

**STANLY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 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, May 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Lowder called the meeting to order with Vice Chairman Dennis giving the invocation and leading the pledge of allegiance.

ITEM # 1 - PERFORMANCE BY THE STANLY ACADEMY LEARNING CENTER (SALC) DRILL TEAM

Mr. Mike Campbell, SALC Principal, introduced Mr. Charles Cosgrove of the AMVETS Post 910 and students of SALC who performed a drill team exercise for the Board.

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 Lawhon and passed by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 2 – JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL (JCPC) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION

Presenter: Jackie DeSantis, JCPC Chairperson

As part of the annual certification, it was requested the Board approve the list of individuals to serve on the JCPC for FY 2015-16 and approve the allocation of the \$1,000 into the JCPC budget.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the slate of members as presented and accept the \$1,000 into the FY 2015-16 budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ascutto and carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

ITEM # 3 – UTILITIES – GREATER BADIN WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Presenter: Donna Davis, Utilities Director

A. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ISSUE/SELL BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES TO UWHARRIE BANK

Prior to any action, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to recess the Board of County Commissioners and reconvene as the Greater Badin Water and Sewer District. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and passed by unanimous vote.

Additionally, Commissioner Lawhon requested to abstain from voting due to a conflict of interest. Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the request and was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre. Motion carried unanimously.

Board approval was requested for the resolution prepared by McGuire Woods, LLC in compliance with the Local Government Commission to issue and sell the Bond Anticipation Notes to Uwharrie Bank in order to provide the interim financing for the Greater Badin Water Rehabilitation Project Part A.

**See Exhibit A
Resolution Of
The Board of Governors of the Greater Badin Water and Sewer District,
Stanly County, North Carolina
Providing for the Issuance of a
\$2,132,000 Water and Sewer Revenue Bond Anticipation Note**

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

B. APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT TO FUND REPAIRS TO THE GREATER BADIN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT INFLUENT PUMP

For approval, Ms. Davis presented budget amendment # 2015-39 for \$20,000 to cover the cost of replacing the influent pump at the Badin WWTP.

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the budget amendment and was seconded by Commissioner Burleson. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Vice Chairman Dennis then moved to adjourn the meeting of the Greater Badin Water and Sewer District. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burleson and carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 4 – UPDATE ON THE COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CTP) FOR STANLY COUNTY, RED CROSS AND THE CITY OF LOCUST

Presenter: Dana Stoogenke, RRRPO Director

Ms. Stoogenke provided an update on the CTP stating that the NC Department of Transportation (NC DOT) and Rocky River Rural Planning Organization (RRRPO) continue to work with the Town of Red Cross and the City of Locust to adopt a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) for their areas. Due to community concerns with designating the portion of Hwy 24-27 located in Red Cross and Locust as an expressway, the previous CTP process was halted. NCDOT is now proposing a new plan designating this same area as a four lane boulevard beginning 0.5 miles west of Providence Road (Locust city limits) to Cabarrus County. Other recommended improvements to the area include intersection treatments at NC 24-27/NC 200 in Locust and Highway 24-27/NC 205 in Red Cross to accommodate the boulevard designation, bicycle/pedestrian recommendations, and to upgrade NC 200 to a boulevard designation within the Locust and Stanfield municipal limits – all to improve mobility and better accommodate the increased traffic volume expected from future development.

With NCDOT officials having met with representatives of Locust and Red Cross to discuss this new designation, the next step in the process will be to hold public meetings in June followed by the plan's formal adoption by the municipalities in July. Once adopted locally, NCDOT must approve the plan as well in order to have the project considered for funding.

This information was provided as an update and required no action.

ITEM # 5 – BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

A. CENTRALINA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (CWDB)

Due to current board members Dr. Brenda Kays and Paul Stratos' terms expiring on June 30, 2015, CWDB Executive Director David Hollars requested the Board take action to appoint or reappoint two members for a two (2) year term expire on June 30, 2017.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to reappoint Dr. Brenda Kays and Paul Stratos to the CWDB to serve until June 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burleson and passed by unanimous vote.

B. STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Due to current board members Shirley Lowder and Karmen Mock-Phillips' terms due to expire on June 30, 2015, it was requested the Board name two (2) replacements with each to serve a four (4) year term until June 30, 2019.

Commissioner Burleson nominated Josh Morton and Ron Crawley. Vice Chairman Dennis nominated Doug Hughes and Lisa Burris. With no other nominations, Commissioner Efirm moved to close the nominations, which was then seconded by Commissioner Ascitutto. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Chairman Lowder called each nomination individually with the following votes recorded:

- Lisa Burris – four (4) votes: Chairman Lowder, Vice Chairman Dennis, Commissioner Ascitutto, Commissioner Efirm
- Josh Morton – three (3) votes: Commissioner Burleson, Commissioner Lawhon and Commissioner McIntyre
- Doug Hughes – five (5) votes: Chairman Lowder, Vice Chairman Dennis, Commissioner Ascitutto, Commissioner Efirm and Commissioner Lawhon
- Ron Crawley – two (2) votes: Commissioner Burleson, Commissioner McIntyre

By majority vote, Lisa Burris and Douglas Hughes were appointed.

ITEM # 6 – PRESENTATION OF THE FY 2015-16 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

The County Manager's presentation provided an overview of the recommended budget for next fiscal year. Several items noted during the presentation were:

- No recommended property tax rate increase for the ninth (9th) straight year with the rate remaining at \$0.67 per \$100 of valuation
- Continued support of economic development initiatives that include the AMIT appropriation of \$250,000, industrial site development funding of \$20,000 and funding for incentives and existing industry initiatives being maintained
- 3.3% increase (or \$1.85 million) in the overall budget from the previous year due mainly to the debt/maintenance/subscriptions associated with the new emergency radio system and one-time funding for education
- Fund Balance appropriation of \$1.4 million included of which \$975,000 is tied to one-time capital outlay and educational grants
- Proposed reorganization of the library branches to include two (2) regional library branches (Albemarle Main and Locust branches) to generate additional efficiencies and improve the level of service

- Stanly County Schools – a proposed 1% (or \$96,666) increase in current expense allocation, \$310,000 one-time STEM facility and supplies grant, \$86,000 for teacher supplemental pay grant and \$150,000 additional capital outlay
- Stanly Community College – a proposed 1% (or \$12,805) increase in current expense allocation and \$55,000 capital grant for energy efficiency
- Of the total recommended budget, 85% (\$49.1 million) has been appropriated for mandated services such as social services, public health, debt service, law enforcement and education
- Human capital management - \$190,000 included in contingency for merit (no COLA recommended), \$94,000 increase for temporary staffing in DSS related to the NC FAST conversion, continuation of the wellness clinic and health insurance gainsharing, continue to pay 100% of employee health insurance premiums, but utilize \$300,000 from Group Health Fund Balance to offset the employer cost and complete job reclassifications for the Airport, DSS and Soil & Water positions.
- Of the total \$1.81 million in capital projects and improvement requests submitted, \$1.44 million have been recommended
- Several of the recommended fee changes noted include increasing the household solid waste fee by \$2, SCUSA out-of-county trips to Charlotte or outside the region by \$10, and one immunization increase of \$17
- A minimum five percent (5%) increase in water and sewer rates based on the proposed rate increases by the City of Albemarle and the Town of Norwood.

The budget presentation was given for information only and required no action by the Board.

ITEM # 7 – ONE-QUARTER CENT (1/4 CENT) SALES TAX SPECIAL ADVISORY REFERENDUM RESOLUTION

Presenter: Vice Chairman Dennis

As follow-up to the Board's joint sales tax referendum discussion with the Board of Education, a resolution authorizing the referendum and dedicating the revenues for public education was presented for the Board's consideration.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Ascutto.

Commissioner McIntyre stated that he understands the necessity of the resolution, but cannot support it as presented and feels it should be a joint resolution based on the expectations of both the School Board and County Commissioners.

Commissioner Burleson stated that without some assurance from the School Board that plans for school consolidation be shelved, he is reluctant to support the resolution. He encouraged

the School Board to consider the additional funding recommended in the county budget prior to moving forward with any plans.

Commissioner Ascutto stated his support of the resolution as a means to provide additional funding for education.

Commissioner Lawhon noted that while attending recent economic development forums, companies noted the lack of qualified employees with strong math and science backgrounds and encouraged communities to offer STEM programs in their local schools to meet this need.

Commissioner Efirm stated if the resolution is approved, the work is just beginning. Everyone's help is needed to get the word out in order to pass the referendum during the upcoming election.

Vice Chairman Dennis then read the resolution for those in attendance. With a first and second motion, Chairman Lowder called for a vote. The motion passed with a 6 – 1 vote.

Ayes: Chairman Lowder, Vice Chairman Dennis, Commissioner Ascutto, Commissioner Burleson, Commissioner Efirm, Commissioner Lawhon

Nos: Commissioner McIntyre

ITEM # 8 – CONSENT AGENDA

Presenter: Chairman Lowder

- A.** Minutes – Regular meeting of April 20, 2015
- B.** Facilities – Request approval to declare the attached list of items as surplus to be sold on GovDeals
- C.** Sheriff's Office – Request approval to declare the attached list of items as surplus to be sold on GovDeals
- D.** Central Administration – Approve the enclosed schedules and amendments of the Records Retention & Disposition Schedules
- E.** Finance – Request approval of the attached vehicle refunds
- F.** E-911 – Request approval of budget amendment #2015-38

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawhon and passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Sharples, a retired educator with the Stanly County Schools, presented a letter on behalf of Preston Gray, President of Michelin in Norwood, which expressed his support of the School Board's proposed school consolidation and reinvestment plans.

Karlyn Cox addressed the Board in favor of the School Board's proposed plans to improve and broaden the curriculum offered by the school system.

Richard Almond addressed the Board with his concerns related to a recent rezoning request (ZA 15-01 – Zimmerman Properties SE, LLC) which was denied by the Board and concerns that Commissioners Burluson and Efird may have had a potential conflict of interest and should have abstained from voting.

Cavin Holbrook, representing the owners of the property denied for rezoning, requested the decision be stricken from the records. Chairman Lowder stated the request would be taken into consideration and staff would follow-up with Mr. Holbrook.

GENERAL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Ascitutto noted that the Board had attended a dinner meeting with the Library Board of Trustees earlier that evening where it was noted that over \$4,000 was raised from the two annual book sales conducted by the Friends of the Library with funds being used to purchase ebooks for library patrons.

Commissioner Lawhon announced that a new company, Craftsman Inc., plans to open a plan in the vacant Palm Harbor building off of Highway 24/27.

Vice Chairman Dennis thanked the citizens in attendance for their comments.

Commissioner Burluson noted an increase in the dollar amount of permits pulled in April 2015 and hopes that this will continue.

Commissioner Efird reminded everyone of the upcoming Memorial Day weekend and his appreciation of the military for all they do.

CLOSED SESSION

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to recess into closed session in accordance with G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4). His motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and passed by unanimous vote at 8:45 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner McIntyre moved to return to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Dennis seconded the motion which carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman

Tyler Brummitt, Clerk