

September 15, 2014

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, September 15, 2014 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

- James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Chairman
- Mark Gillespie
- Charles Ray Peterson
- Billy Ray Pait
- G. Michael Cogdell
- Wayne Edge
- Delilah Blanks
- Russell Priest

Excused: Daniel Dowless

Attorney: Leslie 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 Regular Meeting on September 2, 2014.
- C. Budget Amendments as follows:

Health

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1059005930.120	Salaries	36,670.00	
1059005930.121	Longevity	1,025.00	
1059005930.122	Bonus	174.00	
1059005930.181	FICA	2,897.00	
1059005930.182	Retirement	2,678.00	
1059005930.183	Group Insurance	3,739.00	
1059005930.185	Retiree Health Insurance	2,079.00	
1059005930.321	Telephone	160.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.053	Fund Balance Appropriated – Health	49,422.00	

Moving vacant position to clinical services from Home Health.

Health

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1059005960.499.052	Car Seat Grant	877.05	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.172	Car Seat Grant – Safe Kids	877.05	

Safe Kids Car Seat Grant from State.

Health

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1059005970.120	Salaries		37,695.00
1059005970.122	Bonus		174.00
1059005970.181	FICA		2,897.00
1059005970.182	Retirement		2,678.00
1059005970.185	Retiree Health Insurance		2,079.00
1059005970.183	Group Insurance		3,739.00
1059005970.321	Telephone		160.00
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.053	Fund Balance Appropriated – Health		49,422.00

Moving vacant position to clinical services.

Administration

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
106900.904	To EMS	182,560.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriated	182,560.00	

Rollover unspent loan proceeds for ambulances.

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Emergency Medical Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
325302.741	Capital Outlay – Vehicle	182,560.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
323422.002	Fm General Fund	182,560.00	

Rollover unspent loan proceeds for ambulances.

D. County Attorney Invoices:

Date	Department	Amount
9/1/14	Sept-14 Retainer	\$ 300.00
9/3/14	E M S	\$ 6,475.00
	Total	\$ 6,775.00

- E. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 8-14, incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes.
- F. Administration Code for Hepatitis Vaccine.
- G. 2015 Holiday Schedule
- H. 2015 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule
- I. Clinical Renewal Agreement with Fayetteville State University.
- J. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation.

ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Commissioner Peterson shared with the Board that the drainage study in the Butters/Richardson area is progressing. A presentation regarding the study will be on an upcoming agenda.

Due to Mrs. Marjorie Walker's absence and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, a presentation of a Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation was unanimously tabled until a future meeting.

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

No one in attendance wished to address the Board.

ITEM 5. General Services: (Robert Mazur, Director)

- A. Mr. Mazur presented a proposed termination of a Monitor and Verification agreement with Energy Systems Group, LLC (ESG). ESG monitored and verified savings associated with a guaranteed energy savings project. This agreement was in force for sixty-seven (67) months. During that time, Bladen County paid ESG \$39,818 for their services, while saving \$607,524. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved to terminate the agreement with Energy Systems Group, LLC for monitoring and verification services.

ITEM 6. Revenue Department: (Chris Ellis, Tax Administrator)

- A. Mr. Ellis provided an overview of a .25-acre tract of land (Parcel 0007493), located at 108 South Page Road, in Clarkton. This parcel was foreclosed in September 2009, with a total of \$2,677.81 in associated expenses. Mr. Max Troy has submitted a bid to purchase the parcel for \$2,800. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the sale of County-owned property (Parcel 0007493), a .25-acre tract of land to Mr. Max Troy for a total of \$2,800.

ITEM 7. Health and Human Services Agency: (Cris Harrelson, Director)

- A. Mr. Harrelson asked the Board's consideration in approving the shift of a vacant Home Health nurse position to Clinical Services. Mr. Harrelson stated that he had been monitoring staffing levels for 2 months. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved the shift of a Home Health nurse position to Clinical Services.

ITEM 8. Emergency Medical Services: (David Howell, Interim Chief)

- A. Mr. Howell presented an agreement with ESO for consideration by the Board. The services provided include electronic medical charting for EMS, including mobile software, updates and support. The current provider has filed for bankruptcy protection and its future is uncertain. Mr. Howell stated that approximately 98% of eastern NC counties have transitioned to ESO. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved the agreement with ESO.
- B. Mr. Howell also presented an amendment to an agreement with EMS Management and Consultants, Inc. (EMSMC). The amendment will allow Bladen County to remit service charges to EMSMC on behalf of ESO Solutions for electronic charting software. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved the amendment with EMSMC.

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Animal Control Board (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed veterinarian Dr. Erin Barney White for a term of three years, with the term expiring June 30, 2017.
- B. **Keep Bladen Beautiful (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously tabled appointments to a future meeting.
- C. **Lower Cape Fear Water Sewer Authority (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously reappointed Larry Johnson and Wayne Edge to three year terms, with the terms expiring September 15, 2017.
- D. **Voluntary Agricultural Districts Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously reappointed Ralph Carter to a three-year term, with the term expiring September 30, 2017.
- E. **Library Board (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Shonteia Keaton to fill an unexpired term, with the term expiring December 31, 2015.
- F. **Lumber River Council of Governments Region N Aging Advisory Council (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously appointed Shonteia Keaton to fill an unexpired term, with the term expiring February 18, 2016.
- G. **East Arcadia Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Cathy King to a one year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed Calene Brown to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.
- H. **Bay Tree Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Albert Beatty to a one year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed Lenox Harrelson to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.
- I. **Kelly Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Bobby Lee Russ to a one year term of

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service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed Jerry Potter to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.

J. Lisbon Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2): Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Dan Alford to a one year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed George Barber to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.

K. Tar Heel Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2): Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Eddie Knight to a one year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed Terry Herring to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.

L. Tobermory Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2): Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Clyde Whitted to a one year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed David Musselwhite to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.

M. White Oak Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (2): Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously appointed Ryan Varley to a one year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2015; and appointed David Price to a two-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.

ITEM 10. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

A. Mr. Martin reviewed calendars for the months of September and October, 2014.

B. Mr. Martin reviewed the list of potential Legislative Goals to be submitted to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) for consideration during its deliberative process. The deadline for submittals by counties is Friday, September 19. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the following goals to be submitted to the NCACC:

- Compensate counties for property acquired by the state and removed from the ad valorem tax base.
- Include Bladen County in NCGS 14-111.3, regarding unneeded ambulance requests. By doing so, every person convicted of violating this section shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.
- The ability to share client information between DSS and Health departments.
- Provide authority to counties to increase sales tax without a required voter referendum.
- Reinstate ADM and lottery funds for public school construction.
- Provide increased grant funding for rural infrastructure projects, including roads, water, sewer, natural gas and industrial building development.
- Restore Golden LEAF funding for rural, formerly tobacco-dependent, counties.
- Develop comprehensive economic development incentive programs.
- Support the public behavioral health managed care organization model currently in place. As the General Assembly considers options for reshaping the state's Medicaid system, it is in the best interest to maintain the current MCO model. The LME/MCOs across the state are proving to be highly effective in responding to their mandates to ensure high-quality services while containing costs. This has produced Medicaid budget predictability on the behavioral health side and \$153 million in system savings since the implementation of MCO operations statewide.
- Increase Medicaid reimbursement to counties for EMS services.

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- Support the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina to improve access to care, save lives, and increase funding for health care providers which in turn, saves and adds jobs
- Address local health departments' ability to charge for water testing services regarding G.S. 130A-39(g), which prohibits boards of health from charging fees for state-mandated programs except on-site, pools and tattoos. (Alternatively, the state can continue to provide the water tests at no cost and LHDs can continue to provide the manpower at no cost.)
- Restore all funding from the Women's & Children's Health Block Grant to local public health in order to provide intended evidence-based programs in local communities for women and children
- Support the recommendation to raise state tax on tobacco, including electronic cigarettes to the national average
- Support using Master Settlement funds for public health to provide evidence-based tobacco prevention and cessation programs
- Prioritize sustainability of local AID-to-County funds for local health departments
- Oppose any bill or amendment that weakens the ability of local health departments to protect and promote the public's health

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

James G. Smith, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners