

**January 16, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

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

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

**ITEM 1.** Chairman Britt called the meeting to order. Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church of Bladenboro, provided the Invocation.

Guest 4-H'er Aubrey Schwable led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 2. Consent Items:**  
Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of January 2, 2018 Special Meeting.
- C. Minutes of January 2, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- D. Budget Amendments, as follows:

**Planning**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104220.270</b>	Advertising	200.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103110.013</b>	Zoning Fees	200.00	

Funding for advertising expense.

**Planning**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104220.270</b>	Advertising	400.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103110.013</b>	Zoning Fees	400.00	

Funding for advertising expense.

**Computer Operations**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>106800.800</b>	Unemployment Insurance		5,752.00
<b>104600.610</b>	Contract Services	9,752.00	
<b>104600.395</b>	Schools & Meetings		2,000.00
<b>146100.610</b>	Contract Services	2,009.02	
<b>104600.200</b>	Supplies & Materials		2,000.00
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143190.050</b>	Miscellaneous Revenue	2,009.02	

To cover three year license with Sophos and Archive Social.

**Health**

<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103530.061</b>	DHHS-Child Health		16,730.00
<b>103190.053</b>	Fund Balance Appropriation - Health	16,730.00	

Reduction in State Funds.

**Health**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105900.5940.499.038</b>	TB-Incentives	50.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.010</b>	Miscellaneous Revenue	50.00	

Grant funds for patient incentives.

**Library**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>106700.232</b>	Books	100.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.010</b>	Miscellaneous Revenue	100.00	

Donation from Jiang for Books.

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**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.689</b>	Energy Neighbor Fund	460.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.031</b>	Energy Neighbor Fund	460.00	

Funding Authorization #7.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.6160.650.002</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	260.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143190.028</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	260.00	

Child Abuse Awareness donations.

E. County Attorney Invoices.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1/02/2018	Administration	\$ 775.00
1/05/2018	Administration	\$ 750.00
1/08/2018	Human Resources	\$ 875.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>

- F. Tax Releases No. 12-17, incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.
- G. Scheduled a Public Hearing for 6:30pm on Monday, February 5, 2018 to Receive Comments Regarding a Rezoning Request.
- H. Community Services Block Grant Program FY 2018-19 Application for Funding for the Benefit of Southeastern Community and Family Services, Inc.

**ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:**

Chairman Britt recognized Commissioner Priest to address the Board. Commissioner Priest provided an update regarding a recent Town of White Lake Board meeting concerning the lake’s water quality, appearance, and smell. He stated that White Lake is a vital part of the county tax base. He shared his feelings that the county needs to lend what support it can by sending a letter of support to NC agencies who are involved in water quality research.

Commissioner Trivette further shared that the water quality of the lake has deteriorated in recent years due to a pH issue.

Chairman Britt stated that a sense of urgency is needed to assure action prior to the upcoming summer lake season.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved sending a letter of support to the agency involved in the White Lake water quality issue, encouraging expeditious handling.

Chairman Britt shared that he had heard from a representative of Chemours regarding a proposed meeting with the Board of Commissioners. He stated that management representatives are more than willing to travel to Elizabethtown to meet with Board members in small groups in order to share more information regarding GenX.

Commissioner Peterson asked that County Manager Greg Martin and Computer Operations Director Robin Hewett contact the Emergency Services department to secure available video equipment in order to begin videotaping the Board of Commissioners’ meetings.

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously adopted the following Proclamation recognizing Bladen County School Choice Week:



**ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

**A. Animal Control Board:**

County Attorney Leslie Johnson introduced his daughter Kelly Brisson to the Board prior to the presentation of the Animal Control Board.

Board Chairman Mike Jackson and Board representative Kelly Brisson provided an overview of two recommended revisions to the current Animal Control Ordinance.

The first recommendation would revise section 5-16(a) to allow for a 72 hour minimum hold for feral/aggressive animals and animals displacing mental distress to have the same guidelines as the NCGS 19A-32.1(a) and (b-1) except as otherwise provided in this section, all animals received by an animal shelter or by an agent of an animal shelter shall be held for a minimum holding period of 72 hours or for any longer minimum period established by a Board of County Commissioners, prior to being euthanized or otherwise disposed of.

