

May 20, 2013

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 20, 2013 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Chairman

Mark Gillespie, Vice Chairperson

Charles Ray Peterson

Delilah Blanks

Billy Ray Pait

Russell Priest

Daniel Dowless

Wayne Edge

G. Michael Cogdell

Attorney: Leslie Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order. Reverend Jonathan Mills, Pastor of Bethlehem United Methodist Church, White Oak, NC provided the Invocation. Davis Alsop, member of Boy Scouts of America, Troop 600, Elizabethtown, NC led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes of Regular Meeting on May 6, 2013
- C. Budget Amendments as follows:
 - D. Tax Refunds and Releases for April 2013
 - E. Appropriation in the amount of \$1,000.00 to West Bladen High School Beta Club for the National Conference
 - F. Public Hearing for Monday, June 3, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. Regarding the FY 2013-14 Proposed Budget

ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

- A. Commissioner Peterson requested that, in observance of EMS Appreciation Week, a letter be written to Bladen County EMS technicians thanking them for their service to the citizens of Bladen County. County Manager Greg Martin indicated that he would send a letter on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.
- B. Chairman Smith presented a certificate to Zane Singletary, of West Bladen High School, in recognition of his service as NC Beta Club President during the 2012-2013 academic year. Mr. Singletary thanked the commissioners for the County appropriation to the Beta Club to assist with travel expenses related to the national convention.

ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

- A. Dr. Marvin Hall, Professor at NC A&T State University and Bladen County native, addressed the Board regarding the benefits that would be associated with a speakers bureau, movie theater, and a facility for summer youth basketball camps in Bladen County.
- B. Mr. Horace Munn, resident of East Arcadia, addressed the Board regarding the need for an EMS unit to be located in the East Arcadia community due to the long response time associated with recent 911 calls for an EMS unit. He indicated that, although a paramedic in a Quick Response Unit (QRV) can provide emergency care, the paramedic is still required to wait for an ambulance unit to arrive to transport patients to the hospital.
- C. Reverend Larry Hayes, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Chairman, invited the commissioners to attend the upcoming JCPC lunch meeting at 12 noon on June 6, 2013 at the Powell-Melvin Agricultural Services Building.

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ITEM 5. Consolidated Human Services Agency: (Wayne Stewart, Director)

Division on Aging Director Joan Allen provided an update regarding recently received Senior Center General Purpose Funding in the amount \$11,753.00. This funding was received as a result of the Senior Center receiving certification as a Center of Excellence. Ms. Allen indicated that funds will be used for facility upgrades and to purchase supplies and materials.

ITEM 6. Finance: (Lisa Coleman, Director)

Finance Officer Lisa Coleman presented the monthly financial dashboard. She indicated that fiscal year to date revenues and expenditures are on track with the budget.

ITEM 7. Bladen County Water District: (Randy Garner, Director)

- A. A motion was made by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Pait, and approved to enter session as the Water District Board of Directors.
- B. Mr. Garner updated the Board regarding ongoing issues with the Center Road well filter system not sufficiently removing iron from the water, causing customers to complain that the water is discolored. Mr. Garner stated that a new filter media will be installed to address this problem. He indicated that the well has been turned off until the problem is resolved.
- C. A motion was made by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, and approved to exit session as the Water District Board of Directors.

ITEM 8. Advisory Board Appointments (May 20, 2013):

Chairman Smith reviewed the following Advisory Board appointments to be considered at the May 20, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting:

- A. A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, and approved to re-appoint James Hales and Terry Dowless to three year terms on the Dublin Fire District Committee, with an expiration date of May 20, 2016.
- B. A motion was made by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, and approved to re-appoint William Corbett and Charles Russ to three year terms on the Kelly Water Dike and Drainage District Committee, with an expiration date of May 20, 2016
- C. A motion was made by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, and approved to re-appoint Marsha DeAndrade to a three year term as the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction representative on the White Lake Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustment. The expiration date is May 20, 2016.
- D. A motion was made by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, and approved to appoint Emery White to the Eastpointe Board of Directors for the 2013 fiscal year, July 1, 2013 thru June 30, 2013.

ITEM 10. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. County Manager Greg Martin reviewed the calendar for upcoming events in May and June. He also expressed concern that the NC Senate's proposed budget includes the closure of Bladen Correctional Facility at White Lake. He indicated that he will prepare a letter, on behalf of Chairman Smith, to Representative Brisson regarding this concern.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, a Special Meeting regarding the FY 2014 Budget was scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
- C. Chairman Smith asked the county manager to contact NC Department of Transportation District Engineer Drew Cox regarding a concern that the timing of proposed road work on Bull Street will pose a problem for blueberry famers.

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- D. Commissioner Blanks expressed concern regarding delayed EMS response times in the East Arcadia community. She emphasized the need for an ambulance unit in that community.

ITEM 11. Consider Entering Closed Session:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board entered closed session in Accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6) Personnel.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board exited Closed Session and re-entered Open Session.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Gillespie, the Board adjourned at 7:52 pm.

James G. Smith, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioner

ATTEST:

Gregory J. Martin, Deputy Clerk to the Board