

**STANLY COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

T. Scott Efird, Chairman  
Bill Lawhon, Vice Chairman  
Peter Ascitutto  
Joseph Burleson  
Tony M. 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, November 21, 2016 in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Efird called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Burleson requested budget amendments # 2017-20 and # 2017-21 for the museum renovation project be added as consent agenda item # 3(F) and budget amendment # 2017-19 for the Sheriff's Office be added as consent agenda item # 3(G). The motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and carried by unanimous vote.

**RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONER PETER ASCIUTTO AND COMMISSIONER TONY M. DENNIS**

The Board took a moment to thank Commissioner Ascitutto and Commissioner Dennis for their years of service to the county. Each received a plaque which was presented by their fellow Board members.

**ITEM # 1 – LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Presenter: Melanie Holles, Library Director**

Due to the recent resignation of Elsa Meta, it was requested the Board name a replacement to serve her unexpired term that ends June 30, 2019. Based on the volunteer applications received, the Library Board of Trustees recommended Ms. Jessica Smith Holt for the appointment.

Commissioner McIntyre moved to table the appointment to allow time for additional applications to be submitted for consideration. Commissioner Burleson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ascutto responded stating that there has been ample time for citizens to submit volunteer applications for the board. He also noted that two (2) of the current Library Board members' terms will expire next year which will allow additional applications to be considered for those appointments at that time.

With no further discussion, Chairman Efird then called for the vote. The motion to table the appointment failed with a 4 – 3 vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Burleson, Commissioner Lowder and Commissioner McIntyre.

Nos: Chairman Efird, Vice Chairman Lawhon, Commissioner Ascutto and Commissioner Dennis

Vice Chairman Lawhon then moved to appoint Ms. Jessica Smith Holt as recommended and was seconded by Commissioner Ascutto. The motion passed by a 5 – 2 vote.

Ayes: Chairman Efird, Vice Chairman Lawhon, Commissioner Ascutto, Commissioner Dennis and Commissioner Lowder.

Nos: Commissioner Burleson and Commissioner McIntyre.

## **ITEM # 2 – DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ONE-QUARTER CENT (1/4¢) SALES TAX REFERENDUM**

**Presenter: Commissioner Ascutto**

Commissioner Ascutto requested the Board discuss their thoughts as to why the sales tax referendum failed and what could be done to better promote it in the future to get it passed. Chairman Efird stated he felt it failed in part due to the large voter turnout generated by a presidential election and also because people are not in favor of any additional taxes. Commissioner Ascutto then restated his support of the sales tax referendum with hopes that it can be considered again in the future.

## **ITEM # 3 – CONSENT AGENDA**

**Presenter: Chairman Efird**

- A. Minutes – Regular meeting of November 7, 2016.
- B. Finance – Request acceptance of the Monthly Financial Report for Four Months Ended October 31, 2016.

- C. Health Dept. – Request approval of budget amendment # 2017-18.
- D. Finance – Request approval of budget amendment # 2017-17.
- E. Sheriff’s Office – Approval of Deputy Pugsley’s purchase of his retiring canine for \$1.00.
- F. Museum – Request approval of budget amendment’s # 2017-20 and # 2017-21.
- G. Sheriff’s Office – Request approval of budget amendment # 2017-19.

Commissioner Dennis moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burleson and passed by unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Newly elected school board member Melvin Poole thanked the Board for their efforts in trying to keep Oakboro Elementary School open for another year by placing the ¼¢ sales tax referendum on the November ballot. He felt it did not pass due to the short amount of time the Board had to promote it prior to the election and also because the school board chose to move forward with closing Oakboro School which resulted in the referendum not receiving voter support.

**BOARD COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Burleson extended his best wishes to Commissioner Asiutto and Commissioner Dennis. With the recent elections, he encouraged everyone to come together for the best interest of citizens in the county. He also thanked Wayne Sasser, Matthew Swain and Ashley Morgan for their efforts in promoting the sales tax referendum.

Commissioner McIntyre thanked Commissioner Asiutto and Commissioner Dennis for their service to the county as well and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Lowder wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and for God to bless America.

Vice Chairman Lawhon thanked Commissioners Asiutto and Dennis as well for serving as county commissioners. He also asked everyone to be mindful of those in need in the United States and around the world.

Commissioner Dennis noted his appreciation of the work the Board has done in the past and continues to do. He also thanked staff for their work and that it has been a pleasure to work with everyone during his time as a county commissioner.

Commissioner Ascitutto agreed with Commissioner Dennis' comments by thanking the Board, staff and local media for their support. He also wished incoming commissioners Matthew Swain and Ashley Morgan and the other members of the Board the best of luck in the future.

Chairman Efird reminded everyone of the Locust Parade on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. and commended the Historic Preservation Commission on a great job in hosting the County's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events throughout 2016. He then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and asked everyone to remember the firefighters who continue to fight fires in western North Carolina.

**ADJOURN**

With no additional items presented for discussion, Vice Chairman Lawhon moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion which passed unanimously at 7:28 p.m.

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**Chairman**

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**Tyler Brummitt, Clerk**