

**June 16, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 16, 2014 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

Daniel Dowless

G. Michael Cogdell

Wayne Edge

Delilah Blanks

Russell Priest

Excused: Billy Ray Pait

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 Gillespie the Board approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of Special Meeting on June 2, 2014.
- C. Minutes of Regular Meeting on June 2, 2014.
- D. Minutes of Special Meeting on June 9, 2014.
- E. Minutes of Special Meeting on June 10, 2014.
- F. Budget Amendments as follows:

**Library**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<b>106700.499</b>	Miscellaneous	4,583.60	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103630.011</b>	State NC Dept of Cultural Resources	4,583.60	

Collaboration Grant reimbursement.

**Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<b>106900.903</b>	To DSS	6,250.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriated	6,250.00	

To cover expenses related to Joblink.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<b>146100.689</b>	Energy Neighbor	452.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.031</b>	Energy Neighbor	452.00	

Authorization #16.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<b>1461006160.535</b>	Medicaid	79.70	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143591.010</b>	Client Refund	79.70	

EPICS drafts for April 2014.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<b>1461006160.650.002</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	924.38	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143190.028</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	924.38	

To cover current and future expenses.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<b>1461006160.650.002</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	20.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143190.028</b>	Child Abuse Awareness	20.00	

Donations for the Child Abuse Awareness fund.

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Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.650.003	Adult Abuse Awareness	82.50	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143190.029	Adult Abuse Awareness	82.50	

Donations for the Adult Abuse Awareness fund.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.650.003	Adult Abuse Awareness	340.50	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143190.029	Adult Abuse Awareness	340.50	

Donations for the Adult Abuse Awareness fund.

Solid Waste

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
205800.126	Part-time salaries	2,500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
203190.050	Fund Balance Appropriated	2,500.00	

Funds for part-time/seasonal position.

G. County Attorney Invoice:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>
6/01/14	Jun-14 Retainer	\$ 300.00
6/05/14	CHAF Properties	\$ 525.00
6/13/14	Solid Waste	\$ 525.00
6/13/14	Health & Human Services	\$ 575.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,925.00</b>

- H. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 5-14, incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.
- I. Authorize County Manager to Approve Budget Amendments Through June 30, 2014.
- J. Scrap Tire Recycling and Disposal Contract with Central Carolina Holdings, LLC.
- K. US Cellular Wireless Service Agreement for Health and Human Services
- L. Proclamation Recognizing Arrelia McMillan High Upon Reaching Her 111<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- M. Award Concession Stand/Restroom Construction Project Related to PARTF Project to Dewey Shaw at a cost of \$79,000
- N. Fireworks Display at Goldston's Beach on July 4, 2014 or Undetermined Rain Date in Accordance with NCGS 14:410-413.
- O. Fireworks Display at Bay Tree Lakes on July 5, 2014 or Undetermined Rain Date in Accordance with NCGS 14:410-413.
- P. Business Associate Agreement Regarding Medicare Surveys for HIPAA Compliance with Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCare Center.
- Q. Business Associate Agreement Regarding Medicare Surveys for HIPAA Compliance with The Jackson Group.
- R. Professional Service Agreement for Physical Therapy Services with Laralyn King d/b/a Bladen Therapy Solutions, LLC.
- S. Professional Services Agreement for Speech Therapy Services with Amy Nolan d/b/a Therapy Works.

**ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:**

Commissioner Peterson asked the Board to consider requesting the Board of Elections to include a sales tax referendum on the upcoming general election in November. After discussion, upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board approved to request an additional one-quarter percent (0.25%) sales and use tax advisory referendum to be included on the ballot during the November 2014 general election. The motion passed by a vote of six (6) AYES (Peterson, Priest, Smith, Gillespie, Dowless, Edge) to two (2) NOES (Cogdell, Blanks).

A. Chairman Smith recognized the family members in attendance of Arrelia McMillan High. He presented the newly adopted Proclamation in honor and

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recognition of Mrs. High reaching her 111<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Clerk to the Board read aloud the Proclamation.

**ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address the Commissioners:**

No one in attendance wished to address the Board.

**ITEM 5. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)**

- A. Mrs. Coleman provided an overview of the county's financial status for the eleven-month period ending May 31, 2014.

**ITEM 6. Solid Waste Department: (Robert Mazur, Operations Director)**

- A. Mr. Mazur presented a Solid Waste Disposal Fee Waiver Policy for review and consideration. Included with the policy was a proposed "Information Request for Disposal Fee Exemption" form, which will be required to be filled out and submitted by the applicant. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the Solid Waste Disposal Fee Waiver Policy and "Information Request for Disposal Fee Exemption" form.
- B. Mr. Mazur provided information and an Exemption form received from Mr. Edward McKoy who lost his home to a fire on May 8, 2014. After discussion, upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously approved the disposal fee waiver for construction and demolition debris from Mr. McKoy's home.

**ITEM 7. Revenue Department: (Chris Ellis, Tax Administrator)**

- A. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Tim Cain provided a brief update regarding the progress of the revaluation process. Mr. Cain stated that he expected to request a Public Hearing related to findings within the next 6-7 weeks. He shared a truncated Revaluation schedule with the Board. Mr. Cain asked the Board to let civic clubs in their districts know that Mr. Cain and Mr. Ellis would like to provide information in communities throughout the county.

**ITEM 8. Health and Human Services Agency: (Cris Harrelson, Director)**

- A. Mr. Harrelson provided an overview of a proposed software contract with iWorq for the Environmental Health, Building Inspections and Planning Departments. Mr. Harrelson stated that this software has been recommended for several key reasons: price, platform, compatibility with other departments and ease of future expansion to additional departments and features. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the iWorq Software Contract.

**ITEM 9. Emergency Services: (Bradley Kinlaw, Director)**

- A. In Mr. Kinlaw's absence, County Manager Greg Martin presented a proposed Medical Director's Contract for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. There was no proposed increase in the term of the contract. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the Medical Director's Contract as presented.

**ITEM 10. Bladen County Water District**

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board unanimously entered a session as Water District Board of Directors.
- B. Water District Manager Randy Garner and LKC Engineering representative Adam Kiker presented bids received regarding construction of a water line to connect the new well at White's Crossroads to the elevated storage tank. Of the three respondents, Bill's Well Drilling was the low bidder (\$85,060). The other bids were received from McArthur Construction at \$97,431.75 and Herring-Rivenbark at \$132,788.31. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously awarded the project to Bill's Well Drilling.

- C. Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board exited the session as Water District Board of Directors.

**ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. **Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board appointed Doretta Lennon to fill Aaron Cox's unexpired term (term expiration of 6/30/16), appointed Stephen Harrelson as the West Bladen High School representative, with a term expiration of 6/30/2016.
- B. **Animal Control Board (4):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Mike Jackson and Mark Moore and appointed Sonya King Edge with term expiration dates of 6/30/17; and tabled the fourth appointment until a future meeting.
- C. **Bladen Community College Board of Trustees (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board appointed Commissioner Wayne Edge and Charlotte Smith, with term expiration dates of 6/30/18.
- D. **Carvers Creek Fire Service District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board reappointed Mike Jacobs and appointed Wendell Brown, with term expiration dates of 6/30/17.
- E. **Hickory Grove Fire Service District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Charles McKeel and Clifton Townsend, with term expiration dates of 6/30/17.
- F. **Kelly Fire Service District Committee (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Carolyn Cromartie, Jerry Potter and William Henry Corbett, with term expiration dates of 6/30/17.
- G. **Local Emergency Planning Committee (21):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board tabled appointments until a future meeting.
- H. **Lumber River Workforce Development Board (4):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board reappointed Barbara Knight, Kelly Bennett, Mary Bellamy and Jeffrey S. Fleming, with term expiration dates of 6/30/16.
- I. **Bladen County Recreation Board (4):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Kevin McLean, Billy Thompson, William Corbett and Chris Tatum, with term expiration dates of 6/30/17.
- J. **Tar Heel Fire Service District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Eddie Knight and Dailey Council, with terms expiring 6/30/17.
- K. **Tobermory Fire Service District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Miriam Penfield and appointed Laura Willis, with terms expiring 6/30/17.
- L. **White Oak Fire Service District Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Larry Sessoms and appointed Jake Bedsole, with terms expiring 6/30/17.

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**M. Bladen County Planning Board (3):**

**N. Bladen County Zoning Board of Adjustment (3):**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board, waiving the policy on terms, reappointed Margaret Lawrence and Dan Ward, and reappointed Ronnie McLean to both the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment, with terms expiring 6/30/16.

**ITEM 12. County Manager: Greg Martin**

A. Mr. Martin reviewed the Board calendars for June and July, 2014.

B. As requested at a recent Board meeting, Mr. Martin and County Attorney Leslie Johnson met and discussed the Crisis Housing Assistance Fund (CHAF) deeds of trust. The CHAF program was made available to individuals whose homes were damaged during Hurricane Floyd in 1999. The ten-year term associated with these Deeds of Trust has expired.

Mr. Martin attempted to contact the CHAF program numerous times with no response. It appears that the program has been discontinued and shutdown.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board unanimously authorized County Attorney Leslie Johnson to cancel the Deeds of Trust associated with the Crisis Housing Assistance Fund.

C. Mr. Martin stated that the Tar Heel Water Corporation asked for assistance with their water system during a state inspection when it was determined that there could be an issue of water shortages.

Approximately 1.5 years ago, the Bladen County Water District installed an emergency water connection at a cost of approximately \$16,000 to alleviate the identified issue, with the understanding that Bladen County Water District would begin to operate the Tar Heel water system. The Tar Heel Water Corporation ultimately decided to retain ownership of the water system.

Mr. Martin sent correspondence requesting payment for the emergency connection with no payment received to date.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously authorized County Manager Greg Martin to send a letter offering to establish a payment plan for the Tar Heel Water Corporation to reimburse the County for the cost of the emergency water connection.

D. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board designated Chairman Jimmie Smith as the Voting Delegate for the Annual NACo Conference, to be held in New Orleans, on July 11 through July 14, 2014, with the understanding that Chairman Smith will appoint either Commissioner Cogdell or Commissioner Edge should he not be able to attend the conference.

Commissioner Peterson suggested that the County Manager set up a rotation of Commissioners to attend conferences so that everyone will have an opportunity to attend certain conferences while limiting the number of commissioners who attend each conference. Upon discussion, Chairman Smith stated that this matter can be discussed at a later date.

E. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest the Board scheduled a Special Meeting for Tuesday, June 24, 2014 at 5:30pm regarding the FY 2014-2015 Budget.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm.

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James G. Smith, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board