

**STANLY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 19, 2015**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman
Tony M. Dennis, Vice Chairman
Peter Ascitutto
Joseph Burleson
T. Scott Efirm
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, October 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Stanly Commons. Chairman Lowder called the meeting to order and Commissioner McIntyre gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL / ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

With no adjustments to the agenda, Commissioner Burleson moved to approve it as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Dennis and passed by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 1 – PRESENTATION OF THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATION AWARD TO SHERIFF G. T. BURRIS

Presenters: Representative Justin Burr and Congressman Richard Hudson

Representative Burr and Congressman Hudson took a few moments to recognize Sheriff Burris and his staff on a job well done for the citizens in the county. Congressman Hudson then read and presented the Advanced Certification Award to Sheriff Burris. Senator Tom McInnis also addressed the Board and Sheriff Burris thanking them for their hard work and accomplishments.

RECESS

At 7:10 p.m., Chairman Lowder called for a five (5) minute recess. The meeting was reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

ITEM # 2 – MONARCH – PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS & INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES GRANT FOR FY 2016-17

Presenter: Laurie Weaver, Director of Grants & Foundation Relations

Ms. Weaver was present to request the Board hold a public hearing related to Monarch's application for the FY 2016-17 Federal Section 5310 Transportation Grant. These funds are used to support more than sixty (60) Stanly County participants' transportation to the Stanly Industrial Services Facility each year.

With no questions from the Board, Chairman Lowder declared the public hearing open. With no one speaking for or against, the hearing was closed. No further action was required.

ITEM # 3 – SENIOR SERVICES

Presenter: Becky Weemhoff, Senior Services Director

A. Application for the 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities Grant for FY 2016-17

The Senior Services Department also intends to apply for the Section 5310 Transportation Grant for the coming fiscal year. Proceeds will be used to provide transportation services for adults ages sixty-five (65) and older in addition to providing services to the underserved areas of the county. The application amount of \$48,000 will require a ten percent (10%) match of \$12,000 which will come from the HCCBG funds with no county funds are needed. It was requested the Board hold a public hearing for Senior Services application and approve the resolution to apply for and receive these funds.

With no questions from the Board, Chairman Lowder declared the public hearing open. With no one coming forward to speak, the hearing was closed.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Efird. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**See Exhibit A
Resolution**

B. SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Senior Services Advisory Board has five (5) members whose terms will expire at the end of October. Three of the members, Ms. Vanessa Chambers, Mr. Robin Lentz and Mr. Wayne Sasser have agreed to serve again if reappointed. Mr. E. H. Morton has indicated he does not wish to serve another term. A fifth board member's name will be submitted for approval at a later date.

It was requested that Ms. Vanessa Chambers, Mr. Robin Lentz and Mr. Wayner Sasser be reappointed to serve another three (3) year term until October 30, 2018. It was also requested that Mr. Kent Trull be appointed to replace Mr. E. H. Morton for a three (3) year term ending October 30, 2018.

By motion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve all four (4) appointments as requested. His motion was seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and passed by a 7 – 0 vote.

ITEM # 4 – RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR CENTRALINA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS' (CCOG) APPLICATION FOR THE SECTION 5310 ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS & INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES GRANT FOR FY 2016-17

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

CCOG requested the Board's consideration and approval of a resolution of support for their application to the NCDOT's Section 5310 Grant. If received, CCOG will use these funds to meet the special transportation needs of elderly individuals and those with disabilities, and to continue with Mobility Management activities and Volunteer Transportation Services in the region.

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the resolution of support and was seconded by Commissioner Lawhon. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM # 5 – NC DOT – DIVISION 10 COMMENT LETTER

Presenter: Andy Lucas, County Manager

For Board consideration, the County Manager presented a draft letter in response to the local NC DOT Division 10's list of proposed transportation improvement projects which was submitted as part of the State's Transportation Improvement Plan 4.0 prioritization process.

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the letter and was seconded by Commissioner Burleson. Motion passed with a 7 – 0 vote.

See Exhibit B
Comments for Division 10 STIP Project Submittal List

**ITEM # 6 – RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A PROPOSED US CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
DEFINING MARRIAGE AS THE UNION OF ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN**

Presenter: Commissioner Joseph Burleson

After presenting the proposed resolution, Commissioner Burleson moved for approval with Commissioner McIntyre seconding the motion. Prior to the vote, Chairman Lowder called for discussion.

