

May 7, 2018

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, May 7, 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

Excused: Dr. Ophelia Munn-Goins

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. 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 Cogdell, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of April 16, 2018 Special Meeting.
- C. Minutes of April 16, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- D. Minutes of April 18, 2018 Special Meeting.
- E. Minutes of April 30, 2018 Special Meeting.
- F. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Governing Board

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104100.499	Miscellaneous Expense	60.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	60.00	

To move funds for Clyde Britt Memorial to Carolina Crossroads – paid by BOC.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services Legal	3,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	3,000.00	

Foreclosures

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services Legal	2,000.00	
104500.192.002	Professional Services Legal – Foreclosures	10,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	12,000.00	

Foreclosures

Central Services/Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105000.740	Capital Outlay – Equipment	1,458.00	
104500.126	Part-Time Salaries		1,458.00

Desk and counter for Administrative Building.

Sheriff

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.741	Capital Outlay – Vehicles	12,612.25	
105010.499.004	Wrecker Services	325.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	12,937.25	

Cost associated with replacement for total loss vehicle.

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Jail

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5110.120	Salaries	25,000.00	
105100.5110.122	Bonus	174.00	
105100.5110.125	Overtime	18,000.00	
105100.5110.126	Part-Time Salaries	16,500.00	
105100.5110.181	FICA	3,500.00	
105100.5110.182	Retirement	3,500.00	
105100.5110.183	Group Insurance		5,800.00
105100.5110.184	Retiree Life Insurance	45.00	
105100.5110.185	Retiree Health Insurance	2,500.00	
105100.5110.186	LEO 401K Supplement	750.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	64,169.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Jail

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5110.353	Copier Maintenance		500.00
105100.5110.395	Schools	500.00	
105100.5110.413	Inmate Rent	55,000.00	
105100.5110.392	Laundry Services		11,163.42
105100.5110.200	Supplies	11,163.42	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	55,000.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Jail

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5110.499.071	Jail Diversion Grant	22,948.10	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.016	Jail Diversion Grant	22,948.10	

Year one allocation of the Jail Diversion Grant with Eastpointe.

Communications

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5120.120	Salaries	9,600.00	
105100.5120.125	Overtime		1,500.00
105100.5120.126	Part-Time Salaries	2,400.00	
105100.5120.181	FICA	110.00	
105100.5120.182	Retirement	700.00	
105100.5120.183	Group Insurance		3,500.00
105100.5120.184	Retiree Life Insurance		140.00
105100.5120.185	Retiree Health Insurance	400.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	8,070.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Pre-Trial Release

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5140.120	Salaries	4,300.00	
105100.5140.181	FICA	106.00	
105100.5140.182	Retirement	400.00	
105100.5140.185	Retiree Health Insurance	290.00	
105100.5140.186	LEO 401K Supplement	190.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	5,286.00	

To cover current year expenses.

COPS Grant

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5160.120	Salaries	1,210.00	
105100.5160.181	FICA	100.00	
105100.5160.182	Retirement	190.00	
105100.5160.185	Retiree Health Insurance	103.00	
105100.5160.186	LEO 401K Supplement	135.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	1,738.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Courthouse Security

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5170.120	Salaries	2,050.00	
105100.5170.125	Overtime	820.00	
105100.5170.126	Part-Time Salaries	5,061.00	
105100.5170.181	FICA	683.00	
105100.5170.182	Retirement	170.00	
105100.5170.185	Retiree Health Insurance	117.00	
105100.5170.186	LEO 401K Supplement	100.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			

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103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	9,001.00	
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To cover current year expenses.

BCC Deputies

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5175.120	Salaries	6,700.00	
105100.5175.125	Overtime	300.00	
105100.5175.181	FICA	25.00	
105100.5175.182	Retirement	70.00	
105100.5175.183	Group Insurance		3,500.00
105100.5175.185	Retiree Health Insurance	50.00	
105100.5175.186	LEO 401K Supplement	50.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	3,695.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Clarkton Patrol

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5176.120	Salaries	3,600.00	
105100.5176.125	Overtime	4,300.00	
105100.5176.181	FICA	666.00	
105100.5176.182	Retirement	830.00	
105100.5176.183	Group Insurance		2,875.00
105100.5176.185	Retiree Health Insurance	575.00	
105100.5176.186	LEO 401K Supplement	460.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.019	Misdemeanant Program	7,556.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Division on Aging

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106200.6230.287	Ensure In Home	8,514.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.024	Ensure In Home	8,514.00	

Transfer collected revenues to expenditures.

Parks and Recreation

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106600.350	M/R Building & Grounds	900.00	
106600.499	Miscellaneous Expense	1,000.00	
106600.126	Part-Time Salaries		2,500.00
106600.610	Contracted Services	2,500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,900.00	

Transfer collected revenues to expenditures.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor	478.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor	478.00	

Funding Authorization #9.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor	56.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor	56.00	

Funding Authorization #10.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor	58.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor	58.00	

Funding Authorization #11.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.535	Medicaid	936.37	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.010	Client Refund	936.37	

EPICS Draft for current year.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.571	United Way – Caring for Kids	750.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.344	United Way – Caring for Kids	750.00	

Donations from United Way.

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Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.650.002	Child Abuse Awareness	834.05	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143190.028	Child Abuse Awareness	834.05	

Donations for Child Abuse Awareness Event.

EMS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
325302.120	Salaries	14,200.00	
325302.125	Overtime	7,700.00	
325302.126	Part-Time	62,710.00	
325302.181	FICA	5,000.00	
325302.182	Retirement	3,500.00	
325302.183	Group Insurance		22,000.00
325302.184	Retiree Life Insurance	25.00	
325302.185	Retiree Health Insurance	2,200.00	
325302.492	Bad Debt	616,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
323280.011	Billing Revenue	689,335.00	

To cover current year expenses.

Atkinson Fire Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
495349.610	Contract Services	656.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
493101.010	Current Year Ad Valorem Taxes	656.00	

To cover current year collections.

Rowan Fire Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
505350.610	Contract Services	134.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
503101.010	Current Year Ad Valorem Taxes	134.00	

To cover current year collections.

Single Family Rehab

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
784990.621.001	Soft Cost – Construction	22,000.00	
784990.621.002	Hard Cost	86,185.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
783970.023	Single Family Rehab	108,185.00	

Additional funding for V Davis and J Rhodie.

G. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
4/02/2018	Sheriff's Office	\$ 575.00
4/03/2018	Governing Board	\$ 525.00
4/06/2018	Emergency Services	\$ 250.00
4/06/2018	Elections	\$ 1,399.00
4/18/2018	Sheriff's Office	\$ 775.00
5/02/2018	May-18 Retainer	\$ 300.00
	Total	\$ 3,824.00

H. FY 2018-19 NCACC Risk Management Pools Workers Compensation and General Liability Insurance Renewals.

I. The following National Nurses Week Proclamation:



J. Memorandum of Agreement with the County of New Hanover.

K. FY 2018-19 Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Budget.

L. Amendment #3 to Contract #6786 with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality regarding a Lock and Dam #2 and #3 Fish Passage Projects.

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ITEM 3. Special Recognition:

- A. Chairman Britt recognized nurses with the Health Department and presented a National Nurses Week Proclamation to Debra Conner, Shannon Pate, Carol Butler, Lisa Britt, Jackie Dennis, and Andrea Singletary. The entire Board expressed appreciation to the delegation of nurses. Clerk to the Board Maria Edwards read aloud the Proclamation.

ITEM 4. Public Hearing:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Priest, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board declared open a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding a rezoning request regarding a three-acre tract of property located at 3731 Cromartie Road (Tax Map: 0392-00-62-7467) from Residential/Agricultural to Commercial. No one in attendance addressed the Board.

Chairman Britt declared closed the Public Hearing.

- B. Planning Director Greg Elkins provided an overview of the request and property location. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously adopted a rezoning request regarding the following parcel:

Property Owner: Maria Ventura

Petitioner: Maria Ventura

Property Map No.: 0392-00-62-7467

Request to rezone property from Residential/Agricultural (RA) to Commercial (C) for the purpose of building a commercial storage building

The Board adopted the rezoning request for the above referenced property which is consistent with the adopted 2013-2030 Bladen County Land Use Plan; and the rezoning request is reasonable; and the rezoning request is in the public interest.

ITEM 5. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Britt recognized Commissioner Peterson to address the Board. Commissioner Peterson stated that he had recently visited the NC Department of Transportation maintenance facility in Bladen County and found it to be understaffed and shared his concern regarding a perceived possibility that the office may soon close and be moved to Columbus County. He asked County Manager Greg Martin to send correspondence to the legislative delegation (Representative Brisson and Senator Bill Rabon) and NCDOT officials supporting the Bladen County NCDOT presence.

Chairman Britt stated that he had received phone calls earlier regarding road maintenance issues which should and could be handled through the Bladen County DOT office.

Commissioner Cogdell stated that he understood that the office was understaffed, working with an extremely lean crew.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board asked Mr. Martin to send letters of support for the Bladen County NCDOT maintenance office and staff.

ITEM 6. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

- A. Greg Elkins, Planning Director and Past President of Cape Fear Resource Conservation and Development, Inc., introduced Executive Director Danielle Darkangelo and Board of Directors President Kyle Brewer, who addressed the Board. Ms. Darkangelo and Mr. Brewer each expressed appreciation to the Board for an opportunity to provide an update regarding past projects and ongoing projects in the district, which includes five counties; Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Pender, and New Hanover.

Ms. Darkangelo provided information regarding upcoming project to assess aquatic activity in the Black River. A Memorandum of Understanding will be submitted for the Board's approval at a future meeting to partner with Pender County on this project.

The Board expressed appreciation for the update and presentation.

- B. Bladen Community College President Dr. William Findt greeted Board members and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to address the Board. Dr. Findt introduced Network and Website Administrator Phillip Pope and Board of Trustees Chairman Dennis Troy who were also in attendance. Dr. Findt provided an overview of the current enrollment data, programs of study, newly introduced programs, and information regarding on-campus students and “distance education” students. Dr. Findt also provided information regarding financial assistance and the impact on BCC and the county.
- Dr. Findt provided an overview of the FY 2018-19 budget request, including several requested capital projects. The budget request includes a 2.64% increase over FY 2017-18 funding levels. He also discussed an updated campus master plan which is required every 8 years. Capital project funding to complete the master plan is requested in the amount of \$40,000.
- Dr. Findt reviewed the Work Ready Communities program and thanked the Board for their support in successfully completing the certification. Board of Trustees Chairman Dennis Troy expressed appreciation to the Board for its past and ongoing support.
- C. Bladen County Schools Superintendent Dr. Robert Taylor and Finance Officer Sharon Penny expressed appreciation to the Board.
- Dr. Taylor provided an overview of the FY 2018-19 Budget message which includes an overall request increase of 25.96% increase over FY 2017-18. The increase includes a proposed 5% salary increase for locally paid employees which includes four teaching positions, custodians, Human Resource director, and office staff.
- Dr. Taylor also shared that enrollment at charter schools has increased for FY 2017-18 and an increase for FY 2018-19 is anticipated. Current year charter school funds transfer is anticipated to be \$708,000. A FY 2018-19 request for funding in the amount of \$942,000 has been included for transfers to charter schools.
- Board of Education Chairman Winston Rozier expressed appreciation to the Board for its consideration.
- Dr. Taylor shared some positive recognition regarding Bladen County Schools. The opening of an Early College program in conjunction with Bladen Community College; Career and Technical Education credentialing; a state recognized child nutrition program; digital teaching, 1:1 technical program; an increase in graduation rates; an Agricultural Center construction project at East Bladen High School, funded by a Golden LEAF grant.
- Dr. Taylor expressed appreciation to the Board.

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

- A. Mrs. Coleman provided an overview of a contract in the amount of \$38,300 with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company to audit FY 2017-18 accounts along with a Letter of Engagement. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a Contract to audit FY 2017-18 accounts and the supporting Letter of Engagement.
- B. Mrs. Coleman recommended to the Board a Letter of Engagement with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company to audit Medicaid Intake and Eligibility Determination process for FY 2017-18. She stated that the associated fee would be \$7,000. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a Letter of Engagement for TPSA to audit the Medicaid Intake and Eligibility Determination process for FY 2017-18.
- C. Mrs. Coleman recommended to the Board a Letter of Engagement with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams and Company to audit Bladen County’s Local Governmental Employees Retirement System (LGERS) accounts. She stated that the associated fee would be \$2,500. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board unanimously approved a Letter of Engagement for TPSA to audit Bladen County’s Local Governmental Employees Retirement System (LGERS) accounts.

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ITEM 8. Sheriff's Office: (Jim McVicker, Sheriff)

- A. In Sheriff McVicker's absence, Captain Jeff Singletary provided an overview of a Resolution in support of developing a driver training center adjacent to the Bladen County Training Center. Captain Singletary stated that the resolution includes a request to the State of North Carolina to transfer approximately 109 acres adjacent to the training center. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution:



- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding and supporting permits for a USMC training exercise scheduled to be held at the Bladen County Emergency Services Training Center on July 30-August 1, 2018.

ITEM 9. Emergency Services: (Bradley Kinlaw, Director)

- A. Mr. Kinlaw provided an overview of a Memorandum of Understanding with the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management regarding a Bladen County DRA17 Mitigation project. Mr. Kinlaw stated that the MOU is for mitigation for seven (7) residential structures with a total budget of \$1,000,000. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management.
- B. Mr. Kinlaw provided an update regarding the administration and management of ongoing Hurricane Matthew mitigation programs. He stated that following attempting to secure a consulting company to administer a number of mitigation programs which Bladen County has been awarded, that a conversation has been held with the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management has indicated its willingness to provide these services. During discussion, several of the Commissioners stated that they had been contacted by several homeowners who had submitted applications and had been notified that their homes would be repaired, but there had been no information for a while. Mr. Kinlaw stated that the state had not yet released funds to make the repairs, but he and Mr. Martin indicated that the state has announced its intention to expedite the process. The Board expressed appreciation for the information.

ITEM 10. Bladen County Water District:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously exited regular session and entered a session as Bladen County Water District Board of Directors.
- B. General Services Director Kip McClary and Water Department Director Alan Edge provided information regarding standard procedure for the Board to consider adopting a local water supply plan to meet a requirement of the state. Following further discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously adopted a Resolution accepting a Local Water Supply Plan for East Bladen 03-09-060.
- C. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously adopted a Resolution accepting a Local Water Supply Plan for West Bladen 03-09-055.
Mr. McClary stated that a water supply plan is currently being developed and submitted to the state for information for Tar Heel Water System.
Mr. McClary also provided a brief update regarding a recent water usage issue at the Town of Tar Heel. He stated that Water Department staff had notified

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Mr. Dew of a forthcoming bill that would indicate another unusually large amount of water being utilized. Mr. McClary stated that he understood that water closet repairs were either in process or will be completed by the Town of Tar Heel.

- D. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board exited session as Bladen County Water District Board of Directors.

ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Keep Bladen Beautiful (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously appointed Callie Lewis as West Bladen High School representative and tabled an appointment for an East Bladen High School representative.

ITEM 12. Advisory Board Appointment for Consideration at May 21, 2018 Meeting:

- A. **Kelly Water Dike and Drainage District Committee (1)**

ITEM 13. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration at June 18, 2018 Meeting:

- A. **Adult Home Care Community Advisory Committee (2)**
- B. **Ammon Fire Service District Committee (2)**
- C. **Animal Control Board (4)**
- D. **Bladen Community College Board of Trustees (2)**
- E. **Eastpointe MCO Advisory Committee (1)**
- F. **Hickory Grove Fire District Committee (3)**
- G. **Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (4)**
- H. **Kelly Fire Service District Committee (2)**
- I. **Local Emergency Planning Committee (7)**
- J. **Lumber River Workforce Development Board (1)**
- K. **Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments (3)**
- L. **Recreation Committee (4)**
- M. **Tar Heel Fire Service District Committee (3)**
- N. **Tobermory Fire Service District Committee (1)**
- O. **White Lake Fire Service District Committee (3)**
- P. **White Oak Fire Service District Committee (3)**

ITEM 14 County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of May and June 2018.
- B. Mr. Martin provided an overview of a Resolution to support efforts by the Town of White Lake to improve the water quality at White Lake. The proposed Resolution includes financial support as well. The Town of Elizabethtown recently adopted a similar Resolution and pledged \$10,000 toward the alum treatment costs. The County has been asked to financially support the project by pledging \$20,000. The total amount to treat the lake is approximately \$600,000.

Chairman Britt shared additional information reminding the Board that White Lake represented approximately 10% of the county's tax base.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution to support efforts by the Town of White Lake to improve water quality at White Lake:



ITEM 15. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

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Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:07pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Ray Britt, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners