

**June 5, 2013**

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at 5:00 pm regarding FY 2013-2014 Budget and Economic Development matters.

Members present were:

James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Chairman

Mark Gillespie, Vice-Chairman

Delilah Blanks

Charles Peterson

Daniel Dowless

Russell Priest

Michael Cogdell

Wayne Edge

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order and provided an invocation. County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board entered Closed Session in accordance with NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4).

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board exited Closed Session.

County Manager Greg Martin reviewed several proposed staff changes to the budget since it was originally presented.

There was discussion regarding the proposal to eliminate the allocation to the four rescue squads in Bladen County. County Manager Greg Martin stated that during a meeting earlier in the week, it was agreed upon that rescue squad chiefs and County staff will meet in January to determine the level of off-setting savings associated with oxygen purchases as well as additional revenue generated by billing for paramedic service.

Commissioners Dowless left the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Commissioner Pait left the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

County Manager Greg Martin stated that Bladen Community College received a recent quote of \$24,000.00 for sidewalk repairs. The commissioners agreed to maintain the \$15,000.00 capital appropriation, as proposed, and agreed for it to be used for sidewalk repairs rather than door replacements.

There was discussion regarding funding for the vacant tax clerk position, as requested by Revenue Director Chris Ellis.

Lieutenant Jeff Singletary informed the Board of possible State funding for a VIPER communications tower to be constructed on County property located on Bivens Bridge Road. This tower is needed to provide better radio service for the eastern portion of the county.

Commissioner Peterson discussed the need for funding for capital improvements to Bladen County Schools. The county manager was requested to contact the superintendent regarding a meeting to further discuss school capital needs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Priest, and approved to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

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James G. Smith, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Gregory J. Martin, Deputy Clerk