

**June 24, 2014**

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the Commissioners Room regarding FY 2014-2015 Budget.

Members present were:

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

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order and provided an invocation.

County Manager Greg Martin reviewed changes to the budget since the proposed budget was originally presented. These revisions increase the budget by \$372,822.

County Manager Greg Martin shared an email received from Bladen Community College President William Findt regarding the College's request for funding a full-time security position. The Board did not take any action regarding the request to fund a full-time on-campus security position.

Following discussion, Commissioner Blanks made a motion to budget \$20,000 to North Carolina's Southeast, a service agency, and to not retain membership in the Fort Bragg Regional Alliance (BRAC), formerly known as the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission. Commissioner Peterson provided a second. The motion was discussed further and a replacement motion was made by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, to budget \$20,000 to North Carolina's Southeast and to further discuss BRAC's support after an upcoming BRAC meeting. The motion passed by a vote of eight (8) AYES (Smith, Gillespie, Cogdell, Blanks, Priest, Dowless, Pait, Edge) to one (1) NO (Peterson).

There was additional discussion regarding North Carolina's Southeast and its recent conversion from a State funded entity to a private non-profit partnership and its dues calculation. Currently, county membership dues are a set amount, regardless of the county size and financial ability. The Board voiced its wish for North Carolina's Southeast to review its method for determining membership dues.

Bladen County Schools request was received and discussed at a prior meeting, with no action taken during that meeting regarding the budget request.

Following discussion regarding Bladen County Schools' request and State budget cuts, Commissioner Priest made a motion to increase the FY 2014-15 School current expense appropriation by an additional \$218,000. A second was provided by Commissioner Edge and the motion passed unanimously. The FY 2014-2015 Current Expense appropriation will total \$6,400,245.

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to increase the appropriation to Bladen Community College in the amount of \$10,000. The motion died for lack of a second.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the following FY 2014-15 Budget Ordinance was unanimously adopted:

The image shows five pages of a budget ordinance document. The first page is the cover page, titled "Annual Operating Budget Ordinance Bladen County, North Carolina Budget Ordinance FY 2014-2015". It includes the Bladen County seal and a list of the Board of Commissioners: James G. "Jimmie" Smith (Chairman), Mark A. Gillespie (Vice-Chairman), Delilah Blanks, Billy Ray Pait, Daniel Dowless, Russell Priest, Michael Cogdell, Wayne Edge, and Charles Peterson. The following four pages contain detailed budget tables, including a summary table and several schedules of expenditures and revenues.

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Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the meeting was adjourned at 5:57pm.

ATTEST:

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James G. Smith, Chairman

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board