

March 20, 2017

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 20, 2017 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

- Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
- Ray Britt, Vice Chairman
- Arthur Bullock
- Ashley Trivette
- G. Michael Cogdell
- Daniel Dowless
- David R. Gooden

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order.

Reverend Richard Smith, Cypress Creek Baptist Church of Garland, provided the Invocation. County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Peterson expressed appreciation to Reverend Richard Smith for providing the invocation.

Chairman Peterson stated that Commissioners Ophelia Munn-Goins and Russell Priest had informed him that they would arrive late to the meeting.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

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

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of March 6, 2017 Special Meeting
- C. Minutes of March 6, 2017 Regular Meeting.
- D. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Services - Legal	199.00	
104500.270	Advertising	125.36	
Revenues			
103170.040	Sale of Assets	324.36	

Bid preparation deed fees, advertising on parcel #0047613 85 Home Run Drive.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.325	Postage	2,000.00	
Revenues			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	2,000.00	

Postage due to notice mailings.

Parks & Recreation

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106600.272	Concessions	1,892.00	
106600.493	Refunds	550.00	
106600.126	Part-time Salaries		10,048.00
106600.331	Batting Cage	1,668.00	
106600.499.008	Deputies	1,880.00	
106600.352	M/R - Equipment	1,000.00	
106600.803	Insurance and Utilities	1,915.00	
106600.610	Contract Services	5,000.00	
106600.395	Schools & Meetings		320.00
106600.491	Dues & Subscriptions	25.00	
106600.210	Recreation Equipment	397.00	
106600.325	Postage		102.00
106600.910	Special Appropriation		2,500.00
106600.499	Miscellaneous	2,500.00	
Revenues			
103660.012	Concession	1,892.00	
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	550.00	
103660.000	Recreation - Insurance Fees	1,415.00	

Year End.

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Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor Fund	470.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor Fund	470.00	

Funding Authorization #9.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor Fund	448.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor Fund	448.00	

Funding Authorization #10.

Bladenboro Fire Department

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
425342.712	Matching Grant	16,272.80	
425342.499	Miscellaneous Expense	11,696.10	
425342.499	Miscellaneous Expense	55,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
423190.050	Fund Balance Appropriation	82,968.90	

Funding required for Matching Grant, Refurbish 91 tanker, equipment for rescue truck, and support vehicle.

E. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
3/01/2017	March-17 Retainer	\$ 300.00
3/07/2017	Sheriff's Office	\$ 1,875.00
3/07/2017	Economic Development	\$ 1,450.00
3/08/2017	Health Department	\$ 2,550.00
	Total	\$ 6,175.00

F. The following Resolution for Bladen County's Application for Building Reuse Program Grant Funding:



- G. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 2-17, incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.
- H. Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act Grant Program in the amount of \$1,646 which will benefit Bladen County's Senior Center.

Commissioner Russell Priest entered the meeting at 6:32pm.

ITEM 3. Public Hearing:

Chairman Peterson declared open the Public Hearing to receive comments regarding priorities for the upcoming FY 2017-18 Budget. No one addressed the Board.
Chairman Peterson declared closed the Public Hearing.

ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

- A. Breeden Blackwell, Cape Fear Valley Health
Mr. Blackwell, along with CFVH-Bladen County Hospital Chief Executive Officer Dr. Roxie Wells, expressed appreciation to the Board.
Mr. Blackwell indicated that he and Dr. Wells were in attendance to present the Hospital's highest honor, the On Point Award. The award is presented to an individual outside the healthcare system who has demonstrated unparalleled efforts to improve healthcare in Cape Fear Valley Health's region.
Mr. Blackwell recognized Chairman Peterson and asked him to join him and Dr. Wells to receive the On Point Award. Chairman Peterson expressed his appreciation to Mr. Blackwell and Dr. Wells.

Commissioner Ophelia Munn-Goins entered the meeting at 6:38pm.

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B. Drew Cox, PE, NCDOT District Engineer

Chairman Peterson recognized NCDOT District Engineer Drew Cox to address the Board. Mr. Cox provided a brief overview of the process regarding NCDOT safety projects. He stated that a higher frequency of incidents have occurred at the intersection of Hwy. 41 and 410, adjacent to Bladen Community College and in the vicinity of West Bladen High School. A NCDOT recommended resolution was presented as a rural, high-speed round-about. Mr. Cox stated that thirty-one (31) accidents occurred during a five (5) year period with no fatalities.

Mr. Cox indicated that an intermediate treatment of a four-way stop has been proposed until the round-about can be completed. He stated that the project may take approximately 24 months.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously voiced its support of the safety project to construct a four-way stop as an interim treatment until the round-about can be completed.

Commissioner Munn-Goins presented a question to Mr. Cox regarding the expansion of NC through Bladen County. Mr. Cox stated that expansion of NC 87 is included on a potential project list. However, the identified section is from Hwy. 11 to Hwy. 74/76, outside of Bladen County. Mr. Cox encouraged the Board to work closely with the Rural Transportation Organization to include a NC 87 expansion project.

Mr. Cox expressed his appreciation to the Board.

ITEM 5. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Cogdell to address the Board. Commissioner Cogdell expressed his appreciation to Bladen County EMS following a recent accident in which he was involved. Commissioner Cogdell asked Emergency Services Director Bradley Kinlaw to express to the EMS employees and staff his appreciation.

Chairman Peterson provided a brief update regarding the Economic Development program. Concerns have been discussed over multiple meetings regarding the roles of Bladen County and Bladen's Bloomin'/Agri-Industrial. A number of measures have been identified to enhance communication and transparency, such as monthly updates between Bladen County Board of Commissioners, Bladen County Economic Development, Bladen's Bloomin'/Agri-Industrial, Economic Development Commission Advisory Commission and the Committee of 100. BBAI also agreed to amend its Articles of Incorporation to reflect that its assets would be conveyed to Bladen County should BBAI cease operations. Two (2) Bladen County Commissioners will serve on the BBAI Board of Directors, with one serving in an Ex Officio capacity on the BBAI Executive Committee. Economic Development Director Chuck Heustess will be compensated directly by Bladen County, with BBAI providing funding to Bladen County for a portion of Mr. Heustess' salary.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously accepted the proposed steps to enhance transparency and communication regarding Economic Development.

ITEM 6. Health and Human Services Agency: (David Howard, Director)

A. Mr. Howard provided a brief overview of Resolutions regarding the sale of the Bladen County Home Health Agency to Advanced Home Health. The following agreements were incorporated to be approved as a part of the Resolutions:

- Asset Purchase Agreement
- Medical Records Custodian Agreement
- Restricted Fund Agreement
- Bill of Sale and Assignment
- Lease Agreement
- IRS Asset Allocation
- Excluded Assets
- Notices and Consents
- Governmental Authorizations
- Conflicts

Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolutions regarding the Sale of Bladen County Home Health Agency:



- B. Mr. Howard provided a brief overview of a proposed agreement with East Coast Migrant Head Start, which will allow for Bladen County to assist in making assessments for newly enrolled children regarding age appropriate preventive and primary healthcare, which includes medical, vaccines, dental and mental health. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved an agreement with East Coast Migrant Head Start.
- C. Mr. Howard briefly discussed a FY 2017-2018 Consolidated Agreement with the State of North Carolina which outlines the duties and responsibilities of both Bladen County and the State for providing health related services to the citizens of Bladen County. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously approved an Annual FY 2017-2018 Consolidated Agreement with the State of North Carolina.
- D. Mr. Howard introduced Health Educator Marianne Valentiner. Mrs. Valentiner expressed appreciation to the Board. Bladen County Health Department Health Educator Marianne Valentiner presented the 2016 State of the County Health Report (SOTCH). Copies of the 2016 SOTCH were provided for the Board. The Bladen County Health Department is required to complete a SOTCH in the interim years after the completion of the Community Health Assessment (CHA). The CHA was completed during 2015. Interim years for the SOTCH are 2016 and 2017. The next CHA will be completed by 2018 and submitted by the first Monday in March 2019. The document is in partnership with the Cape Fear Valley/Bladen County Hospital. The CHA is used as an indicator or snap-shot of the county's health concerns and health priorities to be addressed. The SOTCH is a follow-up to the CHA. Marianne Valentiner indicated that the SOTCH was approved by the NC Department of Health and Human Services. A checklist used for approval from DHHS was also provided. The Accreditation checklist required that demographics of the county be incorporated into the document. Bladen County's estimated 2015 population was 34,318, with 24.4% of the population below poverty. Page 2 identified Collaborative members that have participated in the creation of SOTCH, along with programming which supported identified issues. Page 3 listed priorities which were identified in the CHA and will be addressed in action plans. Pages 4-6 included graphs which identified priorities and analyzed comparisons. Heart disease has increased since the 2015 CHA, and is the leading cause of death in Bladen County (2011-2015 data Bladen 247.1, NC 163.7 compared to 2010-2014 Bladen 232.2, NC 165.9). The second cause of death is cancer. It has decreased since the 2015 CHA data. The third cause of death was Chronic Lower Respiratory and the fourth cause was Cerebrovascular Disease. Other Unintentional Injury Deaths placed as the fifth cause of death. The top five causes of death were identified as a result of data collected in a 2015 Community Health Assessment data. Unintentional Injury Deaths were categorized in areas that include falls, drowning, accidental gunfire, motor vehicle, and poisoning deaths. The sixth cause of death was identified as Diabetes. A new and emerging issue was identified as teenage pregnancy. For each CHA, a new and emerging issue is to be recognized. Teenage pregnancy was indicated due to a spike in the 2014 data. Although there is a

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spike in the rates for the 2014 yearly data, Bladen County rates have been trending downward over the past 15 years.

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

- A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Financial Dashboard for the eight-month period ending February 28, 2017.

ITEM 8. Revenue Administration: (Renee Davis, Tax Administrator)

- A. Mrs. Davis briefly discussed the Board of Equalization and Review and the requirement for the Board to convene each year. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously scheduled a Board of Equalization and Review meeting at 5:30pm on Monday, April 3, 2017.
- B. Mrs. Davis provided information regarding a bid of \$1,500 received for county-owned property (parcel ID: 0015482). Mrs. Davis stated that expense for the property in 2014 was \$4,300 at the time of foreclosure. Ms. Sonnie Lesane who submitted the bid, had indicated to Mrs. Davis that the property was not worth the \$4,300 as there was no home on the .17 acre tract. Following discussion, a motion to decline the bid was presented by Commissioner Priest and seconded by Commissioner Gooden. The motion was accepted unanimously and the bid was not accepted.

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, appointed Ethel Davis to an unexpired term, with the term expiring January 16, 2019. The motion passed by a vote of eight (8) AYES to one (1) NO (Priest).
- B. **BARTS Advisory Committee (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously appointed Faye Collins representing the Health Department; Michelle Wright representing the Department of Social Services to unexpired terms with terms expiring December 31, 2018 and Kelly Robeson representing Division on Aging to an unexpired term, with the term expiring December 31, 2017.
- C. **Bladen County Nursing Home Advisory Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Britt, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board appointed Ricky Byrd to an unexpired term, with the term expiring February 28, 2019; and reappointed David Howell and Larry Yoder to three (3) year terms, with terms expiring February 28, 2020.

ITEM 10. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously scheduled a Special Meeting for 6pm on Thursday, April 20 in order to meet with the legislative delegation, Senator Bill Rabon, Representative William Brisson and Representative Brenden Jones. A location has not yet been determined.
- B. Mr. Martin reviewed Board a proposed FY 2017-18 Budget calendar. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, a Special Budget Meeting was unanimously scheduled for 5:30pm on Monday, April 24, 2017.
- C. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for March and April 2017.

ITEM 11. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address the Board:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

ITEM 12. Closed Session:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously entered Closed Session in Accordance with NCGS 143-318.11.(a) (3) Attorney-Client Privilege, NCGS 143-318.11(a) (4)

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Industry/Economic Development and in Accordance with NCGS 143-318.11
(a) (6) Personnel at 7:25 pm.

- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner
Bullock, the Board unanimously exited Closed Session at 8:26 pm.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the meeting
adjourned at 8:27 pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners