

**February 19, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, February 19, 2018 in the Superior Court Room located on the second floor 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 Ellie Kinlaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 2. Consent Items:**

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

- A. Amended Agenda, with the removal of item 8D-Consider Rescinding Flex Policy.
- B. Minutes of February 5, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- C. 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	

Fees for advertising public hearing and certified letters.

**Tax Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104500.192</b>	Professional Services Legal	7,000.00	
<b>104500.192.002</b>	Professional Services Foreclosure	13,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriation	20,000.00	

Foreclosures.

**Tax Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104500.192</b>	Professional Services Legal	181.00	
<b>104500.270</b>	Advertising	121.46	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.010</b>	Miscellaneous Revenue	302.46	

Bid preparation for property on Porter McKoy Rd.

**Motor Pool**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105010.357</b>	Vehicle Repair	459.60	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.011</b>	Insurance Claim	459.60	

Repairs for 2016 Dodge Charger (1785).

**Motor Pool**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105010.357</b>	Vehicle Repair	2,409.40	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.011</b>	Insurance Claim	2,409.40	

Repairs for 2016 Dodge (0578).

**Sheriff**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105100.189</b>	Sheriff's Supplemental Pension Fund	3,595.48	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103180.010</b>	Interest on Investments	3,595.48	

To cover invoice for Sheriff's Supplemental Pension Fund.

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**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.689</b>	Energy Neighbor Fund	452.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.031</b>	Energy Neighbor Fund	452.00	

Funding Authorization #8.

**D. County Attorney Invoices.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1/26/18	Sheriff's Office	\$ 850.00
1/29/18	Governing Board	\$ 250.00
2/08/18	Elections	\$ 150.00
2/14/18	E M S	\$ 775.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,025.00</b>

- E. Tax Releases No. 1-18, incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.
- F. Revised Bladen Area Rural Transportation System (BARTS) Drug and Alcohol Policy.
- G. The following Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation:



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

- A. Chairman Britt indicated that Ms. Marjorie Walker was unable to attend the meeting to receive a Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation. He asked that the Proclamation be delivered to Ms. Walker.

**ITEM 4. Public Hearings:**

Prior to declaring open a Public Hearing, Chairman Britt stated that the Board would receive comments during the Public Hearing regarding hunting laws, but would not take any action on the topic.

- A. Chairman Britt declared open a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding a possible law making it illegal to hunt or discharge a firearm on, from, or across a state-maintained right-of-way or to retrieve dogs from a public road while in possession of a loaded firearm.

A large number of individuals signed in to address the Board during the Public Hearing. A listing follows of those who indicated they wished to address the Board (not necessarily in order):

<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>
Joe Britt	Maggie Smith	Kay J. Martin
Thomas E. Martin	Chant Lane	Deborah Paige
Eugene Shaw	Will Cain	Charles Brock
Donnie Bass	Dale Smith	James Newkirk
Lois Neill	Doug Smith	Doug Bordeaux
Virgle Butler	Dale Hall	Eddie Knight
James Wright	Kent Porter	Mike Jackson
Chris Alphin	Annette Shaw	Carl Whitted
Tony Mitchell	Erin Bass	Barry O'Quinn
John Clark	Kyle Cashwell	

Those who addressed the Board shared a number of opinions, from not supporting any changes to hunting laws, to supporting the proposed law changes in an effort to improve safety.

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Chairman Britt briefly recessed the meeting at 7:32pm to move to the Board of Commissioners Room.

Chairman Britt reconvened the meeting at 7:51pm.

**ITEM 4. Public Hearings (Cont'd):**

A. Chairman Britt declared open a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding FY 2018-19 Budget priorities.

No one addressed the Board.

Chairman Britt declared closed the Public Hearing.

**ITEM 5. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

Mrs. Lula Shaw's children, Lois Neill, Annette Shaw, Deborah Paige, and Eugene Shaw addressed the Board regarding their mother's home which was destroyed in a fire. Each individual requested the Board consider waiving solid waste fees to clean up the debris from her home.

Following discussion, the Board indicated its willingness to assist the family. Several of the Board members asked the family to contact them following the meeting so that additional information can be shared, along with suggesting other companies to contact for additional estimates.

The Board expressed appreciation to the family and indicated that, after receiving additional information, the Board would consider taking action.

**ITEM 6. Presentation of FY 2016-17 Audit: (Bryon Scott, CPA, Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams)**

A. Bryon Scott of Thompson Price Scott Adams and Company provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Audit.

B. Following the audit presentation and discussion, upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously accepted the FY 2016-17 Audit as presented.

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

A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Financial Dashboard for the seven-month period ending January 31, 2018.

**ITEM 8. Health & Human Services Agency: (Wayne Raynor, Interim Director)**

A. Mr. Raynor provided a brief overview of a 2018 Sliding Fee Schedule, which is used for self-pay clients to determine the percentage a client would have to pay for services rendered. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a 2018 Sliding Fee Schedule as presented.

B. Mr. Raynor reviewed a Renewal and Amendment of Agreement with East Carolina University to allow nursing students a rotation in training at the Bladen County Health Department. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved a Renewal and Amendment of Agreement with East Carolina University.

C. Mr. Raynor presented a Blue Cross/Blue Shield Grant opportunity. He stated that, if favorably reviewed, this grant would fund behavioral health programs to assist in the County's opioid crisis efforts. Mr. Raynor indicated that two (2) counties in the state would be identified to receive funds. A letter of interest must be submitted by Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> for the County to be considered.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously accepted the BC/BS grant opportunity.

D. Consider Rescinding Flex Policy: Removed from the Agenda. See Item 2, Consent Items, above.

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**ITEM 9. Bladen County Animal Control Board: (Donna Taylor, Board Chairperson)**

- A. Mr. Mike Jackson expressed appreciation to the Board. In Ms. Taylor's absence, he introduced a proposed amendment to the Animal Control Ordinance regarding rabies vaccination and control. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved the following Amendment to the Animal Control Code of Ordinances to remove text which reads "or other warm blooded animal":

Section 5-7. Rabies Vaccination and Control.

(c) Surrender for quarantine required on demand. Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be unlawful for the owner to refuse to release upon demand, after an investigation by animal control any animal which has bitten a human ~~or other warm blooded animal~~ for the purpose of quarantine and the expense of which shall be borne by the owner. If rabies does not develop within ten days, the animal may be reclaimed upon payment of the current fee schedule adopted by the board of health and upon compliance with other provisions of this chapter.

**ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. **Lower Cape Fear Water/Sewer Authority: (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board, waiving the rules regarding term limits, unanimously reappointed Larry Johnson and Wayne Edge to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring September 15, 2020.
- B. **White Lake Planning and Zoning (ETJ) (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously tabled an appointment.

**ITEM 11. County Manager: (Greg Martin)**

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of February and March 2018. During March calendar review, several Board members indicated their schedules would not allow attendance at a Preliminary Budget Meeting originally scheduled for Monday, March 26. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board scheduled a Preliminary Budget meeting for 4:00 pm on Tuesday, March 27, 2018.
- B. Mr. Martin asked the Board to consider a one-time donation to the Cape Fear Valley-Bladen County Hospital Foundation. The Board previously approved a donation of \$750 in January 2017. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a one-time donation of \$750 to the Cape Fear Valley-Bladen County Hospital Foundation.

**ITEM 12. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:26pm.

ATTEST:

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

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Ray Britt, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners