



# Board Bulletin

October 10, 2014

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## ***Abandoned Mobile Home Grant***

Late last week the County secured a \$24,000 grant to assist with the demolition and removal of abandoned mobile homes throughout Stanly County.

The County can begin utilizing the funds effective November 1, 2014. Currently, there are a total of seven (7) abandoned homes pre-qualified for removal. The County will contract with local demolition contractors to remove the aforementioned units.

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## ***Tarheel ChalleNge Academy Bid Opening***

Bids to renovate and convert the former New London school into the Tarheel ChalleNge Academy were received earlier today.

A total of seven (7) companies pulled plans in response to the request for bids. A total of three (3) companies submitted responsive bids.

The lowest responsive base bid of \$1,533,000 was initially submitted by BMP Construction in Charlotte.

However, approximately one (1) hour after the bid opening the owner of BMP called to notify the County a mathematical error occurred in their bid. Allegedly, the plumbing figures were not calculated correctly causing the bid to be approximately \$397,000 short. BMP has 48 hours to honor their initial bid or withdraw from consideration.

The initial range of bids was \$1,533,000 to \$2,185,000. If BMP withdraws, then the next lowest responsive bidder is Edison Forde (based out of Charlotte) at \$1.98 million.

The base bid renovations for the project were estimated at \$1.73 million.

Staff will seek the Board's authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest responsive bidder on Monday, October 13.

## ***Property Tax Collections Update***

As of September 30 the real property tax collection rate was 60.87%. This rate is 1.22 percentage points higher than the reported rate at the end of September 2013.

The motor vehicle tax collection rate has been averaging over 98% for the past several months as a result of the new "tax and tag together" program.

The County has collected \$16,735 via the NC debt setoff program for past due taxes in FY 14-15. As a means of comparison, the County collected \$3,131 via debt setoff during the same time period in FY 2013-2014. This is a \$13,604 (434%) increase.

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## ***Fire District Insurance Ratings***

The Office of State Fire Marshal fire department rating inspections recently wrapped up in Stanly County. All of the fire departments and districts in Stanly County passed with the exception of West Stanly VFD. West Stanly VFD did not meet the minimum response standards.

The West Stanly VFD will have 12 months to demonstrate compliance with the minimum requirements or risk having their rating reduced to a class 10 or unprotected. This would have a significant impact on insurance rates for residential and commercial business owners.

## ***Upcoming Meetings & Events***

<b>Recessed Board Meeting</b>	Monday, October 13 9:00 AM Mgrs. Conf. Room
<b>Regular Board Meeting</b>	Monday, October 20 7:00 PM Commons Meeting Room