

September 16, 2019

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 16, 2019. The meeting was held in the Commissioners’ Room, located on the lower level of the Bladen County Courthouse, 106 East Broad Street, Elizabethtown.

The following members were present:

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

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Reverend Mark Miller, Clarkton First Baptist Church, provided an invocation. County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

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

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of the September 3, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Opioid Grant

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105900.5961.126	Part-time Salaries	19,210.00	
105900.5961.181	FICA	9,839.56	
105900.5961.341	Printing	3,000.00	
105900.5961.395	Schools	9,965.34	
105900.5961.610	Contract Services	87,887.50	
105900.5961.801	Indirect Costs	14,320.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	144,222.40	

Rollover 18-19 Kate B Reynolds Grant.

Other Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106800.801	Indirect Cost Plan	4,650.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	4,650.00	

Rollover 18-19 funding for Maximus.

Education

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106910.877	BCC-Capital Outlay	69,890.50	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	69,890.50	

Rollover 18-19 unspent capital request.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.192	Professional Services – Legal	15,000.00	
146100.6160.575	Foster Care		15,000.00
106900.903	TO DSS	585.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.230	Food Stamps	1,077.00	
143531.232	Medicaid	216.00	
143531.233	At Risk	45.00	
143531.270	Child Support	4,435.00	
143531.285	NCHC	2.00	
143531.295	Special Assistance Ad	86.00	
143531.330	Foster Care		7,500.00
143531.332	IV-E Admin	198.00	
143531.340	IV-E CPS	137.00	
143531.380	Adult Home	46.00	

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143550.030	TANF Federal	673.00	
143550.080	Fm General Fund	585.00	
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	585.00	

To adjust for increase in legal fees and reduction in Foster Care.

D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
9/04/2019	Sheriff's Office	525.00
9/04/2019	Sep-19 Retainer	300.00
9/04/2019	Kelly Dike	525.00
9/09/2019	Water District	1,525.00
9/10/2019	E M S	725.00
	Total	\$ 3,600.00

- E. Tax Releases No, 8-19, incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.
- F. FY 2019-20 Legal Services Agreement between Bladen County Department of Social Services (DSS) and Johnson & Johnson, Attorneys at Law, PLLC.
- G. Bladen County Language Access Plan.
- H. North Carolina Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Agreement (Project #4393-0010-R) in the amount of \$953,907 Regarding Hurricane Florence Recovery Projects.
- I. Public Hearing scheduled for 6:30pm on Monday, October 7, 2019 to Receive Comments Regarding a Rezoning Request.

ITEM 3. Special Recognition:

- A. Chairman Peterson and the entire Board recognized Djuana Register upon her retirement effective September 1, 2019. Mrs. Register served the citizens of Bladen County as Health Department Administrative Officer. The Board and Health and Human Services Director Dr. Terri Duncan congratulated her for her 29 years of service.

ITEM 4. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Bullock to address the Board. Commissioner Bullock asked that EMS personnel check the cleanliness of the buildings which they utilize in outlying areas of the county.

Commissioner Bullock also asked that County Manager Greg Martin contact the NC Department of Transportation regarding the possibility of raising the speed limit to 70mph on NC 87 Bypass. He also asked that the exit from Burger King onto Peanut Plant Road be requested to be repaired.

Commissioner Bullock inquired regarding a County Seal on the King Street gymnasium which does not have "In God We Trust" included on the signage.

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Munn-Goins to address the Board. She asked that the proper agencies be contacted regarding speed limit signs and some road signage on Hwy. 211, east of Clarkton, be repaired due to Hurricane Dorian damage.

ITEM 5. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

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

- A. Ms. Davis provided an overview of a bid in the amount of 8,700 for County-owned property (PIN 0268 0528 3174) located at 609 West Seaboard Street, Bladenboro, which carries an assessed tax value of \$23,020. The bid was submitted by Brian K. Pait and James W. Dowless. She further stated that the

bid of \$8,700 does cover the County's investment of \$8,700. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously accepted the bid in the amount of \$8,700 for the 0.26 acre tract of land (PIN No. 0268 0528 3174). By accepting the bid, the upset bid process was initiated.

- B. Ms. Davis provided a brief overview of a bid in the amount of \$4,000 for County-owned property (PIN No. 1311 0905 0586) located on Richardson Street, Elizabethtown. Mr. Jerry A. Brown submitted the bid on September 10, 2019. She stated that the .5 acre tract of land carries an assessed tax value of \$8,890, with an investment to the County of \$4,000. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously accepted the bid in the amount of \$4,000 for the County-owned property (PIN No. 1311 0905 0586). By accepting the bid, the upset bid process was initiated.
- C. Ms. Davis provided an overview of a bid in the amount of \$6,500 for County-owned property (PIN No. 1311 0905 0516) located at Richardson Street/Peanut Plant Road, Elizabethtown. The bid was submitted by Mr. Jerry A. Brown on September 10, 2019. She stated that the 0.24 acre tract of land carries an assessed tax value of \$7,200, and the investment to the County was \$6,500. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously accepted the \$6,500 bid for County-owned property (PIN NO. 1311 0905 0516). By accepting the bid, the upset bid process was initiated.
- D. Ms. Davis provided an overview of a bid in the amount of \$7,250 for County-owned property (PIN Nos. 2213 1702 0148 & 2213 1702 5066) located at 274 Mooretown Road, Carvers Creek. Mr. Jeriod Long submitted the bid on September 9, 2019. She stated that the 1.85 acre tract of land carries an assessed tax value of \$7,920, and the investment to the County was \$7,250. Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously accepted a bid in the amount of \$7,250 for County-owned property (PIN Nos. 2213 1702 0148 & 2213 1702 5066) located at 274 Mooretown Road, Carvers Creek. By accepting the bid, the upset bid process was initiated.

ITEM 7. Emergency Services: (Nathan Dowless, Director)

- A. Mr. Dowless provided an overview of an amended Bladen County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). He stated that the revisions were included to reflect a change in administration and personnel. He also stated that the EOP program with the state would be much more comprehensive next year, as the program has been amended. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved the Bladen County Emergency Operations Plan as presented.

ITEM 8. Health and Human Services Agency: (Dr. Terri Duncan, Director)

- A. Dr. Duncan provided an overview of a Professional Services Agreement with Bladen Health Care, LLC, d/b/a Cape Fear Valley-Bladen County Hospital regarding general preventive care. Dr. Duncan further stated that this will allow for clients to be provided with Family Nurse Practitioner services until a full time position is filled. She indicated that during the September 9, 2019 HHS Advisory Board meeting, the HHS Advisory Board made a recommendation for this agreement to be considered. Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously approved a Professional Services Agreement with Bladen Health Care, LLC, d/b/a Cape Fear Valley-Bladen County Hospital regarding general preventive care.
- B. Dr. Duncan provided a brief overview of a Bladen Community College Agreement to allow for students to complete phlebotomy course requirements. During the September 9 HHS Advisory Board meeting, the Board recommended that the Board of Commissioners consider entering into the agreement with Bladen Community College. Upon a motion by

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Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved an agreement with Bladen Community College to allow for phlebotomy students to complete course requirements with Bladen County Health Department.

- C. Dr. Duncan presented an amended Bladen County Health Department Customer Feedback/Expectation Policy. Change of administration and credentials, as well as deletions of items no longer required, were updated. She shared that during the September 9, 2019 HHSA Advisory Board meeting, the advisory board agreed to recommend the amended policy to the Board of County Commissioners. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved an amended Bladen County Health Department Customer Feedback/Expectation Policy.
- D. Dr. Duncan presented an amended Bladen County Health Department Consumer Complaint Policy. Change of administration and credentials, as well as deletions of items no longer required, were updated. She shared that during the September 9, 2019 HHSA Advisory Board meeting, the advisory board agreed to recommend the amended policy to the Board of County Commissioners. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved an amended Bladen County Health Department Consumer Complaint Policy.

ITEM 9. Department of Social Services: (Vickie Smith, Director)

- A. Mrs. Smith provided an overview of a proposed new service with Carolina's IT. She stated that the contract would be for a period of one year to provide State-required mandatory monthly network security audits for the Child Enforcement Unit to be performed by each county with a report to be submitted for review to the State Security Officer. Agreements with Carolina's IT will allow for the performance of the audit and creation of the report for Bladen County Department of Social Services. The required report can then be submitted for review to the State Security Officer. Currently, the agency or county does not have the software to conduct the audit. The Carolina's IT report has been pre-approved as meeting the requirements of the report. She further stated that the HHSA Advisory Board met on Monday, September 9, and recommends this agreement to the Board of County Commissioners. Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a Carolina's IT agreement, non-disclosure agreement, and master service agreement.
- B. Mrs. Smith and Program Administrator Lisa Nance provided an update regarding August Adult Medicaid Audit results. Mrs. Nance reminded the Board that this audit is being performed internally and no state reimbursements will result.

ITEM 10. Beaver Management Program: (Dean Morris, Soil & Water Conservation Director)

- A. Mr. Morris provided an overview of recent activities to establish a Bladen County Beaver Management Program. He stated that Columbus County had not approved a partnership with Bladen County to cost-share a full time federal employee. However, he did state that Pender County had shown some interest.
- Mr. Morris also indicated that regional supervisor, Butch Adams, has received authorization to provide Bladen County with a half-time person, without the need to identify a cost-share partner. He stated that Mr. Adams would be contacting Finance Officer Lisa Coleman to discuss an agreement with Bladen County.
- The Board expressed appreciation.

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ITEM 11. Finance Office: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)

- A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Financial Dashboard for the two-month period ending August 31, 2019.

ITEM 12. Computer Operations: (Robin Hewett, Director)

- A. Mr. Hewett provided an update regarding password management software which will allow for individual maintenance of passwords for all county employees. He stated that he will return with an agreement for the Board's consideration during an upcoming Board meeting.
- B. Mr. Hewett presented a draft Bladen County Technology Use Policy for the Board's information and review. He invited each of the members to contact him should there be any questions regarding items included. He stated that he would return to the Board to request approval at a future meeting.

ITEM 13. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration during September 16, 2019 Board Meeting:

- A. **BARTS Advisory Board (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously appointed Kenneth Brown and Joan Allen to unexpired terms, with the terms expiring December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2021, respectively.
- B. **Child Fatality Prevention Team (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously appointed Travis Greer and Jeremy Richardson to unexpired terms, with the terms expiring October 13, 2021 and February 28, 2022, respectively.
- C. **EMS Advisory Committee (6):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously reappointed Donald Bryan, and appointed Mark Cobb, Dr. Vickie Lanier, and Beth Singletary to unexpired terms, with the terms expiring October 31, 2020; and appointed Nathan Dowless and Tiffany Pait to unexpired terms, with the terms expiring October 31, 2022.
- D. **Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously appointed Ray Britt to an unexpired term, with the term expiring August 16, 2025.
- E. **Voluntary Agriculture Districts Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed Albert Beatty and Dan Ward to three-year terms, with the terms expiring September 30, 2022.
- F. **Watershed Review Board (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board, waiving the rules on term limits, unanimously reappointed Franklin Graham and Warren Dale Graham to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring September 6, 2022.

ITEM 14. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of September and October 2019.
- B. Mr. Martin reviewed information regarding Third Party Benefits Administrator services. He stated that an interview panel had recommended Lacy West-Thomas Insurance Agency to provide a supplemental insurance program for county employees. He stated that this service would be voluntary for all full-time employees. Following discussion regarding costs and portability, upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Britt, the Board approved the selection of Lacy West-Thomas Insurance Agency as Bladen County's third party benefits administrator. The motion passed on a vote of six (6) AYES (Gooden, Britt, Priest, Trivette, Peterson, Dowless) to three (3) NOES (Munn-Goins, Bullock, Cogdell). Mr.

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Martin stated that a one-year agreement would be developed and brought before the Board at a future meeting.

ITEM 18. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners