. 5 was a Resolution Approving Increase in the COECO Office Systems and Corporate Resources Purchase Orders: \$13,250. Mr. Jack Jones, Director of Social Services addressed the Board stating the blanket purchase orders are needed for printing supplies that include cartridges for the laser printer. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 5 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 6 was a Resolution for the Sale of \$30,000,000 School Bonds and \$2,600,000 Library Bonds. Mr. Jarman stated the sale of the School and Library Bonds is scheduled for January 30, 2007. Mr. Taylor asked to whom will the Bonds be sold to. Mr. Bob Jessup, Bond Council, stated the procedure for the sale of the Bonds starts with the LGC (Local Government Commission). The LGC distributes the Official Statement and notifies all investment banking firms throughout the country. Seal bids are accepted the date of the sale, even though the bids are received electronically. The LGC will then evaluate each bid and determine the "best cost" bid to the county in reference to interest rates. Mr. Humphrey asked what was the total cost to initiate the sale of the Bonds. Mr. Jessup stated the total fee is \$92,600. Upon a motion by Mr. Harper and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 7 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>
Lenoir County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council 2nd Appearance	Glenn Elmore	June 2007 M: Brown S: Davis
Lenoir County Planning Board 1st Appearance	Frank G. Swindell Ashely Jarman (Re-Appointments)	August 2009
Lenoir County Economic Development Board 1st Appearance	Mayor "Buddy" Ritch Harold Thomas (Appointments)	December 2007 December 2009

CURRENT VACANCIES:

Lenoir County Health Board – One (1) Vacancy; (1) Veterinarian

Grifton Planning Board – One (1) Vacancy

JCPC – One (1) Vacancy; 1-Juvenile Attorney

Lenoir County Planning Board – K-6 Precinct & At-Large

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

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER/COMMISSIONERS/COUNTY ATTORNEY

Item No. 8 was a memo from Mr. Jarman regarding Items of Interest. Mr. Jarman applauded Mr. Hollowell for his hard work in preparing the budget, audit and Bond information. Mr. Graham stated that he would like to meet with Pink Hill, LaGrange, and the City of Kinston for 1-day work session to discuss the issues concerning each portion of the county. Mr. Harper suggested that Mr. Graham meet with the Mayor's and Managers of the above-mentioned areas to create an agenda before the group meets collectively. Mr. Harper stated members from the GTP (Global TransPark), and North Carolina's Eastern Region should be included as well. Mr. Pope stated Economic Development is very active in Lenoir County. The main concern is developing Lenoir County's workforce to be prepared for the new jobs that may come to the area. Mr. Stroud stated he was very concerned about the county's tax collection rate. The statewide tax collection average is 97%; the county's tax rate is 93.7. Mr. Jarman stated the county is being more aggressive about collecting taxes, but the county collects 99% of all tax monies over the course of 10-years.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Graham, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed By

Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board

Michael W. Jarman
County Manager