Commissioner Ascitutto requested the Board consider an amendment to the last paragraph of the resolution by requiring that all same sex couples married in Stanly County since October 2014 be notified in writing of the adoption of the resolution.

Commissioner McIntyre stated that sending a notification to the couples would not be necessary since most would be made aware of the Board's action through the local newspaper and local radio station.

Commissioner Ascitutto asked Commissioner Burleson to explain how passing the resolution would benefit citizens of the county. Commissioner Burleson responded that the resolution goes back to the vote held in 2012 where eighty-one percent (81%) of the citizens in the county voted for the amendment and that since he was elected to serve the citizens, he will continue to fight for what the citizens want and for his own moral standing. Again, Commissioner Ascitutto repeated his question to which Commissioner Burleson responded that if Commissioner Ascitutto does not agree with the resolution, he should vote against it.

Commissioner McIntyre also responded by asking if the resolution passes, how does it hurt anyone? Commissioner Ascitutto responded that if ultimately the amendment were to pass, it takes away an individual's right to be married. He also noted his concern that this will portray Stanly County as being intolerant and possibly affect economic development in the future.

With a first and second motion made, Chairman Lowder called for a vote. The resolution of support was approved with a 6 – 1 vote.

Ayes: Chairman Lowder, Vice Chairman Dennis, Commissioner Burleson, Commissioner Efird, Commissioner Lawhon and Commissioner McIntyre

Nos: Commissioner Ascitutto

**See Exhibit B
Resolution of Support**

ITEM # 7 – CONSENT AGENDA

Presenter: Chairman Lowder

- A. Minutes – Regular meeting of October 5, 2015
- B. Sheriff’s Office – Request approval of budget amendment # 2016-13
- C. Library – Request approval of budget amendment # 2016-14

Vice Chairman Dennis moved to approve the above items as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Efird. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Harry Fletcher of western Stanly County came forward to request the Board consider incorporating the West Stanly Senior Services Center as part of the Stanly County Senior Services department. Since opening almost two (2) years ago, the center has continued to grow and has operated solely by volunteers and donations. With money from the initial donors dwindling, Mr. Fletcher requested the Board consider including the center in order for it to continue operating.

Niranjan Patel, owner of the Tillery Sportsman, requested Board approval to sell beer and unfortified wine at the convenience store. It was noted that many customers leave the store when they realize they are unable to purchase alcohol and continue to Montgomery County to do so.

The County Manager informed the Board of the two options available related to Mr. Patel’s request: One is for a majority of voters in the township to sign a petition and have the Board authorize a referendum for the township and allow voters to decide. The second option is for the Board to authorize a county-wide referendum. The County Manager stated that he and the County Attorney would gather information related to the request and bring it back before the Board at the next meeting.

GENERAL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Burleson thanked Mr. Fletcher for his comments and stated the Board will take the request into consideration.

Commissioner Efird thanked Mr. Fletcher for his comments as well. He also reminded everyone to have their heating systems checked with the arrival of cooler weather noting that many of the calls received this time of year by fire departments are related to faulty heating systems.

Commissioner Ascitutto expressed his disappointment with the Board's support of the resolution presented earlier by Commissioner Burleson. He also noted that Blake Cole, a high school senior, had shadowed him for a total of fifteen (15) hours for his senior class project which ended with his attendance at the Commissioners Meeting. He then stated that the School Board had recently met to review the results of the facilities and transportation studies noting that tough decisions will need to be made over the next few years. He encouraged the Board to commit the funds needed to help with the needed repairs at the various school buildings and facilities if they cannot support closing schools.

As an update on the Albemarle Downtown Development Commission, Commissioner Lawhon stated that Dana McDowell was recently appointed as Interim Director and also four (4) new members will soon be added to the Board. These include Jim Senter, Albemarle Attorney, Kelly Lowder, former marketing director for Home Savings Bank, Bill Josey, Chief Financial Officer for Stanly County Schools and Dr. Colleen Keith, President of Pfeiffer University.

ADJOURN

With no further discussion, Vice Chairman Dennis moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Ascitutto. Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:50 p.m.

Janet K. Lowder, Chairman

Tyler Brummitt, Clerk