The second recommendation would revise section 5-17 to include if an owner, with proof of ownership, to the immediate disposition to be the same as NCGS 19A-32.1(g), which reads; "An animal that is surrendered to an animal shelter by the animal's owner may be disposed of before the expiration of minimum holding period in a manner authorized under subsection (f).

Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously approved recommended revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance.

**B. Mr. Joe Britt:**

Mr. Britt introduced himself to the Board and expressed appreciation to the Board members and County Manager Greg Martin. He addressed the Board regarding dog hunting from public roads. He shared a number of personal experiences regarding this dangerous practice. In closing, he requested the Board to consider changing the County Ordinance to eliminate hunting from public roads in Bladen County.

Following discussion, the Board asked Mr. Martin to research the process and revisit the process at a future meeting. Mr. Martin indicated that he would do so.

**ITEM 5. Health and Human Services Agency: (Wayne Raynor, Interim Director)**

A. Mr. Raynor provided an overview of an affiliation agreement with Francis Marion University. The agreement would allow for Physician Assistant and Nurse Practitioner students to precept at Bladen County Health Department. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously approved an Affiliation Agreement with Francis Marion University.

B. Mr. Raynor briefly updated the Board regarding an amendment to the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee (HHSAC) Operating Procedures. He stated that the amendments allow for approval of consent items, invocation and Pledge of Allegiance during committee meetings. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously approved an amended Health and Human Services Advisory Committee Operating Procedures.

**ITEM 6. Revenue Department: (Renee Davis, Tax Administrator)**

A. In Mrs. Davis' absence, Mr. Martin presented a bid which was received for the purchase of county-owned property (Parcel ID 0021694), located on Porter McKoy Road in the Lisbon community. The property was foreclosed by the County in 2016. A bid in the amount of \$4,500 was submitted by Allie Hood.

Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously accepted a bid in the

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amount of \$4,500 for county-owned property (Parcel ID 0021694) pursuant to NCGS 105-376C. This action will begin the upset bid process.

**ITEM 7. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)**

- A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Financial Dashboard for the six-month period ending December 31, 2017.

**ITEM 8. Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. **Recreation Committee (4):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously appointed Robert Mazur to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2020; Walter Powell to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2019; Jennifer Fruchey to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2018; and Mike Dove to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 20, 2020.
- B. **Local Emergency Planning Committee (7):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously appointed Pete Batton to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2018; Richard “Bud” Clark to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2019; Brandon Smith to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2019; William Bryan to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2018; Timothy Ringo to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2019; Becky Spearman to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2018; and Fire Chief Brinson to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2019.
- C. **Lisbon Rural Fire Service District Committee (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed J. B. Priest, Israel Cromartie, and John Carter, Jr. to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 2, 2021.

**ITEM 9. County Manager: (Greg Martin)**

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of January and February 2018.
- B. Mr. Martin provided an overview of the proposed FY 2018-19 Budget process.
- C. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously scheduled a Pre-Budget Public Hearing for 6:30pm on Monday, February 19, 2018.
- D. Mr. Martin briefly updated the Board regarding Non-Profit Agency funding requests for FY 2017-18. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved splitting \$5,475 by the five (5) agencies that submitted applications. Funding will be appropriated as follows:

<b>Non Profit Agency</b>	<b>FY 2017-18 Funding Level</b>
American Legion Post 404	\$ 1,095
Bladenboro Historical Society	\$ 1,095
Bladen County Youth Focus	\$ 1,095
Lower Cape Fear Hospice & Life Care Center	\$ 1,095
Special Olympics of North Carolina-Bladen County	\$ 1,095

Mr. Martin shared with the Board that he had heard from Jean Crews-Klein regarding a proposed Board planning sessions. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Trivette, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board unanimously scheduled a planning session for 4pm on Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

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**ITEM 10. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:19pm.

ATTEST:

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

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Ray Britt, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners