

**STANLY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2015**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman
Tony Dennis, Vice Chairman
Peter Ascitutto
Joseph Burleson
T. Scott Efir
Bill Lawhon
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, April 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Lowder called the meeting to order with Commissioner Efir giving the invocation and leading the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Chairman Lowder requested the following amendments be made to the agenda:

- Item # 5 – Pull the Design-Build Services Contract for the Stanly Community College Cosmetology Project, and replace it with the Library's Report on the City Hall Annex Feasibility Study listed as item # 6
- Add the FY 2015-16 Stanly County School Budget Presentation as Item # 6

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ascitutto and passed by unanimous vote.

REQUEST TO ABSTAIN FROM VOTING

Commissioner Lawhon requested approval to abstain from voting on Item # 1 – Public Hearing for Ridgecrest VFD’s Request for Board Approval of Tax-Exempt Financing, and Item # 4 – Stanly Community College’s Cosmetology Facility Financing Related Items due to being an employee of Uwharrie Bank and therefore having a conflict of interest.

Commissioner McIntyre moved to excuse Commissioner Lawhon from voting on Items # 1 and #4. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Ascitutto and carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

ITEM # 1 – PUBLIC HEARING – RIDGECREST VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT’S REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF TAX EXEMPT FINANCING

Presenters: Neil Senter, Uwharrie Bank, Chief Rick Eudy & Treasurer Mike Thompson

On behalf of Ridgecrest Volunteer Fire Department, Mr. Senter of Uwharrie Bank stated the purpose of the new loan is to refinance and consolidate two (2) existing loans – one with the USDA for \$280,536 and a second with the Bank of North Carolina for \$58,687.97. The new loan in the amount of \$340,000 will be offered at a tax-free fixed rate of 2.50 % for an eight (8) year term with monthly payments of \$3,911.31. This will save the fire department approximately \$995 per month based on the current loan payments. As collateral, Uwharrie Bank will file a lien against a 2007 Pierce Enforcer Fire Truck and a first deed of trust on the property located at 24792 Millingport Road, Locust, NC. Board approval of the associated resolution was requested as part of the documentation required to approve the issuance of a note from Ridgecrest VFD to Uwharrie Bank.

Chairman Lowder declared the public hearing open. With no one coming forward to speak for or against, the hearing was closed.

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the associated resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Burleson. Motion passed with a 6 – 0 vote. (Commissioner Lawhon abstained.)

See Exhibit A

**Resolution Approving the Issuance of a Note of
Ridgecrest Volunteer Fire Department, Incorporated
to Uwharrie Bank and Designating such Note as a
“Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligation”**

**ITEM # 2 – E-911 – PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE NAMING OF A PRIVATE DRIVE OFF RAYMONDS
RIDGE LANE**

Presenter: Brandy Webster, E-911 Database Coordinator

At the request of E-911, a public hearing was held to name a private drive located off Raymonds Ridge Lane approximately ten (10) feet west of the Wyatt Road intersection. The reason for naming the drive is to clarify any confusion that may occur when emergency response personnel respond to a call in the area. Based on the responses received by E-911, all property owners selected the proposed name of Old Wyatt Road.

Chairman Lowder declared the public hearing open. With no one coming forward, the hearing was closed.

By motion, Commissioner Efird moved to approve the name of Old Wyatt Road and was seconded by Commissioner Ascitutto. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 3 – PRESENTATION BY THE WALTER B. HILL AMERICAN LEGION POST 76

Presenters: Pattie Huneycutt, President

Cal Massingale, 1st Vice Commander

Marvin Bost, Advisor/Supporter of the Fair Association

Several members of Post 76 provided an overview of the various activities and programs sponsored throughout the year. One of the events noted was the Stanly County Agricultural Fair where money raised provides aid to local veterans, supports the American Legion baseball team as well as Boy Scout Troup 29 with their Explorer and Cub Scout Packs. The post also participates in events which educate and support agriculture and Americanism.

The item was for information only and required no action.

ITEM # 4 – PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (SCC) COSMETOLOGY FACILITY FINANCING RELATED ITEMS

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

Stanly County and Stanly Community College (SCC) have been collaborating on the planning, design and construction of a new cosmetology facility on SCC's Albemarle Campus. The project will be financed by the County with the County taking ownership of the building and land. The County plans to reduce its annual current expense allocation by an amount equal to the debt service payments for the new facility and equipment. Once the debt is paid in full, the building and land will be deeded back to the college.

Per NCGS 160A-20, the Board held the required public hearing prior to entering into an installment financing agreement for the facility. Additionally, the Local Government Commission requires approval of two (2) resolutions: one to approve the financing application and a second to authorize the new financing agreement with a financial institution.

Chairman Lowder declared the public hearing open. With no one coming forward to speak, the hearing was closed.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the following items:

- A resolution authorizing the filing of an application to the Local Government Commission for approval of a financing agreement authorized by NCGS 160A-20.
- A resolution authorizing the new financing agreement for the construction of the new facility and associated equipment with the recommended financial institution based on the lowest borrowing cost.
- Authorize staff to negotiate any changes to said resolutions in the best interest of the County.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ascutto and passed with a vote of 6 – 0. (Commissioner Lawhon abstained.)

See Exhibit B

**Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Approval
of a Financing Agreement Authorized by NCGS 160A-20**

See Exhibit C

**Resolution A Approving A Proposal From Uwharrie Bank To Provide Financing
Through An Installment Financing Contract In The Amount Of \$2,232,000 To Finance The
Construction Of A New Cosmetology Facility & Associated Equipment For Use By
Stanly Community College & Authorizing the Execution & Delivery Of Related Instruments**

ITEM # 5 – LIBRARY – REPORT FROM THE CITY HALL ANNEX FEASIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE

Presenter: Melanie Holles, Library Director

Last fall, the Board of Commissioners and the Albemarle City Council approved a request for the library to establish a committee to conduct a feasibility study to consider relocating the Stanly County Museum and the library Heritage Room to the vacant Albemarle City Hall Annex. The request came due to limited space and issues with leakage in the current museum building. The committee was in attendance to present the results of that study.

Ms. Holles stated that at the previous Albemarle City Council meeting, the council agreed to enter into a long term lease with the County for use of the Albemarle City Hall Annex building for \$1 (one dollar) per annum with the City continuing to insure the building. Other expenses associated with the building include average utility costs of \$950 per month (or \$11,400 annually) and a service contract with ThyssenKrupp for the elevator at \$175 per quarter (or

\$1,615 annually) for a total amount of \$13,015 annually. The City of Albemarle agreed to provide these funds in the form of grant monies.

The committee requested the County's consideration to provide funding for the following expenses associated with the relocation: HVAC repairs of \$6,000, roof repairs of \$700, improved lighting for the exhibit areas of \$3,000, removal of the Dias and floor covering replacement of \$3,000, new flooring in front entry of \$4,000, installation of a new internet switch of \$3,000, signage cost of \$2,000 and expenses for shelving, furniture, etc. of \$3,300 bringing the total amount requested to \$25,000.

Following the presentation, the Board asked numerous questions of Ms. Holles regarding the proposal.

Vice Chairman Dennis stated his support of the proposed relocation plan and moved to approve it as presented.

Commissioner Burleson then moved to table the item for further discussion during the upcoming budget process.

Commissioner Ascitutto seconded Vice Chairman Dennis' motion to allow for further discussion of the item.

Commissioner Burleson stated although he is not against the relocation, he cannot support spending the money at this time since it is not a life safety issue that needs immediate attention.

After another brief period of questions, Commissioner McIntyre agreed with Commissioner Burleson's comments stating he would prefer to table it for discussion during the budget workshops.

There being a motion and a second on the floor to approve the relocation plan as presented, Chairman Lowder called for a vote. Motion failed with a 5 – 2 vote.

Ayes: Vice Chairman Dennis, Commissioner Ascitutto

Nos: Chairman Lowder, Commissioner Burleson, Commissioner Efird, Commissioner Lawhon,
Commissioner McIntyre

Commissioner Burleson then moved to have this item reconsidered during the budget process and was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 6 – STANLY COUNTY SCHOOLS 2015-2016 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Presenters: Dr. Terry Griffin, Superintendent

Bill Josey, Chief Finance Officer

After a review of the 2014-15 school budget highlights, Dr. Griffin presented the Superintendent's recommended budget for FY 2015—16 which included the proposed academic enhancements for all 21 (twenty-one) schools and no school closures.

The budget request included the following items due to unfunded state mandates and state budget cuts totaling \$489,590:

- Drivers Education funding - \$169,634
- Salary & benefit rate increases for teacher salaries, retirement rate increase and health insurance rates for a total of \$203,289
- Funding for school resource officers (state grant expired) - \$116,667

Several one-time requests included in the proposed budget totaling \$415,000 were:

- Elementary STEM materials (\$5,000 per school at 11 schools) - \$55,000
- Middle School STEM Labs (3 needed at \$50,000 each – South Stanly has one but needs \$10,000 for updates) - \$160,000
- Middle School STEM materials (\$50,000 per school) - \$200,000

Continuing budget requests totaling \$1,493,285 included:

- Elementary after-school tutorials (\$10,000 per school at 11 schools) - \$110,000
- Middle School Enrichment (STEM & Careers) - \$6,000
- Middle School Foreign Language - \$112,397
- Middle School Curriculum Coach for each school - \$224,794
- Middle School AIG (1/2 teacher needed) - \$28,099
- Middle School after-school tutorials - \$40,000
- High School – 4 teaching positions to support added course offerings at 4 high schools - \$224,794
- High School Curriculum Coach (1 for each high school) - \$224,794
- 2 district –wide curriculum lead coaches - \$112,397
- Teacher supplements increased by \$100 per year - \$86,000
- Principal & Assistant Principal supplements increased by \$200 per year - \$6,600
- Maintenance salary increases to agree with State of NC salary scales - \$62,150
- Teacher Assistant hours increased from 7.5 back to 8 hours per day - \$173,860
- Coaching supplements - \$81,400

Based on the budget presented, \$2,197,875 in additional funding was requested over the previous fiscal year. The presentation was followed by a brief period of questions from the Board. No action was taken.

ITEM # 7 – RECOGNITION OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT’S RECEIPT OF THE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

Presenter: Chairman Lowder

Chairman Lowder took a moment to recognize Finance Director Toby Hinson and staff for their award and thanked them for their hard work.

ITEM # 8 – BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

A. Economic Development Commission

Presenter: Commissioner Lawhon

For consideration, it was requested the Board appoint the following replacements for seats that are currently vacant or will not be reappointed. Each appointment is for a two (2) year term to expire April 20, 2017:

- Appoint Wayne Sasser to fill the seat vacated by Scott Efird (West)
- Appoint Mike Laton to fill the seat vacated by Bill Lawhon, Jr. (East)
- Appoint Cindy Beane (currently At-Large) to fill the seat vacated by David Smith (Central)
- Appoint Stephen Chambers to fill the seat vacated by Gerald Poplin (Central)
- Appoint Kelley Huff to fill the seat vacated by Dr. Surendrapal Mac (North)
- Appoint Robbie Cohen to fill the seat vacated by Cindy Beane (At-Large)

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the appointments as requested and was seconded by Commissioner Burluson. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was also requested the following individuals be reappointed for two (2) year terms to serve until April 20, 2017:

- Larry Baucom (West)
- Charles Brown (East)
- Terry Whitley (South)
- Walter L. Davis, Jr. (South)

Commissioner Burluson moved to approve the appointments as indicated and was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis. Motion passed with a 7 – 0 vote.

B. CENTRALINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (CEDC) – BOARD OF DIRECTOR VACANCIES

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

Stanly County currently has a vacant public sector and private sector seat on the CEDC Board. EDC Director Paul Stratos, who currently holds the private sector seat, has agreed to serve again if reappointed.

By motion, Commissioner Burleson moved to reappoint Paul Stratos to the private sector seat and table the public sector appointment for further consideration. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis and carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 9 – PROCLAMATION DECLARING SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015 AS “STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE” DAY

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

For Board consideration, the County Manager presented the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION
“STAMP OUT FOOD HUNGER FOOD DRIVE” DAY
MAY 9, 2015

WHEREAS: Every year on the second Saturday in May, letter carriers across the country collect non-perishable food as part of the nation’s largest one-day food drive, distributing donations to local food banks; and

WHEREAS: The Stamp Out Food Hunger Food Drive is just one example of how letter carriers work to make a difference in the lives of those they serve. Since the pilot drive was held in 1991, more than a billion pounds of food have been collected; and

WHEREAS: We would like to recognize all letter carriers for their hard work and their commitment to their communities. All of the food collected in Stanly County stays in Stanly County and we support carriers’ efforts to help those in need in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the County Commissioners of Stanly County, North Carolina, by the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 9, 2015 as “STAMP OUT FOOD HUNGER DRIVE DAY” in the County of Stanly, North Carolina, and encourage the citizens of our community to support the food drive by placing non-perishable food items in or near your

mailbox on food drive day. Your letter carrier will pick it up while delivering the mail – and together, we can help to feed Stanly County’s hungry.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our
hand and caused the County Seal of Stanly County,
North Carolina, to be affixed this 20th day of April, 2015.*

*Janet K. Lowder,
Chair of the County Commissioners*

Commissioner McIntyre moved to approve the proclamation as presented and was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis. Motion carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

ITEM # 10 – PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 7, 2015 AS A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN STANLY COUNTY

Presenter: Commissioner Lawhon

Commissioner Lawhon presented the proclamation below for Board consideration and approval:

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 2015
BY THE STANLY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, May 7, 2015, marks the 64th consecutive observance of the National Day of Prayer, as mandated by both Congress and by our President in Public Law 100-307; and

WHEREAS, **Lord, Hear Our Cry** is the theme for the 2015 National Day of Prayer;

WHEREAS, National Days of Prayer have been part of our country’s heritage since the first one was declared by the Continental Congress in 1775; and

WHEREAS, leaders of our Nation and our Stanly County Community have relied upon the power of prayer throughout our history; and

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Stanly County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 7, 2015, as a DAY OF PRAYER in Stanly County North Carolina and urge our citizens to join

together in their homes, places of work and places of worship, to pray for the unity of the hearts of all mankind, and to continue in prayer for our State and our Nation.

Adopted this the 20th day of April, 2015.

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman

Attest:

Tyler Brummitt, Clerk

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the proclamation. His motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and passed by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 11 – CONSENT AGENDA

Presenter: Chairman Lowder

- A. Minutes – Regular meeting of April 6, 2015
- B. Finance – Request acceptance of the Monthly Financial Report for Nine Months Ended March 31, 2015

Commissioner McIntyre moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis and carried with a vote of 7 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Norwood resident John Mullis addressed the Board on behalf of ACES (Advocates for Communities and Excellence in Schools) noting that the group advocates redistricting and finding other ways to provide improved curriculum for all schools rather than closing community schools. Mr. Mullis thanked the Board for their continued support and requested the Board consider issuing a resolution stating their opposition to the School Board’s proposed plans.

GENERAL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Ascitutto stated that the County is at a crossroads regarding education since additional funding is needed to improve school curriculum and facilities. He encouraged citizens to lobby at both the state and local levels for additional funding. Commissioner Ascitutto reminded the Board of the Senior Center Luncheon / Town Hall Meeting scheduled for May 12th at 11:30 a.m. and that he had recently attended the Norwood City Council meeting where House Bill 526 was discussed at length.

Commissioner Lawhon recently attended the Albemarle Downtown Development Commission (ADDC) meeting where the success of the Outdoor Bonanza was discussed as well as plans for a beach blast to be held in downtown Albemarle next month.

Commissioner Burleson congratulated Finance Director Hinson and staff on their recent recognition and thanked those in attendance for their participation in the meeting.

Commissioner McIntyre, who serves on the Social Services Board, reminded everyone that April is Child Abuse Awareness Month.

Commissioner Efird thanked members of the volunteer fire departments for their hard work. He also reminded everyone of local events scheduled on May 7th in connection with the National Day of Prayer and the Annual Kerri Efird Memorial Scholarship Bike Run scheduled for Saturday, April 25th.

Chairman Lowder stated that she had previously attended the bike run and that the money raised provides scholarships to West Stanly High School students, which is definitely a worthy cause. She then thanked those in attendance for their comments.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner McIntyre moved to recess the meeting in to closed session to discuss a real estate transaction in accordance with G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5). His motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawhon and passed unanimously at 8:35 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Lowder requested a motion to authorize staff to enter into a contract with Chambers Engineering to complete a feasibility study of the City of Locust's portion of the Big Lick sewer transmission line. Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Lawhon. Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

ADJOURN

With no further discussion, Commissioner McIntyre moved to adjourn the meeting. His motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis and passed by unanimous vote at 9:10 p.m.

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman

Tyler Brummitt, Clerk