

**March 6, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 6, 2017 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

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

Excused: G. Michael Cogdell

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

**ITEM 1.** Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order.

Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church of Bladenboro, provided the Invocation. Guest 4-H'er Clinton Ryckley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 2. Consent Items:**

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

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of February 20, 2017 Regular Meeting.
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

**Tax Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104500.611.044</b>	Contract Services – Billing	3,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriation	3,000.00	

Postage for advertising notices.

**Sheriff**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105100.5170.125</b>	Overtime	680.13	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103270.014</b>	Sheriff – Recreation	680.13	

Reimbursement for work at recreation events.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.693</b>	Medicaid Transportation	100,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.320</b>	Medicaid Transportation	100,000.00	

100% Federal funds for current and future expenses.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.706</b>	LIEAP	30,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.033</b>	LIEAP	30,000.00	

Funding Authorization #3.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.6160.565</b>	Day Care		415,388.00
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.310</b>	Day Care		415,388.00

Funding Authorization #3.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.6160.650.002</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	548.25	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143190.028</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	548.25	

Donations for the Child Abuse Awareness event.

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D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
2/17/17	Sheriff's Office	\$ 1,525.00
2/21/17	Human Resources/Admin	\$ 400.00
2/22/17	Sheriff's Office	\$ 1,800.00
2/24/17	Planning Department	\$ 875.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,600.00</b>

- E. Letter of Engagement with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Company, PA for FY 2016-17.
- F. Contract with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Company, PA to Audit FY 2016-17 Accounts.
- G. Agreement with Moffatt & Nichol for Professional Services Regarding Fish Passages Construction Project at Lock & Dam #2 and #3.
- H. Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Certain County Property at Public Auction Scheduled for April 8, 2017.
- I. Agreement with On The Square Auction & Realty Regarding Auction of Certain County Property at Public Auction.

**ITEM 3. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

**ITEM 4. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:**

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Trivette to address the Board. Commissioner Trivette shared that she had attended a recent National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. She stated that the conference was very informative and provided an opportunity to meet Commissioners from other states. She found it to be a very positive experience. Commissioner Trivette expressed her appreciation to the County for the opportunity.

Commissioner Munn-Goins also expressed her appreciation to the County for the chance to attend the conference. She stated that she found the experience very educational and stimulating.

Commissioner Bullock also expressed his appreciation to be able to attend the conference in Washington, DC.

Commissioner Priest shared his thoughts and appreciation as well.

**ITEM 5. NC Emergency Management: (Joyce Holley)**

- A. Ms. Holley introduced herself and FEMA Representative Francis Aihe. Ms. Holley and Mr. Aihe provided an update regarding Hurricane Matthew Hazard Mitigation program. Mr. Aihe stated that a FEMA delegation would be at the White Lake Fire Department on Tuesday, March 7 through Thursday, March 9, to assist the public with applications for assistance. Ms. Holley and Mr. Aihe expressed appreciation to the Board.

**ITEM 6. Bladen County Water District: (Randy Garner, Director)**

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board exited Regular Session and entered Session as Water District Board of Directors.
- B. Adam Kiker of LKC Engineering, PLLC provided an update regarding a proposed Phase IV water system expansion project with additional roadways. During a February 13, 2017 Special Meeting, the Board asked Mr. Kiker to include additional roads to a proposed expansion. Mr. Kiker stated that calculations for the proposed expansion indicated that a base rate increase of \$3.50 per residential customer would be recommended. USDA has shown interest in designating funds for a project by May 4, 2017. Mr. Kiker expressed his appreciation to the Board.
- C. General Services Manager Kip McClary provided a brief overview of proposed revisions to the Bladen County Water District Rules and

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Regulations. Changes would incorporate the possibility of providing water service to households on private roads.

Following discussion regarding a revised proposal and revisions to Water District Rules and Regulations, the Board indicated that a Special Meeting should be scheduled.

- D. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously exited Water District Board of Directors Session and re-entered Regular Session.

**ITEM 7. Revenue Administration: (Renee Davis, Tax Administrator)**

- A. Mrs. Davis provided an overview of a request submitted by Elizabeth Christain. The Board recently accepted Ms. Christain's bid for county owned property, through a private sale. Ms. Christain has paid a portion of the purchase price but has requested an extension of twelve (12) months to pay the balance.

Mrs. Davis stated that Attorney Allen Johnson advised in order to remove the County from any liability, Bladen County should proceed with conveying Ms. Christain the property but have a Deed of Trust and Promissory Note prepared and executed for the remaining balance.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously approved Ms. Christain's request for a twelve (12) month extension to pay the balance of \$5,955.

**ITEM 8. Health and Human Services Agency: (David Howard, Director)**

- A. Mrs. Jackie Dennis provided an overview of activities completed during 2016 by the Child Fatality Prevention Team. Mrs. Dennis reported the team discussed measures to prevent deaths of infants and children in Bladen County. Data is reported quarterly from the State to the Fatalities Coordinator and cases were discussed at a combined meeting of the Child Fatality Prevention Team and Community Child Protection Team. Meetings are scheduled for every other month, beginning in February of each year.

Mrs. Dennis expressed her appreciation to the Board.

**ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously tabled an appointment to a future meeting.
- B. **Bladen County Nursing Home Advisory Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously tabled appointments to a future meeting.
- C. **Southeastern Community & Family Services, Inc. Board of Directors (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Trivette, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board appointed Commissioner Bullock to fill an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2020. The Board approved the appointment by a vote of seven (7) AYES to one (1) NO (Peterson). Chairman Peterson expressed concern regarding a lack of diversity on the Board of Directors.

**ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During March 20, 2017 Meeting:**

- A. BARTS Advisory Committee (3)

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

- A. Mr. Martin briefly discussed a scheduling conflict regarding an upcoming Special Meeting scheduled for March 16 to include mental health information and discussion. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously rescheduled a Special Meeting for 5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.

- B. Mr. Martin provided an overview of an opportunity to meet with Bladen County's Legislative Delegation. Members are Senator Bill Rabon, Representative William Brisson and Representative Brenden Jones.

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Following discussion, the Board asked Mr. Martin to contact the legislators and make a report to the Board regarding available dates for a meeting.

Prior to Mr. Martin reviewing Board calendars, Chairman Peterson queried the Board regarding an available date to schedule a Special Meeting regarding proposed expansion of the Bladen County Water District and proposed amendments to the District Rules and Regulations. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, a Special Meeting was scheduled for 5:00pm on Thursday, March 30, 2017.

- C. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of March and April 2017, noting the revised date of the Special Meeting from March 16, 2017 to April 5, 2017.

**ITEM 12. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address the Board:**

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

**ITEM 14. 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) (4) Industry/Economic Development and in Accordance with NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) Personnel at 7:10 pm.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously exited Closed Session at 8:10 pm.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Britt, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

ATTEST:

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

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Charles R. Peterson, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners