

December 17, 2012

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2012 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Chairman

Mark Gillespie, Vice Chairperson

Charles Ray Peterson

Delilah Blanks

Billy Ray Pait

Russell Priest

Daniel Dowless

Wayne Edge

G. Michael Cogdell

Attorneys: Allen Johnson and Will Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order and asked Clerk to the Board Sara West to read the following poem and to observe a moment of silence in memory of those students killed in Newtown, Connecticut on Friday morning December 14, 2012:

'Twas 11 days before Christmas, around 9:38
when 20 beautiful children stormed through heaven's gate.
Their smiles were contagious, their laughter filled the air.
They could hardly believe all the beauty they saw there.
They were filled with such joy, they didn't know what to say.
They remembered nothing of what had happened earlier that day.
"Where are we?" asked a little girl, as quiet as a mouse.
"This is heaven." declared a small boy.
"We're spending Christmas at God's house."
When what to their wondering eyes did appear,
but Jesus, their savior, the children gathered near.
He looked at them and smiled, and they smiled just the same.
Then He opened His arms and He called them by name.
And in that moment was joy, that only heaven can bring
those children all flew into the arms of their King.
And as they lingered in the warmth of His embrace,
one small girl turned and looked at Jesus' face.
And as if He could read all the questions she had
He gently whispered to her, "I'll take care of mom and dad."
Then He looked down on earth, the world far below.
He saw all of the hurt, the sorrow, and woe.
Then He closed His eyes and He outstretched His hand,
"Let My power and presence re-enter this land!"
"May this country be delivered from the hands of fools."
"I'm taking back my nation. I'm taking back my schools!"
Then He and the children stood up without a sound.
"Come now my children, let me show you around."
Excitement filled the space, some skipped and some ran,
all displaying enthusiasm that only a small child can.
And I heard Him proclaim as He walked out of sight,
"in the midst of this darkness, I AM STILL THE LIGHT."

Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church, Bladenboro, NC provided the Invocation. County Manager Gregory J. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 1.

Consent Items:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board approved the deletion of Item 9 from the agenda and approved the following Consent Items:

A. Agenda

B. Minutes of December 3, 2012

December 17, 2012

C. Budget Amendments as follows:

Department and Account Number	Account Description	Increase	Decrease
Emergency Services			
Expenditures			
105300.120	Salaries	15760.00	
105300.122	Bonus		127.00
105300.123	On Call		85.00
105300.125	Overtime	85.00	
105300.181	FICA	1,206.00	
105300.182	Retirement	2,811.00	
105300.183	Group Insurance	4,140.00	
105300.185	Retiree Health Insurance	2,404.00	
Revenue			
103190.050	FBA	26,194.00	

To cover cost of Part-time fire marshal to Full-time

Health			
Expenditures			
1059005985.200	Supplies	2,709.00	
Revenue			
103530.103	F/S IAP	2,709.00	

Additional Grant from State.

Parks and Recreation			
Expenditures			
106600.210	Recreation Equipment	790.00	
Revenues			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	790.00	

For seasonal basketball program.

DSS			
Expenditures			
1461006160.535	Medicaid	1,283.72	
Revenues			
143591.010	Client Refund	1,283.72	

EPICS draft for July-Sept 2012.

DSS			
Expenditures			
1461006160.555	Refunds/Client Repay	2,357.46	
Revenues			
143591.010	Client Refund	2,357.46	

Due to overpaid claim.

Clarkton Fire Department			
Expenditures			
355335.711	Truck Payment	8,000.00	
Revenues			
353190.050	FBA	8,000.00	

To cover cost of Clarkton Fire Departments truck payment.

Lisbon Fire Department			
Expenditures			
445344.499	Miscellaneous Expense	100,000.00	
Revenues			
443190.050	FBA	100,000.00	

Down payment of new pumper.

- D. County Attorney Invoices
- E. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 11-12
- F. To schedule Board Training Session for January 22, 2012 at 5:15 pm
- G. James G. Smith as the Voting Delegate to NCACC 2013 Legislative Goals Conference

ITEM 2. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

- A. Chairman Smith presented outgoing Chairman Charles Ray Peterson with a plaque for his dedicated service to the County. Mr. Peterson was also presented with the gavel used during his term as Chairman.
- B. Chairman Smith recognized Cynthia McKoy for twenty years of service. Director of Finance Lisa Coleman acknowledged Ms. McKoy for her contributions since she began her employment with the County in November 1992.

December 17, 2012

ITEM 3. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

- No one addressed the Commissioners.

ITEM 4 Finance: (Lisa Coleman, Director)

- A. Bryon Scott, CPA, of Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Company, presented the audit report for FY 2011-2012. Mr. Scott advised the audit was complete and had been delivered to the North Carolina Local Government Commission. He stated that the overall financial picture remained about the same. The only concern, which he has mentioned before, is there are not enough employees in various offices to segregate financial responsibilities. He advised that this is not uncommon in small offices and conceded that it was not cost effective. Mr. Scott complimented the staff in the finance, tax office and management departments.
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board Accepted the FY 2012 Audit.
- C. Ms. Coleman reviewed the Financial Dashboard for the period of November 2012.

