

February 6, 2017

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, February 6, 2017 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

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

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order.

Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church of Bladenboro, provided the Invocation. Guest 4-H'er Clinton Ryckley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

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

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of January 17, 2017 Special Meeting.
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.270	Professional Services Legal	198.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103170.040	Sale of Assets	198.00	

Bid preparation deed fee on Lisbon/Lloyd Rd property.

Motor Pool

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.357	Vehicle Repair	681.59	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	681.59	

Repairs on 2012 Ambulance #9461.

Motor Pool

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.357	Vehicle Repair	141.59	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	141.59	

Repairs to 2013 Ford Explorer #6237.

Sheriff's Office

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.200.016	Supplies-Surplus	95,000.00	
105100.5130.352	M/R - Equipment	10,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103270.018	Sheriff - HELO	105,000.00	

Funding from sale of Helicopter parts to pay expenses.

Health

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105900.5910.200.003	Supplies-Client Services	2,180.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.130	DHHS-WIC	2,180.00	

Increase in state funding.

Health

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105900.5986.200	Supplies		199.00
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.150	DHHS-Communicable Disease		199.00

Reduction in state funding.

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Parks & Recreation

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106600.350	M/R Grounds	2,000.00	
106600.499	Recreation Miscellaneous	3,000.00	
106600.803	Insurance & Utilities	1,100.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	2,000.00	
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	3,000.00	
103660.000	Recreation Insurance	1,100.00	

To repair batting cages at the County Park and insurance for programs.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.550	Smart Start	46,077.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143690.000	Smart Start	46,077.00	

Funding Authorization #2.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.565	Day Care	462.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.310	DSS Day Care	462.00	

Funding Authorization #2.

Solid Waste

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
205805.990	Contingency		29,678.00
205805.739	Non-Inventorable	29,678.00	

Purchase of four 30-yard roll off containers & two 40-yard roll off containers.

D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
1/12/2017	Emergency Services	\$ 525.00
1/23/2017	Sheriff's Office	\$ 1,525.00
1/25/2017	Sheriff's Office	\$ 475.00
1/26/2017	Sheriff's Office	\$ 400.00
1/31/2017	Revenue Department	\$ 375.00
2/01/2017	Feb-2017 Retainer	\$ 300.00
	Total	\$ 3,600.00

E. Duke Energy Progress LED Lighting Agreement regarding a Law Enforcement and Detention Center Construction Project.

ITEM 3. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

- A. Chairman Peterson recognized Mr. Bob Stafford of Life Bridge to address the Board. Mr. Stafford expressed his appreciation to the Board for their time. He introduced himself and his mental health facility which recently opened in Elizabethtown. He stated that Life Bridge has a business relationship with local mental health provider, Eastpointe.
- B. Mr. Don Melvin was recognized to address the Board. Mr. Melvin expressed his appreciation for an opportunity to address the Board. He recounted a number of incarcerations in Bladen County and other state facilities. Mr. Melvin reported that deplorable conditions were experienced in each of the facilities.
- C. Mr. Kirby Johnson was recognized to address the Board regarding water service charges. Mr. Johnson, a veteran, had previously signed up for water service in the Garland area. During a deployment, he was billed for several months at a flat rate and was requesting a one-time fee waiver during his absence. Chairman Peterson told Mr. Johnson that County Manager Greg Martin would be in contact with him regarding his request. Mr. Johnson expressed his appreciation to the Board.

ITEM 4. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Cogdell to address the Board. Commissioner Cogdell shared that he anticipated his new business venture, Bladen Resource Center Initiative, would be opening soon. He stated that his

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business would not be a service provider, but would be a way to connect an individual's needs to an appropriate service provider.

ITEM 5. Lumber River Council of Governments: (Jan Hester-Maynor, Executive Director)

- A. Mrs. Hester-Maynor expressed appreciation to the Board. She provided an overview of an Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool-Disaster Recovery (ESFRL-DR), regarding Hurricane Matthew and its aftermath. Mrs. Hester-Maynor stated that historically, Lumber River Council of Governments has not charged a fee for administering a Loan Pool. However, with this program, up to an eight percent (8%) administration fee will be assessed, if necessary.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously approved an Application for Funding and Pool Membership regarding an Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool-Disaster Recovery (ESFRLP-DR).

