

**STANLY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

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, December 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Lowder called the meeting to order and Vice Chairman Dennis gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

ORDER OF THE LONG LEAF PINE AWARD PRESENTATION FOR CHAIRMAN JANET K. LOWDER

Representative Justin Burr was in attendance to present the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award to Chairman Lowder for her years of service to the community.

APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

With no amendments to the agenda, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve it as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Efir and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 1 – PRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Presenter: Ko Tang Cha-Moses, Audit Manager for Martin Starnes & Associates

Ms. Cha-Moses provided an overview of the 2014 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report via a power point presentation. Ms. Cha-Moses informed the Board that Martin Starnes & Associates had issued an unmodified opinion stating there were no significant findings,

questioned costs, material weaknesses or deficiencies noted in the audit. The county audit was submitted to the Local Government Commission earlier that day with approval expected over the next 3 – 4 weeks.

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to accept the audit as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Burleson. Motion passed by a 7 – 0 vote.

ITEM # 2 – PROPOSAL FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE LIVESTOCK ARENA

Presenter: Candice Moffitt, Agri-Civic Center Director

Ms. Moffitt presented a proposal for architectural services for the proposed livestock arena from architect Allan McGuire. Facility design and construction drawings are now needed to determine a more exact cost to build in order to facilitate additional fundraising efforts. It was also noted that the proposed architectural fees of \$73,900 will be covered by a portion of the \$250,000 capital commitment approved by the Board in June 2014.

Board authorization was requested to enter into a contract for architectural services with Allan McGuire in addition to approval of the project ordinance and associated budget amendments # 2015-20 and #2015-21.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to authorize and approve the above items as requested. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Ascutto and carried by unanimous vote.

See Exhibit A

Project Ordinance & Budget Amendments # 2015-20 & #2015-21

ITEM # 3 – BOARD'S COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT POLICY

Presenter: Commissioner Ascutto

Commissioner Ascutto requested the Board discuss its current policy related to board and committee appointments and to consider amending the policy to prohibit a seated Commissioner or their spouse from being appointed to the county advisory boards.

Commissioner Lawhon stated that as a seated commissioner, he agrees that a commissioner should not be appointed to a board or committee, but did not agree that spouses should not be considered for appointment.

Vice Chairman Dennis agreed with Commissioners Ascutto and Commissioner Lawhon's comments stating that a seated commissioner should not be appointed to an advisory board or committee.

Commissioner McIntyre also noted that in the past, the Board has not adhered to the term limits as outlined in the current policy and requested the Board discuss this further at the retreat early next year.

Chairman Lowder noted that there are only fifty-nine (59) applications on file for the county which has a population of 60,000 and encouraged citizens to consider completing a volunteer application to serve on the various advisory boards and committees.

Commissioner Burleson moved to approve Commissioner Ascitutto's request to amend the current policy by prohibiting a seated commissioner or their spouse from being appointed to an advisory board/committee/etc.

After further consideration and a request to table this item until the retreat, Commissioner Burleson withdrew his motion. He then made a motion to discuss this item during the Board's retreat and was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 4 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

Due to the resignation of At-Large member Joe Kluttz, it was requested the Board appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy. By motion, Commissioner Burleson moved to appoint Matt Smith to serve in an At-Large position for a two (2) year term until December 15, 2016. Commissioner McIntyre seconded the motion which passed with a 7 – 0 vote.

ITEM # 5 – SELECTION OF A VOTING DELEGATE FOR THE LEGISLATIVE GOALS CONFERENCE IN MOORE COUNTY ON JANUARY 15 – 16, 2015

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

Commissioner Ascitutto volunteered to attend the conference on behalf of the Board and was chosen by consensus.

ITEM # 6 – BOARD'S ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

With several of the Board members unable to attend a retreat on February 13 or February 20, the date of Friday, February 6th was chosen. Commissioner McIntyre moved to hold the retreat on Friday, February 6th in the Airport Conference Room beginning at 9:00 a.m. and to also have a facilitator conduct the retreat. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis and carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 7 – CONSENT AGENDA

- A.** Minutes – Reorganizational meeting of December 1, 2014
- B.** Finance – Request approval of the attached vehicle tax refunds

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

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

GENERAL COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Each Board member congratulated Chairman Lowder on receiving the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Commissioner Efird also acknowledged Representative Burr in the audience and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Commissioner Ascitutto stated his work day with Zoning Officer Tim Swaringen went well and thanked all of the employees for their hard work. He also mentioned a recent article in a Montgomery County newspaper pertaining to the open meetings law and suggested the Board be seated on the Dias after returning from closed session before adjourning.

Commissioner Lawhon thanked Representative Burr for what he does for the county and provided a brief review of the Albemarle Downtown Development Commission meeting he had attended earlier that day.

Vice Chairman Dennis thanked Representative Burr for attending and his presentation for Chairman Lowder. He also noted an email sent by the County Manager earlier informing the Board that the Stanly County public safety agencies (EMS, Sheriff's Department and Fire Departments) are the first to have completed training related to mental health calls.

Chairman Lowder informed the Board of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast on Saturday, January 17, 2015 and asked members to notify the clerk if they plan to go. She then stated that she was proud and honored to have Representative Burr in attendance to present her with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner McIntyre moved to recess the meeting into closed session in order to discuss a real estate transaction in accordance with G. S. 143-318.11(a)(5). His motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis and carried by unanimous vote at 7:50 p.m.

ADJOURN

With no additional items presented for discussion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Lawhon. Motion passed by a 7 – 0 vote at 8:15 p.m.

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman

Tyler Brummitt, Clerk