

March 12, 2018

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 12, 2018 in the Commissioner’s Room located on the lower level 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: Leslie Johnson, Johnson Law Firm
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 Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of February 19, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- C. Minutes of February 20, 2018 Planning Session.
- D. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Governing Board

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104100.192	Professional Services – Legal	20,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103180.010	Interest on Investment	20,000.00	

Planning for future fees.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services – Legal	2,000.00	
104500.192.002	Professional Services – Foreclosures	5,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	7,000.00	

Foreclosures.

Sheriff Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.200.021	Supplies – K9	3,458.00	
105100.740	Capital Outlay – Equipment	42,500.00	
105100.741	Capital Outlay – Vehicles	28,234.25	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	42,500.00	
103190.011	Insurance Claims	28,234.25	
103270.009	Donations	3,458.00	

Donations for K9 related expenses and insurance reimbursement for lightning damage and vehicle loss.

Health Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105900.900.001	Credit Card Fees	200.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103560.015	Credit Card Fees	200.00	

To adjust for usage of Credit Cards.

Division on Aging

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106200.6230.287	Ensure	7,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.024	Ensure Revenue	7,000.00	

Reallocation for Ensure Program.

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Parks and Recreation

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106600.272	Concession Supplies	4,313.03	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103660.012	Concession Sales	4,313.03	

Concession expenses for spring sports.

Facilities Fees

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
126601.499	Facilities Fees	2,300.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
123190.011	Insurance Claims	2,300.00	

Reimburse for damaged door storm damage at Courthouse.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.706	LIEAP	20,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.033	LIEAP	20,000.00	

Funding Authorization #2.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.535	Medicaid	855.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.010	Client Refund	855.00	

EPICS drafts for current year.

Water

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
254702.900.001	Credit Card Fees	10,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
253420.010	Credit Card Fees	10,000.00	

Usage of Credit Cards in Water Department.

Atkinson Fire Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
495349.610	Contract Services	100.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
493190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	100.00	

To cover taxes received for payment.

E. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
2/15/18	Governing Board	\$ 675.00
2/16/18	E M S	\$ 495.00
2/16/18	Emergency Services	\$ 895.00
2/21/18	Planning Department	\$ 250.00
2/22/18	Governing Board	\$ 950.00
3/05/18	March-18 Retainer	\$ 300.00
3/08/18	Governing Board	\$ 625.00
3/09/18	Economic Development	\$ 775.00
	Total	\$ 4,965.00

F. Scheduled a Public Hearing for 6:30pm on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 to Receive Comments Regarding a Proposed Text Amendment to the Bladen County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

G. Warranty Certification, Restrictions on Lobbying, and Certifications and Assurances Regarding a Community Transportation Program Grant.

H. Independent Contractor Renewal Agreement with Wayne Raynor Regarding Interim Health and Human Services Agency Director and Health Director through June 30, 2018.

I. Indemnification Agreements regarding Election Precincts, as follows:

- Abbotts Precinct Community Property
- Town of Dublin
- Bladenboro Historical Society
- Spaulding-Monroe Alumni Association, Inc.
- Town of Clarkton
- East Arcadia School
- Bladen County Shrine Club Holding Corporation
- Town of White Lake
- Hickory Grove Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. of Bladen County

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- Kelly Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Town of Tar Heel
 - Bay Tree Lakes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Ammon Community Building
 - Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - White Oak Ruritan Club
- J. Authorize County Attorney to Submit a Standing Objection to Waiver Any Cost Under NCGS 7A-304 or Fine That May Be Due the County, as follows:



- K. Option to Purchase Real Property from Bladen's Bloomin'/Agri-Industrial Inc., as follows:



ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Britt recognized Commissioner Peterson to address the Board. He shared a brief update regarding an ongoing potential Black River State Park feasibility study. He stated that he would share information which he has received.

