

September 16, 2013

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, September 16, 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
- G. Michael Cogdell
- Wayne Edge

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order. Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church, Bladenboro, NC provided the Invocation. County Manager Gregory J. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:
Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless the Board approved the following Consent Items:
 A. Agenda.
 B. Minutes of Regular Meeting on September 3, 2013.
 C. Budget Amendments as follows:

Central Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
105000.740	Capital Outlay-Equipment	19,173.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	FBA	19,173.00	

Rollover of unspent funding for two new heat pumps at jail. Funding budgeted in prior year.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
146100.599	Family Reunification	4,251.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.080	Family Reunification	4,251.00	

New funding for Promoting Safe and Stable Families.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.501	Duke Energy Low Income Grant Funds	35,824.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.034	Duke Energy Low Income Grant Funds	35,824.00	

Grant Funds to assist Duke Energy Progress' Low Income customers.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.550	Smart Start		87,591.00
<i>Revenues</i>			
143690.000	Smart Start		87,591.00

Funding Authorization decrease for Bladen.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.565	Child Day Care	9,340.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.310	Child Day Care	9,340.00	

Funding Authorization increase by State.

D. County Attorney Invoices:

Date	Department	Amount
9/1/13	Sep-13 Retainer	\$ 300.00
9/12/13	Health Department	\$ 550.00
9/13/13	Dept. of Social Services	\$ 600.00
	Total	\$ 1,450.00

E. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 8-13.

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F. Community Development Block Grant Monthly Performance Status Reports for July, 2013 and August, 2013.

G. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation, as follows:



H. Animal Control Adoption Fee Increase for Adoptions from \$40.00 to \$50.00 which will offset the increased cost for providing core and rabies vaccinations. The Board also approved for the Shelter to offer Micro-Chipping as an option for \$15.00 with a pet adoption.

I. Policy on Policy Procedure for Health Department.

J. Northwoods Agreement for the Department of Social Services.

H. Public Hearing for Monday, October 7, 2013 at 6:30pm to Receive Public Comments Regarding the Transportation System.

ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

A. The Bladen County Domestic Violence Awareness Proclamation was to have been presented to Ms. Marjorie Walker of Families First, Inc. However, Ms. Walker was unable to attend. Chairman Smith asked Clerk to the Board Maria Edwards to make certain the Ms. Walker received the Proclamation. Upon motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board approved the presentation of the Domestic Violence Awareness Proclamation to Ms. Walker by the Clerk to the Board.

ITEM 4. Individuals / Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners

A. Nikki Locklear, representing Future Farmers of America (FFA) of West Bladen High School, recited the FFA Creed. Ms. Locklear won the state competition and will be traveling to the National Convention in Louisville, KY to represent West Bladen High School, Bladen County and North Carolina. Ms. Locklear did an outstanding job and will represent Bladen County well.

B. Upon motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously approved a \$500 appropriation to West Bladen's FFA, to assist in offsetting travel expenses to the National Convention.

ITEM 5. Public Hearing to Receive Public Comments Regarding a Rezoning Request

A. Chairman Smith declared the Public Hearing opened and asked the public to offer comments.

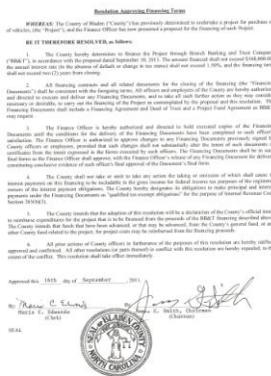
Hearing no comments from the public, Chairman Smith declared the Public Hearing closed.

B. Greg Elkins, Planning Director, presented the rezoning request, along with property owner, Shane Todd. The Planning Board approved the request at their August 20, 2013 meeting and made a favorable recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to rezone a parcel of land located at 62 Old Abbottsburg Road, identified as PIN number 1524 00-28-0287, and contains 1.31 acres. The request is to rezone from Residential / Agricultural to Commercial for the purpose of a used car lot. The request is consistent with the adopted 1999-2010 Bladen County Land Use Plan; and the rezoning request is reasonable; and the rezoning request is in the public interest. Upon motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board approved the Rezoning Request.

ITEM 6. Finance Department (Lisa Coleman, Director)

A. Finance Officer Lisa Coleman presented the monthly financial dashboard.

- B. Mrs. Coleman presented supporting documentation for a Resolution Approving Financing Terms with Branch Banking & Trust Company, which includes the County Official Declaration of Intent to Reimburse. This installment purchase project includes two (2) 2014 Ford Tauruses, two (2) 2014 Ford Explorers, one (1) 2014 Ford Fusion and one (1) Chevrolet Impala with law enforcement equipment, graphics and striping, plus one used vehicle for a total cost of \$168,000. Three bids were received from the eight (8) RFP's sent. Branch Banking & Trust proposed an interest rate of 1.85% with no origination fees. Commissioner Peterson called for discussion before the vote to understand the mix of makes of vehicles. Sheriff Benston explained the need for fuel-efficient vehicles for the Sheriff's Department, as well as the need for some undercover vehicles. After discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board adopted a Resolution Approving Financing Terms with Branch Banking & Trust Company, which includes the County Official Declaration of Intent to Reimburse, as follows:



- C. Mrs. Coleman presented an overview of new requirements related to HB 786 legislation. HB 786 imposed E-Verify requirements on contractors who enter into certain contracts with state agencies and local governments. Mrs. Coleman has sent each department a sample cover letter, along with the required affidavit. The Finance office has started sending the affidavit to each of the current contractors in order to comply with HB 786.

ITEM 7. Department of Social Services (Vickie Smith Director)

- A. Ms. Drusilla Wright, Foster Care and Adoption Supervisor, presented an overview of the various services provided by this department.

ITEM 8. Bladen Soil and Water Conservation District (Dean Morris, District Director)

- A. Mr. Morris provided an extensive overview of the services provided by this department, during his presentation of the Annual Report, for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments

- A. **Bladen County Watershed Review Board:** Upon motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board approved to table the appointments.
- B. **Voluntary Agricultural Districts Committee:** Upon motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board waived term limits and reappointed Dorothy McKoy and Dan Ward with terms expiring September 30, 2016.
- C. **Ammon Fire Department Fireman's Relief Fund Board:** Upon motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board approved the appointment of Abby Wilson and Len Mason, with terms expiring December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2015, respectively.

ITEM 10. County Manager, Greg Martin

- A. Mr. Martin provided an overview of the proposed Social Media Policy. There was discussion regarding the length of the policy as presented. Upon motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the proposed Social Media Policy was tabled, which will allow time for the Public Information Committee to reconvene and consider the concerns discussed.

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- B. Mr. Martin provided an update regarding the closure of Bladen Correctional Center at White Lake, and the loss of local access to inmate labor. A letter has been sent to the NC Department of Public Safety from Bladen County and three of the municipalities within Bladen County which will be affected by the closure. This correspondence requests that the North Carolina Department of Correction provide transportation for inmate laborers from Scotland Correctional Center or Columbus Correctional Center to Bladen County.
- C. Mr. Martin reviewed the calendar for upcoming events in September and October, 2013.

Upon motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

James G. Smith, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board