

**STANLY COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 17, 2017**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Bill Lawhon, Chairman  
Joseph Burleson, Vice Chairman  
Scott Efirm  
Janet K. Lowder  
Gene McIntyre (Participated by phone)  
Ashley Morgan  
Matthew Swain

**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 Tuesday, January 17, 2017 in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Lawhon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Vice Chairman Burleson giving the invocation and leading the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Burleson moved to add the Town of Norwood – Union County IBT Update as Item # 4 and change the consent agenda to Item # 5. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Efirm and carried by unanimous vote.

**ITEM # 1 – BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager**

**A. Airport Authority**

Current Airport Authority members Gary Lowder and David Rudisill’s terms will expire on March 31, 2017. It was requested the Board appoint/reappoint two (2) members to the Authority to serve a four (4) year term beginning April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2021.

Prior to any discussion, Chairman Lawhon recognized Airport Director David Griffin and Michael Harwood, Secretary for the Airport Authority. Director Griffin’s comments stressed the

importance of maintaining the Authority's current membership since each is familiar with upcoming projects that include upgrades to the airport and multiple pending opportunities involving the NC Air National Guard.

Michael Harwood reiterated Director Griffin's comments adding that due to a huge transition that is coming to the airport because of the military, it is vital to keep current Authority members in place who have helped get to this point. He requested the Board consider all of the information before moving forward with any changes.

With no further discussion, Vice Chairman Burleson moved to reappoint David Rudisill and appoint Gerald W. Efirm with each to serve a four (4) year term. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and carried by a 6 – 1 vote. (Commissioner Efirm voted against.)

#### **B. Nominee for the Farm Service Agency County Committee**

After a brief discussion with no nominees being recommended, Chairman Lawhon offered to contact several local farmers that he knows to see if any would consider the nomination.

Commissioner Swain moved to authorize Chairman Lawhon to do so and was seconded by Vice Chairman Burleson. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **ITEM # 2 – BOARD'S ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT**

##### **Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager**

Based on the Board's availability, the dates of Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> were selected as potential dates for the Board's annual retreat. The County Manager stated he would follow-up with the facilitator to see if she is available either of these dates and confirm it with the Board.

No further action was required.

#### **ITEM # 3 – FY 2017-18 BUDGET CALENDAR**

##### **Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager**

For Board approval, the County Manager presented a proposed budget calendar for FY 2017-18 which will be used to provide guidance to staff during the budget process.

With no questions from the Board, Vice Chairman Burleson moved to approve the calendar as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Swain and carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

#### **ITEM # 4 – TOWN OF NORWOOD – UNION COUNTY IBT UPDATE**

**Presenter: Commissioner Morgan**

Commissioner Morgan began by stating that when the raw water purchase agreement between Union County and the Town of Norwood and the proposed IBT were previously discussed, neither he nor Commissioner Swain were on the Board. After having recently reviewed them, he noted specific terms of the raw water purchase agreement he is concerned with and feels the County should be involved in any discussions related to it since it affects the county's water supply and not just that of the Town of Norwood and Union County.

Chairman Lawhon agreed stating that the previous Board voiced some of the same concerns when the proposed IBT was presented last fall and sent a letter of response to express those concerns to Ms. Kim Nimmer with the Division of Water Resources.

The County Manager stated that he had spoken with Ms. Nimmer earlier that day to get an update on the IBT process. As manager of the IBT project, she stated that Montgomery County and Union County are currently in mediation due to the IBT itself and not specifically the agreement. With the mediation period lasting up to 120 days and depending on the outcome, a decision by the Environmental Management Commission may not come until July 2017.

Vice Chairman Burleson stated that although the Board discussed the proposed IBT and raw water purchase agreement at its meeting last September, he has since read the purchase agreement and has deep concerns with it as well. He understands that the Town of Norwood acted to the best of their ability, but feels the Board should investigate further by meeting with Norwood and Union County to see if some of the terms and / or language in the agreement can be altered.

Commissioner Morgan requested the County Manager make the initial contact with the Town of Norwood and Union County to see if they are willing to have a discussion to address these concerns and what options the County may be able to pursue from there. The County Manager agreed to make the calls, but deferred to the County Attorney since it is a contract issue.

The County Attorney responded that she would need to research it further but felt there should be some type of intervention or lawsuit that can be filed at some level if the Board has concerns with the agreement's impact on the county.

With no further discussion, Chairman Lawhon requested staff provide follow-up on this item at the next meeting.

## **ITEM # 5 – CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Presenter: Chairman Lawhon**

- A. Minutes – Regular meeting of January 3, 2017.
- B. Finance – Request approval of the vehicle tax refund report for December 2016.
- C. Airport – Request approval of budget amendment # 2017-29.
- D. Health Dept. – Request approval of the attached budget amendment # 2017-30 for Animal Control.
- E. Planning & Zoning – Revised Interlocal Agreement for Enforcement of the Town of Oakboro Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Department.

Chairman Lawhon noted that the interlocal agreement included in the agenda packet as Item E for Planning & Zoning had been replaced with a revised agreement which now includes references to the correct general statutes. Chairman Lawhon now requested the consent agenda be approved as amended to include approval of the new agreement.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

## **BOARD COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Morgan noted the Go Fast Drag Racing event to be held at the Stanly County Airport the weekend of May 20<sup>th</sup> and encouraged everyone to attend.

Commissioner Efirm stated he has a meeting with Cardinal Innovations on Thursday evening.

Vice Chairman Burleson stated that he had the privilege in attending the Legislative Goals Conference in Raleigh the previous week and noted several of the goals endorsed by the NCACC.

Commissioner McIntyre stated that Senior Services has plans to partner with Coltrane Life Center of Concord to establish an adult daycare facility in the county. He also noted that Senior Services will offer SHIP appointments again this year for seniors who need help with Medicare, Medicare supplements and long term care insurance options.

As an EDC update, Commissioner Lowder stated that quotes have been requested to conduct an environmental and wetlands assessment for the 76 acres of property under contract by the county, and an EDC meeting has been scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss a plan of action to

begin interviewing candidates for the EDC Director position. As the commissioner appointee to the Board of Health, Commissioner Lowder added that officers for 2017 were elected during the January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and the board was given a presentation of the 2016 State of the County Health Report.

Commissioner Swain stated that he attended the Fire District Commission meeting held the previous week where the fire service contract between the County and volunteer fire departments was presented and additional details ironed out. He thanked Chairman Lawhon and the County Manager for attending the meeting and thanked Sheriff Burris as well for a recent tour of the jail. He also noted the upcoming RPO - TAC meeting in Union County on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Lawhon stated the number of residential building permits issued continues to improve over previous years with construction in western Stanly County continuing to increase as well.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Vice Chairman Burleson moved to recess the meeting into closed session and was seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:59 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Vice Chairman Burleson moved to approve the County Manager's receipt of merit pay in the amount of \$2,000 and to extend his contract from 8/17/2020 until 8/17/2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lowder and carried by unanimous vote.

**ADJOURN**

With no further discussion, Commissioner Efird moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Swain. The motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:14 p.m.

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**Bill Lawhon, Chairman**

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**Tyler Brummitt, Clerk**