ITEM 4. Special Recognition:

- A. Chairman Britt recognized Bernadine Davis upon her retirement from the County. He and the entire Board congratulated her and expressed appreciation for her service. Department of Social Services Director Vickie Smith provided a brief work history and congratulated Ms. Davis.
- B. Chairman Britt recognized Rita Lassiter upon her retirement. He and the entire Board expressed appreciation for her service. DSS Director Vickie Smith shared a brief history of Ms. Lassiter's work with the County. She expressed appreciation to Ms. Lassiter.

ITEM 5. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

ITEM 6. Lock and Dam Project Update:

- A. Dawn York, Steve Dial and Keith Walls of Dial Cordy and Frank Yelverton of Cape Fear River Watch provided an update to the Board regarding an ongoing Lock and Dam Fishway Project. Mr. Yelverton reviewed the planning process, indicating that final plans and specifications are expected by November 2018.
Chairman Britt thanked Ms. York, Mr. Dial, Mr. Walls and Mr. Yelverton for their update and inquired what the Board could do to assist with encouraging funding to complete the process. Ms. York expressed concern regarding a Lock and Dam Disposition Study which could slow funding for the fishway project. She encouraged the Board to reach out to the legislative delegation for support. She also stated that representatives of the Navassa Super Fund creosote site have shown interest in the fishway passages project.

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ITEM 7. Bladen County Water District:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board exited regular session and entered a session as Water District Board of Directors.
- B. Operations Manager Kip McClary expressed appreciation to the Board and provided an overview of the bid process, bid tabulation, and agreement to install four (4) 125KW diesel generators with automatic transfer switches to power well pump stations and four (4) strategic well site locations. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved an Independent Contractor Agreement with Axel McPherson Construction in the amount of \$287,026.50 for the installation of the generator project. Mr. McClary reminded the Board that grant funding for this project has been awarded from the Golden LEAF Foundation.
- C. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board exited the session as Water District Board of Directors.

ITEM 8. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **White Lake Planning and Zoning (ETJ) (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously tabled an appointment.
- B. **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously tabled appointments,

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration at the March 19, 2018 Board Meeting:

- A. Elizabethtown Planning & Zoning Commission and Board of Adjustments (ETJ) (1)

ITEM 10. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of March and April 2018.

ITEM 11. Closed Session

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously entered Closed Session in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) Attorney-Client Privilege at 7:00pm.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Trivette, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously exited Closed Session at 7:37pm.

ITEM 10. County Manager (cont'd): (Greg Martin)

- B. Mr. Martin provided a brief update regarding a UNC-School of Government Opioid Grant opportunity. He stated that the grant is designed for a two-year duration and would be awarded to ten (10) community teams. He stated that the deadline to submit the grant application is April 6, 2018. Mr. Martin stated that Shelly Davis would assist in writing the grant. By acclamation, the Board indicated its support to submit an application for the grant opportunity.
- C. Mr. Martin provided a brief review of an Opportunity Zones program which NC Commerce has developed. The program offers three tax incentives for investing in low-income communities through a qualified Opportunity Fund. Mr. Martin stated that six (6) zones have been identified in Bladen County. Economic Development Director Chuck Heustess has recommended the tract which includes Tar Heel, and Smithfield, Chemours, and Kuraray, to be

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submitted for the program. Mr. Martin indicated that Governor Cooper would also identify an additional 150 census tracts for the program as well. Mr. Martin stated that the County would have an opportunity to submit an additional tract for consideration as well.

Following discussion, the Board asked to revisit the program at the following meeting.

ITEM 12. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

Commissioner Peterson shared with the Board a brief update regarding a recent request on behalf of Lula Shaw regarding her home which was destroyed in a fire. Family members had attended a recent meeting requesting the Board to waive solid waste fees in order for the home site to be cleared. During that meeting, the Board indicated their willingness to consider, but had requested additional information and offered to help the family contact additional contractors to secure other quotes.

Commissioner Peterson stated that a contractor had stepped forward and took care of the home site clean-up with no cost to the County or to Ms. Shaw.

Commissioner Munn-Goins expressed her appreciation to the Board and County for the opportunity to attend a recent National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. She stated that it was a beneficial and educational conference.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:47pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Ray Britt, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners