

January 22, 2019

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 in the Commissioners' Room located on the lower level of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

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

Excused:

Ray Britt

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Reverend Warren Hill of Bethel Baptist Church in Dublin provided the Invocation. County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Trivette, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items, along with moving Item 8A to Item 4A1-Tax Assessor Oath of Office.

- A. Agenda, as amended above.
- B. Minutes of January 7, 2019 Special Meeting.
- C. Minutes of January 7, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- D. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Planning

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104220.270	Advertising	200.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103110.013	Special Use Permit	200.00	

Advertising public hearing and certified letters.

Tax Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
104500.192	Professional Legal	1,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriations	1,000.00	

Attorney Invoices.

Central Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105000.330	Utilities	25.89	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	25.89	

Four County Electric Capital Credits.

Motor Pool

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.357	M/R - Vehicles	1,375.65	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	1,375.65	

Insurance claim for 2015 Dodge Durango (VIN 7688)

Administration/Education

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
106910.882	BOE - Sales Taxes	156,535.25	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.049	Fund Balance Appropriations - BOE Savings		251,503.00
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriations	408,038.25	

Move prior year sales tax balance and miscellaneous savings for 18/19 appropriation.

January 22, 2019

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.610.535	Medicaid	3,470.15	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.010	Client Refund	3,470.15	

EPICS draft for current year.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.6160.555	Client Refund	30.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.010	Client Refund	30.00	

Appropriation for Client Refund.

Solid Waste

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
205800.352	M/R - Equipment	40,852.84	
<i>Revenues</i>			
203190.011	Insurance Claims	40,852.84	

Engine repair for D6K Bulldozer.

E. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
12/10/2018	BARTS	1,950.00
12/20/2018	Governing Board/Elections	250.0
12/28/2018	Sheriff's Office	375.00
	Total	\$ 2,575.00

F. Tax Releases No. 12-18, incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.

G. Review of Community Services Block Grant Program FY 2019-20 Funding Application for the benefit of Southeastern Community and Family Services, Inc.

H. College Bound Program Letter of Support.

ITEM 3. Public Hearing:

A. Chairman Peterson declared open a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding a proposed five-year incentive grant with New Generation Yarn Corporation. No one addressed the Board. Chairman Peterson declared closed a Public Hearing.

B. Chairman Peterson recognized Economic Development Director Chuck Heustess to address the Board regarding an incentive grant agreement with New Generation Yarn Corporation (WARP Clarkton). Mr. Heustess provided an overview of requirements WARP Clarkton must meet in order to receive an incentive. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously approved a New Generation Yarn Corporation Incentive Agreement.

ITEM 4. Special Recognition:

A. Chairman Peterson recognized the following employees for their years of service to Bladen County and its citizens:

Employee	Department	Years of Service
Ronnie Bordeaux	Detention	5
Wilbert Hobbs	Detention	5
Sandra Kemp	Division on Aging	25
Sheila Berkeley	Dept. of Social Services	5
Sheila Manual	Dept. of Social Services	10
Heather Harvey	Dept. of Social Services	15
Danette Sessoms	Dept. of Social Services	30
Lisa Coleman	Finance	25
Jackie Dennis	Health Department	15
LaShannon McDonald	Library	5
Grant Pait	Parks & Recreation	20
Dean Morris	Soil & Water Cons.	25

January 22, 2019

- A1. Chairman Peterson recognized Tax Assessor Renee Davis and Clerk of Superior Court Niki S. Dennis. Mrs. Dennis provided the Oath of Office to Mrs. Davis.
- B. Chairman Peterson briefly recessed the meeting for a reception at 6:47pm.

Chairman Peterson reconvened the meeting at 7:00pm.

ITEM 5. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

ITEM 6. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Peterson recognized Commissioner Munn-Goins to address the Board. Commissioner Munn-Goins expressed concern regarding the amount of litter and trash on the county's roadsides. She further explained that she had received correspondence from an anonymous individual regarding the state of the roadways as well. She inquired about an anti-litter program which might be initiated within the County.

Commissioner Cogdell stated that he remembered signage posted throughout the county which included a citation for littering and the imposed penalty.

Chairman Peterson shared that the Roadside Litter Pick Up program would be discussed during an upcoming Planning Retreat scheduled for February 5, 2019.

Commissioner Bullock asked that Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action be included on that agenda as well.

Commissioner Cogdell stated that he now had a conflict with the scheduled date of February 5 and asked if the meeting could be rescheduled. Chairman Peterson indicated that it would be discussed during Mr. Martin's calendar review.

Chairman Peterson asked that Mr. Martin submit a letter of concern to the NC Department of Transportation regarding projects to improve and widen NC 87. He stated that he understood that those projects had been moved down the priority list and may now be scheduled for 2026. Commissioner Dowless was asked to contact Mr. Martin when he receives additional information so that correspondence can be properly submitted.

ITEM 7. Health and Human Services Agency: (Wayne Raynor, Director)

Chairman Peterson expressed appreciation to Mr. Raynor for his tenure as Interim Director and for his leadership. Mr. Raynor expressed appreciation as well. Mr. Raynor stated that he would be working alongside Ms. Terri Duncan to assure ease of transition during the month of February.

A. Mr. Raynor presented a Health and Human Services Agency Advisory Committee Operating Procedures for review and approval. He stated that there were no changes since the previous review. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously approved a Health and Human Services Agency Advisory Committee Operating Procedures.

B. Mr. Raynor provided a detailed overview of services provided by Division on Aging, Department of Social Services, Health Department, and Environmental Health during his 14-month tenure. He expressed appreciation and admiration of the HHSA staff, supervisors, department heads, and directors.

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

A. Oath of Office for Tax Assessor Renee Davis was moved to item 4A1 during the approval of Consent items.

B. Mrs. Davis provided a brief overview of a \$1,500 bid received for county-owned property (PIN # 1269-00-57-1720) located at 785 Barney Coe Road. Mrs. Davis stated that the county has invested \$6,400 in the property, which includes outstanding taxes, attorney fees, and advertising costs. Mrs. Davis introduced the bidder, Mr. Charles Coe, to provide additional information regarding the bid. Mr. Coe indicated that the property, which carries a tax

January 22, 2019

value of \$6,040, is a very small tract (.46 acres) and the elevation is very low. He stated that it was not feasible for building or for a trailer home. Mrs. Davis indicated that the property is designated as a buildable lot. Following discussion, Commissioner Gooden provided a motion to deny the \$1,500 bid for the property located at 785 Barney Coe Road. The motion died for lack of a second. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously tabled the topic.

ITEM 9. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)

- A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Financial Dashboard for the six-month period of time ending December 31, 2018. Commissioners Cogdell and Munn-Goins inquired regarding the state misdemeanor program income. Mrs. Coleman stated that the income is handled through the Finance Office and deposited into the General Fund. She stated that the funding offsets a portion of county costs associated with the misdemeanor program.

ITEM 10. Soil and Water Conservation: (Dean Morris, Director)

- A. In Mr. Morris' absence, Mrs. Coleman provided an overview of Change Order #1 in the amount of \$7,450 with Scott Cumbee of Safe Environmental related to a Bryant Swamp Stream Debris Removal Project. Mrs. Coleman stated that due to falling water levels, additional debris had been identified. She stated that including the Change Order, the total amount of the Bryant Swamp project is now \$29,502. She further explained that monies are available to fund the entire project. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board unanimously approved a Change Order #1 in the amount of \$7,450 with Scott Cumbee of Safe Environmental related to a Bryant Swamp Stream Debris Removal Project.

ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously reappointed Ethel Davis and, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed Sandra R. Guions to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 16, 2022.
- B. **Airport Appeals Board (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed Jeff Huff, Reynold Hester, and John Dove to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 22, 2022.
- C. **Bay Tree Lakes Fire Service District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously appointed Clark Valentiner and Byron Massey to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring November 3, 2021.
- D. **Health and Human Services Agency Advisory Council (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously appointed Tiffany Pait to an unexpired term, with the term expiring December 31, 2020.
- E. **Lisbon Rural Fire Protection District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed John Wayne Packer and George Barber to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 2, 2022.
- F. **Lumber River Workforce Development Board (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Munn-Goins, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously appointed Dr. Amanda Lee to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2021.

January 22, 2019

ITEM 12. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During February 18, 2019 Board Meeting:

- A. Bladen Community College Board of Trustees (1)
- B. Child Fatality Prevention Board (2)
- C. Lumber River Council of Governments Aging Advisory Board (6)
- D. Nursing Home Advisory Committee (3)

ITEM 13. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of January and February 2019. During a review of the calendar and upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously rescheduled a Planning Retreat for 10am on Wednesday, February 13, 2019. Jones Lake State Park has been identified as a potential meeting location.
- B. Mr. Martin provided a brief overview of a request for a Pre-Budget Hearing to allow citizens to provide feedback regarding county budget. He stated that has been the Board's practice over the last several years. Upon a motion by Commissioner Trivette, seconded by Commissioner Munn-Goins, the Board unanimously scheduled a FY 2019-2020 Pre-Budget Hearing for 6:30pm on Monday, February 18, 2019.
- C. Mr. Martin provided an overview of an upcoming Hometown Strong Initiative visit to Bladen County by state department representatives to hear from municipalities and county departments. The intent of the visit is for state officials and representatives to hear directly from department heads and municipalities regarding challenges, concerns, and opportunities. Mr. Martin stated that the county's portion of the meeting would convene at 10am on Tuesday, January 29, and is scheduled to be held at the Cape Fear Farmers Market.
- D. Mr. Martin provided an overview of a Homegrown Leaders Initiative which is sponsored by a Golden LEAF and Rural Center partnership. The intent of the initiative is to develop leadership in rural communities. Mr. Martin indicated his understanding that this initiative would lead to the next round of Golden LEAF Grant funding opportunities.

ITEM 14. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

ITEM 15. Closed Session:

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Trivette, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously entered Closed Session in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11(a)5 Real Property Purchase at 7:48pm.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Trivette, the Board unanimously exited Closed Session at 8:06pm.

Commissioner Cogdell provided information regarding Eastpointe and assessing needs in the county and communities. He asked that Board members be aware of forthcoming phone calls and contact to discuss unmet needs in the area.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gooden, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:07pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners