

January 6, 2020

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, January 6, 2020. The meeting was held in the Commissioners' Room, located on the lower level of the Bladen County Courthouse, 106 East Broad Street, Elizabethtown.

The following members were present:

Ray Britt, Chairman
David R. Gooden, Vice Chairman
Charles R. Peterson
Michael Cogdell
Dr. Ophelia Munn-Goins
Daniel Dowless
Russell Priest
Ashley Trivette
Arthur Bullock

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

Prior to the invocation, a moment of silence was requested to honor and remember recent passing of Judge Ola Lewis, Elizabethtown Town Councilman Dicky Glenn, Tar Heel Mayor Roy Dew, long time educator Martha Lou Brisson Hall; and former Commissioner Dr. Delilah Blanks' family upon the passing of her husband, Windell Blanks.

ITEM 1. Reverend Walter Hayes, Suggs Grove Baptist Church, provided an invocation. County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of the December 16, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104100.740	Capital Outlay	5,375.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103170.040	Sale of Assets	5,375.00	

Door replacement at Paul H. Sessoms Building.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services Legal	192.00	
104500.270	Advertising	101.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	293.00	

#0001523/Hwy 410 A Thompson.

Motor Pool

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.357	Vehicle Repairs	1,544.65	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	1,544.65	

VIN #9208 - 2013 Ford Fusion Insurance Claim.

Sheriff

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.200.021	Supplies - K9	600.00	
105100.499.043	Incident Provisions	500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103270.009	Sheriff-Donations	1,100.00	

Processing incoming donations.

Emergency Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105300.350.001	M/R Prison Camp	2,580.50	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103170.010	Rent	2,580.50	

Rent income from Chapel to be used for maintenance.

January 6, 2020

Division on Aging

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106200.6230.287	Ensure	2,764.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.024	Ensure	2,764.00	

For Purchase of Ensure.

JCPC

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106805.640	JCPC-Refund to State	464.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	464.00	

Dr. Lawrence reimbursement for unspent Supportive Services for Students/Parents grant funds.

Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106920.905	To Service Agencies	3,500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103170.040	Sale of Assets	3,500.00	

Contribution to Elizabethtown White Lake Chamber for 2018-2019.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.693	Medicaid Transportation	57.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	57.00	

To pay client Connie Peoples for Medicaid Transportation.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.510	Christmas Fund/Foster Care	500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143190.027	Foster Care Donations	500.00	

To purchase items for the Foster Care children.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.510	Christmas Fund/Foster Care	100.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143190.027	Foster Care Donations	100.00	

To purchase items for the Foster Care children.

Solid Waste

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
205800.352	M/R Equipment	6,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
203190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	6,000.00	

Radiator repair for CAT 924 Loader.

Water

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
254702.330	Utilities	696.51	
<i>Revenues</i>			
253190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	696.51	

Capital Credit from Four County.

D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
12/17/2019	Sheriff's Office	500.00
12/18/2019	Governing Board	775.00
12/31/2019	Emergency Services	3,050.00
	Total	\$ 4,325.00

E. Documentation of Submission to County Commissioners of Southeastern Community and Family Services, Inc. FY 2020-21 Community Services Block Grant Program Application.

F. The following Radon Awareness Month Proclamation:



G. Cooperative Service Agreement with USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Service Regarding the Bladen County Beaver Management Program.

January 6, 2020

- H. Surplus Declaration Request for a Glock Model 26 and Captain Badge in Accordance with NCGS 20-187.2.

ITEM 3. Special Recognition:

- A. Chairman Britt, along with the entire Board, recognized Valeria Peacock McKoy upon her retirement effective January 1, 2020 and expressed appreciation for her leadership while serving as Board of Elections Interim Director, and as Assistant Deputy Director since October 2019. The Board presented Mrs. McKoy a plaque in honor of her retirement. County Manager Greg Martin also congratulated Mrs. McKoy. She expressed gratitude.
- B. Chairman Bitt recognized Persandra J. McKinley upon her retirement from the Bladen County Health Department effective January 1, 2020. Health and Human Services Director Dr. Terri Duncan provided an overview of Mrs. McKinley's twenty-four year tenure. A plaque was presented in appreciation to Mrs. McKinley. She expressed appreciation.
- C. Chairman Britt invited Cynthia Martin McKoy to be recognized upon her retirement effective January 1, 2020. Finance Officer Lisa Coleman expressed appreciation for Ms. McKoy's twenty-seven year career with Bladen County, most recently serving as Payroll Specialist. The Board congratulated Ms. McKoy and wished her well. She expressed gratitude.

ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

Chairman Britt recognized Attorney Leslie Johnson, Bill Augustine, and Ralph Carter to address the Board. Mr. Johnson stated that he was in attendance to support his friends, Mr. Augustine and Mr. Carter. The gentlemen provided an overview of a USDA program designed to assist farmers whose crops had experienced catastrophic weather events which caused drastically diminished harvest. Mr. Augustine stated that the local blueberry harvest was catastrophically affected by sub-freezing temperatures in 2017. Mr. Johnson also introduced two Sampson County blueberry farmers, Dewayne Lamb and Scott Barnes.

Mr. Augustine and Mr. Carter indicated that farmers who had received USDA disaster relief funds have now received requests for partial reimbursements, if not a full reimbursement, of disaster assistance funding. They understood that the reasoning behind the requests for reimbursement was because there was no attempt to harvest damaged crops. Mr. Augustine and Mr. Carter indicated that they saw no reason to invest additional resources by operating harvesters in fields without any fruit.

Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously approved submitting correspondence to the legislative delegation in support of local blueberry farmers and their request for funding the USDA disaster relief program for damaged and destroyed blueberry crops.

ITEM 5. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Britt recognized Commissioner Cogdell to address the Board. He has inquired and received information regarding the Town of Elizabethtown's purchase of real property. The initial request was for a five-year time frame. He asked that additional research be completed to include 2005 to current. Mr. Martin indicated that he would ask the Tax Administrator to provide this information.

ITEM 6. Emergency Services: (Nathan Dowless, Director)

- A. Mr. Dowless provided an overview of ongoing disaster recovery efforts related to Hurricanes Matthew, Florence, and Dorian. During the presentation, the Board discussed that Bladen County Building Inspectors provide a valuable service to homeowners and requested Mr. Martin to write a form letter explaining that the Inspector represents the

January 6, 2020

homeowner to insure that quality materials and workmanship creates longevity and value to the construction project.

- B. Mr. Dowless provided an overview of a Subgrant Management Cost Application regarding Hurricane Florence Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4393-0010-R. He stated that this additional funding would provide funding to Holland Consulting Planners to administer the grant process. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously approved a Subgrant Management Cost Application regarding Hurricane Florence Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4393-0010-R.
- C. Mr. Dowless provided additional information regarding a North Carolina Department of Public Safety Application for Disaster Assistance Agreement regarding Hurricane Dorian (FEMA-4465-DR-NC). Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously approved a North Carolina Department of Public Safety Application for Disaster Assistance Agreement regarding Hurricane Dorian (FEMA-4465-DR-NC).
- D. Mr. Dowless presented a Resolution Designating Applicant's Agent regarding Hurricane Dorian (Disaster Number FEMA-4465-DR-NC). Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution Designating Applicant's Agent regarding Hurricane Dorian (Disaster Number FEMA-4465-DR-NC):



ITEM 7. Computer Operations: (Robin Hewett, Director)

- A. Mr. Hewett provided an overview of a proposed Bladen County Security Incident Response Policy (SIRP) for information. He stated that, if there are no revisions or amendments requested, he would plan to return to the Board for consideration regarding the approval of the proposed policy in the near future.

ITEM 8. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Economic Development Commission (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed Larry Sessoms and John White (recommended by Commissioner Gooden) to three-year terms, with terms expiring December 31, 2022; and upon a recommendation by Commissioner Cogdell, appointed Gary Richardson to a three-year term, with the term expiring December 31, 2022.

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During January 21, 2020 Meeting:

- A. Airport Appeals Board (2)
B. Child Fatality Prevention Team (1)
C. Elizabethtown Planning and Zoning Commission & Board of Adjustments (ETJ) (2)

ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During February 17, 2020 Meeting:

- A. Bladen County Nursing Home Advisory Committee (2)

January 6, 2020

ITEM 11. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

Chairman Britt stated that the Beaver Management Advisory Board would be planning a meeting in the very near future.

ITEM 12. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

No one brought up an item for discussion.

ITEM 13. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin inquired regarding scheduling a Planning Session in late January or mid-February. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board scheduled a Planning Session for 8:00am on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. The motion passed on a vote of eight (8) AYES (Dowless, Gooden, Cogdell, Trivette, Priest, Peterson, Britt, Bullock) to one (1) NO (Munn-Goins). Mr. Martin stated that a meeting location would be secured.
- B. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of January 2020 and February 2020.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board

Ray Britt, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners