

November 18, 2019

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 18, 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 Warren Hill, Bethel Baptist Church, provided an invocation. Guest 4-H’ers Allayah and Jordan Jarmon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

Prior to approving the Consent items, Chairman Peterson asked the Board to consider moving Item 3A-Presentation of a Resolution in Memory of Mr. Paul Brooks to Item 13A, to allow time for Mr. Robert Brooks to arrive.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Amended Agenda, with moving Item 3A to Item 13A.
- B. Minutes of the November 1, 2019 Special Meeting.
- C. Minutes of the November 4, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- D. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services Legal	193.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	193.00	

County Property #0022716 Gregory McKiver – 42 Pearl Lloyd Rd.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services Legal	177.00	
104500.270	Advertising	163.06	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	340.06	

County Property #0014068 V Rodriguez – Riverside Rd.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services Legal	187.00	
104500.270	Advertising	420.28	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	607.28	

County Property #0022359 T Horne – Hwy 53.

Register of Deeds

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104800.499.073	Misc Vital Records	500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103160.016	ROD-Online Charges	500.00	

Vitals records charges to forward to State.

Administration/County Auction

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.200	Supplies	130.00	
105100.200.016	Sheriff-Surplus Proceeds	4,800.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103170.040	Sale of Assets	4,800.00	
103170.040	Sale of Assets	130.00	

Sale of assets for Sheriff’s Department and refund Motor Pool for lunch for workers.

November 18, 2019

Sheriff's Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.200.016	Supplies – Surplus	36,450.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103270.018	Sheriff – HELO	36,450.00	

Sale of Helicopter parts.

Animal Control

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105200.126	Part-time Salaries	6,800.00	
105200.181	FICA	500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	7,300.00	

Part-time employee approved at 11/04/19 Commissioners meeting.

Animal Control

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106200.6230.200	Supplies	2,000.00	
106200.6230.499	Miscellaneous Expense	2,236.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.048	SHIIP Grant	4,236.00	

Add'l grant for supplies and equipment.

Library

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106700.610	Contracted Services	3,852.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103630.010	F/S – Library	3,852.00	

Add'l state aid funding.

Education

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106910.887	Public School Bldg Fund	275,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103110.070	Public School Bldg Fund	275,000.00	

Elizabethtown Primary Driveway and Parking lot renovation and design.

E. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
10/25/2019	Health Department	1,625.00
11/01/2019	Sheriff's Office	775.00
11/04/2019	Nov-19 Retainer	300.00
	Total	\$ 2,700.00

- F. Tax Releases No. 10-19, incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.
- G. Lu Mil Private Event Request Form for the benefit of Division on Aging Senior Center.
- H. The following Resolution in Memory of Mr. Paul Brooks:



- I. Public Hearing scheduled for 6:30pm on Monday, December 2, 2019 to Receive Comments Regarding a Rezoning Request (PIN No. 0246-0044-9949)
- J. Lease Agreement with NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for 387 square feet of office space.
- K. Joint Development Agreement with Bladen's Bloomin/Agri-Industrial, Inc. in the amount of \$200,000 to assist in funding Incubator #6.

ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

- A. Moved to Item 13A. See Item 2 above.

ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

ITEM 5. Sheriff's Office: (Sheriff Jim McVicker)

- A. Sheriff McVicker and Captain Jeff Singletary provided information regarding an opportunity to increase the number of federal inmates from 50 to 80, with additional potential to increase the number to 110 inmates. He reminded the Board that the County would receive \$75 per federal inmate per day, and \$25 per detention officer to transport any federal inmates. Sheriff McVicker stated that in order to support the federal inmate housing program, he is also requesting two (2) additional transport vehicles, eight (8) additional detention officers, and compensation increase for detention/telecommunications staff to promote retention and assist with recruitment. He also stated that an additional \$100,000 is being requested for maintenance. Sheriff McVicker and Captain Singletary stated that requested increases will be covered by the additional revenue received from the federal inmate housing program. Sheriff McVicker stressed that no tax dollars would be expended to house federal inmates. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously approved identified steps related to support a federal inmate housing program.

ITEM 6. Department of Social Services: (Vickie Smith, Director)

- A. Mrs. Smith and Fraud Investigation Supervisor Martha Howe presented an amended Department of Social Services Fraud Plan to allow for actively prosecuting fraud in the economic services area. This revised plan will also hold staff and clientele accountable. Through ongoing staff training and clientele education, Bladen County DSS intends to improve the use of county, state, and federal funds, while providing enhanced services to clients. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Britt, the Board unanimously approved a Bladen County Department of Social Services Fraud Plan.
- B. Mrs. Smith and Ms. Howe provided an overview regarding the need to reclassify a Fraud Investigator I position to Fraud Investigator II position. Mrs. Smith stated that the reclassification would increase expense by \$3,700 annually. Ms. Howe stated that by reclassifying a position, even distribution of duties and assignment of cases, would be accomplished. Following brief discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved the reclassification of a Fraud Investigator I position to a Fraud Investigator II position.
- C. Mrs. Smith provided an overview of results regarding the October 2019 Adult Medicaid Program audit results. She also provided a quarterly summary of audit result for additional information. Following the presentation, the Board expressed appreciation.

ITEM 7. Health and Human Services Agency: (Dr. Terri Duncan, Director)

- A. Dr. Duncan provided an overview of a Community Alternatives Program (CAP) Conflict of Interest Policy. She stated that the policy is required by Accreditation and protects program beneficiaries' rights to be able to have input in care without bias. Following brief discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved a Community Alternatives Program (CAP) Conflict of Interest Policy.
- B. Dr. Duncan provided a brief overview of a 2020 CLIA Contract which falls under the federally defined category of "limited public health testing", which allows Bladen County a fifteen-test maximum of waived and moderately reduced complex tests per year. Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously approved a 2020 CLIA Contract.

November 18, 2019

ITEM 8. Finance Office: (Lisa C. Coleman, Finance Officer)

- A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Financial Dashboard for the four-month period ending October 31, 2019. Commissioner Cogdell inquired regarding solid waste expenses. Mrs. Coleman stated that solid waste expenses appear to have decreased recently. However, she stated that she, Mr. Martin and General Services Manager Kip McClary are all watching them closely.

ITEM 9. Emergency Services: (Nathan Dowless, Director)

- A. Mr. Dowless provided a brief overview of a North Carolina Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Agreement in the amount of \$315,650 to provide funding for an alternative power source (generator) to be installed at West Bladen High School and a transfer switch to be installed at East Bladen High School. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved a North Carolina Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Agreement in the amount of \$315,650.
- B. Mr. Dowless presented a Supplemental Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Agreement. Mr. Dowless stated that three (3) identified Hurricane Matthew-damaged properties to be reconstructed were again damaged during Hurricane Florence. Those three properties have been reclassified as acquisition. He stated that this agreement would allow for their acquisition. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a Supplemental Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Agreement.

ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Bay Tree Lakes Fire District Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously tabled appointments.
- B. **Clarkton Fire District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously reappointed Randy West and Stewart Clark to three-year terms of service, with terms expiring November 30, 2022.

ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During December 16, 2019 Board Meeting:

- A. Ammon Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- B. BARTS Advisory Board (6)
- C. Bay Tree Lakes Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- D. Division on Aging Advisory Committee (2)
- E. East Arcadia Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- F. Economic Development Commission (3)
- G. Health and Human Services Agency Advisory Board (4)
- H. Hickory Grove Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- I. Kelly Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- J. Library Board (3)
- K. Lisbon Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- L. Tar Heel Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- M. Tobermory Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)
- N. White Oak Fire Department Firefighter's Relief Fund Board (1)

ITEM 12. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

November 18, 2019

ITEM 13. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

- A. Chairman Peterson recognized Mr. Robert Brooks and invited him to receive a recently adopted Resolution in Memory of his father, Mr. Paul Brooks. The entire Board joined in the presentation and expressed appreciation to Mr. Brooks for carrying forward Mr. Paul Brooks' legacy as being identified as a member of the "Original 22 Tuscarorans". Mr. Brooks expressed gratitude and appreciation.

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Munn-Goins to address the Board. Commissioner Munn-Goins inquired regarding an update regarding Courthouse renovations/repairs to be completed following hurricane damage. Mr. Martin stated that NCACC Risk Management Pools provided mold testing following Hurricane Florence which indicated that there is no "bad" mold in the Courthouse. Mr. Martin recognized General Services Manager Kip McClary in attendance. Mr. McClary stated that there are ongoing discussions with FEMA and NCACC Risk Management Pools' representatives regarding needed renovations and even possible mitigation projects.

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Cogdell to address the Board. Commissioner Cogdell inquired regarding a need to have roadside ditches cleaned out throughout the County. Chairman Peterson asked that Mr. Martin send correspondence to the NCDOT to request assistance with the project. However, Chairman Peterson stated that the NCDOT may not be in a financial position to provide assistance.

ITEM 14. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of November and December 2019.
- B. Mr. Martin reviewed a Board of County Commissioners' proposed meeting dates for information. He stated that approval of the meeting dates would be included on the December 2, 2019 meeting agenda.
- C. Mr. Martin provided an overview of a bid in the amount of \$8,400 submitted by Mark Bryant and Lynn Bryant for county-owned property (PIN No. 0339-0082-0546) located at 2555 Bladen Union Church Road. Mr. Martin stated that the 2.27 acre tract of land carries an assessed tax value of \$14,050, with a current investment to the County of \$8,400. Following brief discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously accepted a bid in the amount of \$8,400 submitted by Mark Bryant and Lynn Bryant for county-owned property (PIN No. 0339-0082-0546) located at 2555 Bladen Union Church Road. By accepting the bid, the upset bid process was initiated.
- D. Mr. Martin provided an overview of a Disaster Recovery Grant Agreement with NC Office of State Budget and Management in the amount of \$325,000. He stated that this agreement is for the benefit of the Kelly Dike District. An engineering study is to be funded by the grant monies. Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved a Disaster Recovery Grant Agreement with NC Office of State Budget and Management.

Chairman Peterson recognized DSS Director Vickie Smith and encouraged all in attendance to participate in a Christmas program to provide gifts and other requested items to those in need. Mrs. Smith expressed appreciation for DSS clients and wards.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners