

**STANLY COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 4, 2016**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

T. Scott Efird, Chairman  
Bill Lawhon, Vice Chairman  
Peter Ascitutto (Left at 7:25 p.m.)  
Joseph Burleson  
Tony Dennis  
Janet K. Lowder  
Gene McIntyre

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Andy Lucas, County Manager  
Jenny Furr, County Attorney  
Tyler Brummitt, Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Stanly County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") met in regular session on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Efird called the meeting to order and Vice Chairman Lawhon provided the invocation and leading the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

With no adjustments to the agenda, Commissioner Dennis moved to approve it as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Burleson. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**ITEM # 1 – PRESENTATION REGARDING STANLY COUNTY'S 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**Presenter: Pat Bramlett, Celebration Committee**

Mrs. Pramlett provided an overview of the programs and events scheduled during the coming year as part of Stanly County's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. During the presentation, Mrs. Bramlett also recognized the committee members in attendance for their part in helping to plan these events as well.

The presentation was for information only and required no action.

## **ITEM # 2 – ¼ CENT SALES TAX REFERENDUM UPDATE**

### **Presenter: Commissioner Asciutto**

Commissioner Asciutto thanked Chairman Efird for his help in promoting the sales tax referendum by attending meetings in Red Cross, Stanfield, Locust and Richfield. He also noted that while attending the Norwood Town Council meeting, he was disappointed when Commissioner Burleson was there and spoke against it. To get the word out, Commissioner Asciutto also mentioned plans to attend the City of Albemarle's meeting later that night, meetings in Misenheimer and Badin as well as the school board and fire chiefs meetings. He encouraged other Board members to do the same.

In response, Commissioner Burleson stated that he had attended the Norwood City Council meeting at their request to explain why he had voted against the referendum. For clarification, he stated that he cannot support the referendum since the funds are designated for public education with no specific purpose included and also because the School Board has not agreed to halt the closing of community schools if the referendum passes. Commissioner Burleson stated that with construction dollars and the county tax base continuing to increase, additional funds will be available without having to increase any tax rate.

As a point of order, Commissioner Dennis noted that the Board voted 5 – 2 in support of the ¼ cent sales tax referendum and that if a commissioner is unable to support it, then he or she should address it as an individual and not as a representative of the Board of Commissioners.

## **ITEM # 3 – STANLY COUNTY UTILITIES**

### **Presenter: Donna Davis, Utilities Director**

#### **A. Alonzo Road Master Meter and Vault Project**

Stanly County Utilities solicited bids for construction services to install a master meter and vault on Alonzo Road to separate the St. Martin Road waterline from the Town of Oakboro water system. Three (3) bids were received and staff recommended the contract be awarded to RDR, Inc. of Locust, North Carolina in the amount of \$48,715. It was also requested that the associated project ordinance and budget amendments # 2016-22 and #2016-23 be approved as well.

Vice Chairman Lawhon moved to approve the contract award to RDR, Inc. of Locust, NC, the project ordinance and associated budget amendments. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis and carried by unanimous vote.

#### **B. Cottonville Waterline Relocation Project**

Stanly County Utilities solicited bids for construction services to relocate the waterline along Cottonville Road to accommodate a NC Department of Transportation upgrade. With three (3) bids received, staff recommended the contract be awarded to SKS, Inc. of Seagrove, North Carolina in the amount of \$50,475 pending an executed reimbursement agreement from the NC Department of Transportation.

By motion, Commissioner McIntyre moved to award the contract as requested and was seconded by Commissioner Lowder. The motion passed with a 7 – 0 vote.

#### **ITEM # 4 – GREATER BADIN WATER & SEWER DISTRICT**

**Presenter: Donna Davis, Utilities Director**

Prior to the presentation, Commissioner Dennis moved to recess the meeting of the Stanly County Board of Commissioners and reconvene as the Greater Badin Water & Sewer District Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burleson and carried unanimously.

The Greater Badin Water & Sewer District solicited bids for construction services to install Part B of the Badin District water system project. Of the seven (7) bids received, staff recommended the contract be awarded to Hawley Construction Company, Inc. of West Kenly, North Carolina in the amount of \$3,487,405.

Commissioner Dennis moved to award the contract to Hawley Construction Company, Inc. and was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre. Prior to the vote, Vice Chairman Lawhon asked if Hawley Construction Company would be required to be bonded. Director Davis replied yes since all construction companies are required to be bonded for county projects.

With a motion and second, Chairman Efird called for a vote. The motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

Vice Chairman Lawhon moved to recess the meeting of the Greater Badin Water & Sewer District Board and to reconvene the regular meeting of the Stanly County Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and passed unanimously.

At 7:25 p.m., Commissioner Ascitutto left the meeting to attend the City of Albemarle's council meeting.

#### **ITEM # 5 – APPOINTMENT TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Presenter: Commissioner Lowder**

For Board consideration, it was requested that the Board reappoint current member Wes Morgan (Northern District) for a two (2) year term until January 4, 2018.

Commissioner Lowder moved to approve the reappointment and was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre. Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

#### **ITEM # 6 – BOARD’S ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING**

**Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager**

The County Manager requested Board consideration and approval of a one-day planning retreat to discuss the current year, set priorities for the next year and beyond, and consider the assistance of a contracted facilitator for the day. Potential dates for the retreat are Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

After several Board members stated their consensus to hire an outside facilitator, Commissioner Burleson disagreed stating he feels the Board can talk amongst themselves with the County Manager’s help. He noted that during last year’s retreat, he felt the facilitator was unfamiliar with Stanly County and that she also interrupted several discussions that needed to take place in order to stay on schedule.

Commissioner McIntyre disagreed stating the County Manager has facilitated retreats in the past which puts him in the difficult position of having to referee Board discussions. An outside facilitator is better able to control and lead the Board during those discussions and if needed, the Board can control the interruptions in order to continue with any discussion taking place.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Dennis moved to schedule the retreat for Friday, February 12, 2016 and to contract with a facilitator for the day. His motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Lawhon. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **ITEM # 7 – CONSENT AGENDA**

**Presenter: Chairman Efirm**

- A. Minutes – Regular meeting of December 7, 2015
- B. Social Services – Request approval of budget amendment # 2016-19
- C. RPO – Request approval of the enclosed update to the Local Coordinated Plan.
- D. Finance – Request acceptance of the Monthly Financial Report for Five Months Ended November 30, 2015.
- E. Finance – Request approval of the attached vehicle tax refunds.
- F. Sheriff’s Office – Request approval of budget amendment # 2016-20.

- G. Register of Deeds – Request approval of the resolution to establish a “Thank You for Your Service “ Day for our veterans
- H. Health – Request approval of budget amendment # 2016-21

Commissioner Dennis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Lawhon and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**BOARD COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

As positive economic news, Vice Chairman Lawhon reported that through November 30, 2015, the County has issued 136 building permits for a total value of \$24 million which is double that of the previous year.

Commissioner Burleson wished everyone a prosperous new year.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Dennis moved to recess the meeting into closed session in order to discuss a personnel issue in accordance with G. S. 143-318.11(a)(6). His motion was seconded by Commissioner Burleson and passed unanimously at 7:32 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Commissioner Burleson moved to approve the maximum merit pay of \$1,750 for the County Manager. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis and carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

**ADJOURN**

With no further items presented for discussion, Commissioner Dennis moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Burleson. The motion carried with a 6 – 0 vote at 7:46 p.m.

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**Terry Scott Efird, Chairman**

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**Tyler Brummitt, Clerk**