ITEM 5. Parks and Recreation: (Grant Pait, Director)

- ☉ Parks and Recreation Director Grant Pait asked the Board to consider approving a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Application. This grant would require matching funds from the County and, if awarded, would be allocated in the FY 2013-14 budget. Mr. Pait presented the following budget outline of the recommendations for upgrades to the County park in the approximate amount of \$375,250.00:

Bladen County Parks and Recreation 2012 NC PARTF Grant

24

BUDGET

Build Concession Stand and Restrooms at Football/Soccer Complex (70,000)

At our existing football/soccer complex our participants and fans have to use portable restrooms and have no concession stand around it. By building a concession and restroom facility this will be more user friendly and give the Parks and Recreation Department the means of increasing concession revenues. Our department is losing a lot of revenue due to the concession stand is about 800 ft away, and more and more participants are complaining about the long walk to our restroom facilities.

Walking Trail at the Bladen County Park (45,000)

Currently the Bladen County Park has no type of walking trail. The proposed trail will cover one half of a mile. The trail will go around one of the baseball/softball, and around the playground. The walking trail will have security lights and water fountains along side. This walking trail will also bring the Bladen County Park up to par with ADA compliance.

New Playground and Swings (60,000)

The Bladen County Park playground is about twelve years old, over time the equipment and platforms have become a maintenance and safety issue. The playground at the Park is probably the most used area at the Bladen County Park. The new playground will include a play area and a swing set area in the beside the play area. The new playground will stay at the current location at the Bladen County Park. The play ground would be ADA compliant.

Field #3 and Field #4 Chain Link Fence (44,250)

Chain link Fence around two (2) baseball/softball fields at the Bladen County Park. The existing fields have old four foot chain link fences around them. Field #3 at the park is currently 240 ft it would be brought in to 200 ft and field # 4 would be reduced in size by twenty feet making it 180 feet, giving the walking trail more room. The new fence will be six foot high and add a new clean look to the Bladen County Park also with the walking trail around the field this will provide safety for patrons utilizing the walking trail.

Pave Park Road and Parking Lot (\$22,000)

The Bladen County Park currently has a rock road and parking lot. The park road needs to be paved and the parking lot. This would add a new look to the park, also paving and striping the parking allow more parking spaces and have handicap parking spaces not to mention reducing maintenance cost. This addition to our park will improve the overall parks image.

Resurface Tennis Courts at the Bladen County Park (\$7,000)

Resurfacing the existing tennis courts at the Bladen County Park is in great need and demand, being that these are the only true public tennis courts in Bladen County. The courts get an extreme amount of play on them. This is also one of our departments adult recreational programs.

Matching funds of \$187,625.00 would be required by the County.
Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board approved the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Application.

December 17, 2012

ITEM 6. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **BARTS Advisory Board:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board appointed Jerry Graham to replace Jimmy Hudson; Erica Campbell to replace Wanda Herring and Janet Hall to replace Gayle Robinson with an expiration date of December 31, 2015. The Board waived the term limits and reappointed Wendell Brown, Amanda Sykes, Sharon Anderson and Mark Gillespie with an expiration date of December 31, 2015
- B. **Bladen Healthcare Advisory Board:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board tabled appointments to the Bladen Healthcare Advisory Board.
- C. **Division on Aging:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board appointed Commissioner Michael Cogdell to replace David Gooden. The Board reappointed Linda Bryan and waived the term limits and reappointed Mary Andrews with an expiration date of December 31, 2015.
- D. **Economic Development Commission:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board tabled appointments to the Economic Development Commission.
- E. **Library Board:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board waived the term limits and reappointed Creddie Graham, Gloris Lloyd and Barbara Wilkins with an expiration date of December 31, 2015.
- F. **Personnel Advisory Board:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board waived the term limits and reappointed Betty McLaughlin and Patsy Priest with an expiration date of December 31, 2015.

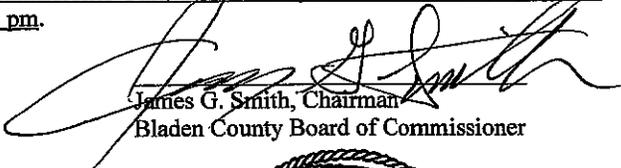
ITEM 7. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. County Manager Greg Martin reviewed the calendar for upcoming events.
- B. The Board discussed scheduling a meeting with members of the Legislative delegation. County Manager Greg Martin was advised to obtain available dates from the delegates for a meeting.

ITEM 8. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board entered closed session in Accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(3) Attorney Client (a)(6) Personnel

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board exited Closed Session and re-entered Open Session.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board adjourned at 8:25 pm.


James G. Smith, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioner

ATTEST:


Sara S. West, Clerk to the Board