ITEM 6. Revenue Department: (Carol Cain, Tax Collector):

- A. Mrs. Cain provided an overview of a bid submitted by Ronnie McLean on county-owned property (Parcel #0042927), located on Bryan Road, Bladenboro. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously accepted a \$7,500 bid submitted by Mr. McLean, to begin an upset bid process.
- B. Mrs. Cain provided an overview of a bid submitted by Ronnie McLean on county-owned property (Parcel #0047613), located on Home Run Drive, Bladenboro. Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Britt, the Board unanimously accepted a \$11,400 bid submitted by Mr. McLean, to begin an upset bid process.
- C. Mrs. Cain provided an overview of a bid submitted by Thomas & Heidi Smith for county-owned property (Parcel 0040391), located on Hemlock Drive, Bladenboro. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously accepted a \$4,500 bid submitted by Thomas and Heidi Smith, to begin an upset bid process.

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

- A. Mrs. Coleman provided a brief overview of a finding noted in a recently completed Financial Audit, which has been and continues to be a concern for most local governments. A Segregation of Duties finding was listed in the audit. In order to rectify a perceived deficiency, an Accounting Tech II position was reclassified to an Auditing/Accounting Technician II position within the Finance Office. Mrs. Coleman introduced Auditing/Accounting Technician II Tina Clark. Mrs. Clark randomly audits departments which take cash payments for services, and also audits compliance for various programs. Mrs. Coleman stated that Mrs. Clark would also be auditing adjustments to various accounts as well. The Board expressed appreciation to Mrs. Coleman and the entire Finance Office staff for diligently working to address the audit finding.
- B. Mrs. Coleman reviewed FY 2017-2018 Budget process. At the direction of the Chairman, Mrs. Coleman developed a News Release and Pre-Budget Hearing information for consideration.
- C. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved News Release and Pre-Budget Hearing information and scheduled a Public Hearing at 6:30pm on Monday, March 20, 2017.

ITEM 8. Health and Human Services Agency: (David Howard, Director)

- A. Mr. Howard provided an update regarding Eastpointe's kiosk which has been placed adjacent to the reception area in the Health Department. Mr. Howard stated that low traffic has been experienced since having lost a Family Nurse Practitioner staff member.

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- B. Mr. Howard provided a status update regarding water sample testing at White Lake. Mr. Howard reminded the Board of a skin rash which presented itself over the summer months for which a source was not easily identified. Mr. Howard stated that incident stakeholders were continuing to review various procedures and policies to alleviate potential future outbreaks. As of this meeting, Mr. Howard stated that an exact cause for the skin rash was unknown.
- C. Mr. Howard updated the Board regarding Communicable Disease Program, including statistical data.

ITEM 9. General Services: (Kip McClary, Director)

- A. Mr. McClary presented information to support a request to establish a new part-time Detention Facility Maintenance Mechanic position. Mr. McClary indicated that best case scenario, a successful candidate would be hired quickly in order to allow them an opportunity to be on hand during equipment installation and start up. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously established a new part-time Detention Facility Maintenance Mechanic position.

ITEM 10. Emergency Services: (Bradley Kinlaw, Fire Marshal)

- A. Mr. Kinlaw provided an overview and update regarding Hurricane Matthew Hazard Mitigation. Mr. Kinlaw stated that this event rivaled Hurricane Floyd which took place in 1999. He reviewed three (3) different types of programs available to homeowners. The first being Acquisition and Demolition, which requires structures to be removed from acquired property. Subject property must be maintained forever as open, green space. A second is Structure Elevation/Flood Proofing. This entails raising the structure above base flood elevation, plus one (1) foot. The final type is Mitigation Reconstruction. This would allow for demolition of the subject property, site grading and prep and new construction of similar size. Mr. Kinlaw stated that unofficial estimates are \$100,000,0000 for Hurricane Matthew Hazard Mitigation.

ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Health and Human Services Agency Advisory Council (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously tabled an appointment to a future meeting.
- B. **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (9):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously appointed Clarence Williams as a Substance Abuse Profession.

ITEM 12. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During the February 20, 2017 Board Meeting:

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

ITEM 13. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of February and March 2017.
- B. Mr. Martin provided an update regarding Lock and Dam #2 and #3 Fish Passages. Additional tasks have been identified to be incorporated into the planning phase scope of work. Mr. Martin stated that a request will be presented for consideration at a future meeting.
- C. Mr. Martin provided information and an update regarding My Brothers Keeper Initiative. Following discussion, the Board indicated its recommendation for Mr. Martin to discuss and to deliver the Initiative information to the Bladen County Public Schools for consideration.

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ITEM 14. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address the Board:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

ITEM 15. Closed Session:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously entered Closed Session in Accordance with NCGS 143-318.11(a) (6) Personnel at 7:29 pm.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously exited Closed Session at 9:39 pm.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners