

February 4, 2013

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, February 4, 2013 in room 218 of the Bladen County Courthouse due to the large crowd in attendance.

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: Leslie Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

**ITEM 1.** Chairman Smith called the meeting to order. Reverend Danny Lewis, Pastor, White Oak Baptist Church, White Oak, NC provided the Invocation. County Manager Gregory J. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 2. Consent Items:**  
Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board approved the following Consent Items:  
 A. Agenda  
 B. Minutes of January 22, 2013  
 C. Budget Amendments as follows:

Department and Account Number      Account Description      Increase      Decrease

**Motor Pool**

Expenditures		Debit	Credit
105010.357	Vehicle Repair	2,719.00	
<b>Revenues</b>			
103190.010	Miscellaneous Revenue	2,719.00	

Repair of 2006 Crown Victoria - funding from the Bladen County Board of Education.

**Motor Pool**

Expenditures		Debit	Credit
105010.357	Vehicle Repair	3,193.29	
<b>Revenues</b>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	3,193.29	

Insurance payment for 2004 Ford Van @ Sheriff Department.

**Animal Control - Spay/Neuter Program**

Expenditures		Debit	Credit
105200.499.028	Spay/Neuter Program	7,681.25	
<b>Revenues</b>			
103260.041	Spay/Neuter Program	7,681.25	

October-December 2012 application.

**Health**

Expenditures		Debit	Credit
1059005960.200	Supplies	6,700.00	
<b>Revenues</b>			
103530.080	F/S Health Promotions	6,700.00	

Funding received from the State.

**Library**

Expenditures		Debit	Credit
106700.231	Library Books	5,628.00	
<b>Revenues</b>			
103630.011	LSTA Grants	5,628.00	

LSTA Grant received with State aid in December.

**Juvenile Justice MOU Grant**

Expenditures		Debit	Credit
106800.802.001	Juvenile Justice MOU Grant	82.00	
<b>Revenues</b>			
103190.050	FBA	82.00	

Rollover of unspent Juvenile Justice Maintenance of Understanding Grant - Total was \$665.00

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Department and  
Account Number  
DSS

		Increase	Decrease
<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.545	Federal Adoption Incentive Funds	12,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.080	Federal Adoption Incentive Funds	12,000.00	

This amendment is necessary due to Federal Adoption Promotion Funding to enhance the Adoption Services Program.  
DSS

		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
<i>Expenditures</i>			
1461006160.550	Smart Start Vendor	43,811.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143690.000	Smart Start Vendor	43,811.00	

Funding authorization 12/15/2012.

D. County Attorney Invoices

E. FY 2013-14 Library Services & Technology Grant Application

**ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:**

Commissioner Charles Ray Peterson read a letter from Jackie Coleman, President of the Bladen County Firefighters Association, on behalf of the Bladen County Firefighters Association, EMS and Local Law Enforcement requesting that the Bladen County Emergency Services Building be named in honor of deceased firefighter/Assistant County Fire Marshal John Hall. Commissioner Peterson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, to name the Emergency Services Building in honor of John Hall. The motion failed by a vote of five (5) NOES (Commissioners Edge, Dowless, Pait, Blanks and Cogdell) to four (4) AYES (Peterson, Gillespie, Priest and Smith).

Chairman Smith recessed the meeting and announced that the meeting would reconvene in the Commissioners Room.

**ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

- Elizabethtown-White Lake Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Dawn Maynard appeared before the Board to request annual funding from the County for FY 14.. Chairman Smith advised Ms. Maynard that the Board would consider the request during the upcoming budget process.

**ITEM 5. Human Resources: (Amy Pharr, Director)**

Human Resources Director Amy Pharr advised the Board that the Personnel Policy committee met on January 3, 2013 and asked that the Board consider approving the following revisions to the Personnel Policy:

(1) Reflect changes in the following sections eliminating reference to the State Personnel Act for the Health and Social Services departments:

- Organization of Personnel system – page 2
- Equal Employment Opportunity – page 2
- Unlawful Workplace Harassment – page 1, 2 & 3
- Personnel files – page 1
- Recruitment and Selection – page 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6
- The Classification Plan – page 1
- The Pay Plan – Overtime -- Check font on page 4 & 5
- On-Call Compensation – page 1
- Separation – page 1, 2, 6 & 7
- Appeals – page 1
- Conditions of Employment – page 3
- Dress Code – page 3
- Drug & Alcohol – page 11
- Transitional Duty – page 2

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(2) Safe Driving Policy:

Add items H and I, listed below, to the criteria in **Section III of the Safe Driving Policy** in determining an unacceptable driving record for job applicants and for the evaluation of existing County employees:

(H.) Conviction of furnishing alcohol to minors.

(I.) DWI while in a public vehicle area of gated communities.

(3) Compensation Plan Increase:

Clarify effective date of Increase. Currently the Policy states that a one-step increase is given on the first year anniversary in that position. Increases will be awarded thereafter at three year intervals, on January 1 or July 1, depending on the date of hire.

Ms. Pharr asked the Board to revise the wording from receiving the one step increase on the one year anniversary to receiving the increase on January 1 or July 1, depending on the date of hire which is currently the procedure for receiving the increase.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board approved revisions to Item 5-1 and Item 5-2 but denied revision to Item 5-3 Compensation Plan Increase.

**ITEM 6**

**Consolidated Human Services Agency: (Wayne Stewart, Director)**

A. Food Stamp Program Overview: DSS FNS/DC Supervisor Kathy LaMaster appeared before the Board and presented an overview of the issues Food & Nutrition recipients are experiencing. Kathy advised the Board that the department is experiencing problems due to the implementation of the NC Fast system for taking and maintaining Food and Nutrition applications and that some benefits may be delayed. She further stated that they are working extremely hard to meet the needs of the applicants.

B. Animal Control: (Kory Hair, Supervisor)

Supervisor Kory Hair asked that the Board consider approving a part time position in Animal Control. He stated that due to a staffing shortage, a hardship has been created for other Animal Control Officers to meet the needs of the department with its high volume of calls. By having a part time position, it will lessen the call time for services and the likelihood of officers being on call every weekend. Based on 34 hours per pay period at a hourly rate of \$12.8969, the approximate cost for the remainder of the fiscal year is \$5,194.00. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board approved a part time position for Animal Control.

C. Review Community Health Assessment Survey: (Health Educator Carol Strickland)

Health Educator Carol Strickland advised that the Community Health Assessment (CHA) is designed to promote a broader understanding of the health of our community, as well as measure the progress of collaborative efforts undertaken by local partners to improve the overall health and well-being of our community. Completed every three years, the CHA is a process which includes identifying, collecting, analyzing and disseminating information on the community's assets, strengths, resources and needs as evident from the survey results. The CHA is reviewed and approved by the Department of Health and Human Services and serves as a vital tool for the Accreditation process for the Health department and for strategic planning.

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Carol further stated that the Bladen County Health Department in collaboration with the Cape Fear Valley Regional Medical Center/Bladen County, provides leadership in this collaborative effort to conduct, produce, and distribute a comprehensive CHA in conjunction with Healthy Bladen Collaborative and other community members. The CHA is an important tool used to recognize and identify emerging issues focusing on the health of our community. This important tool provides us the opportunity to share results and educate county residents and providers on health issues as well as plan and implement interventions to address change needed to promote better health in each community. Also data and statistics are a baseline by which to monitor changes as a result of interventions. The CHA also serves as a resource for grant applications and guides programming and organizational decisions. Carol distributed the survey to everyone in attendance and requested that the survey be completed and returned to her prior to leaving the Board meeting.

**ITEM 7.**

**Planning Department: (Greg Elkins, Director)**

- A. Director Greg Elkins submitted the Planning Board's proposed list for the selection of a Steering Committee for the Land Use Plan. The Planning Board recommended that the Committee be composed of not more than 15 members with 3 alternates and that each Commissioner submit two (2) names each. Chairman Smith stated that the Board would consider the appointments along with the other Advisory Board appointments at the Board Meeting on February 18, 2013.
- B. Mr. Elkins provided a power point presentation to update the Board regarding the Planning Department and the Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of County Commissioners, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.

**ITEM 8.**

**Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (2):**  
Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board appointed Darrell Page to replace John Creech with an expiration date of January 6, 2016 and tabled appointment held by Agnes McKoy until the next Board meeting on February 18, 2013.
- B. **Bladen County Airport Appeals Board (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board tabled the appointments to the Bladen County Airport Appeals Board until the Board meeting on February 18, 2013.
- C. **Lisbon Rural Fire Protection District Commissioner (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board waived the term limits and reappointed John Wayne Packer and George Barber with an expiration date of January 2, 2016.

**ITEM 9.**

**Advisory Appointments to Be Considered on February 18, 2013:**

- A. Bladen County Nursing Home Advisory Committee
- B. Child Fatality/Protection Team
- C. Regional Aging Advisory County (Bladen County Members)
- D. Land Use Plan Steering Committee

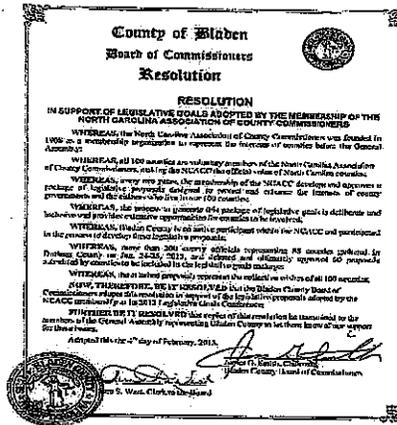
**ITEM 10.**

**County Manager: (Greg Martin)**

- A. County Manager Greg Martin reviewed the calendar for upcoming events.

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- B. Mr. Martin provided an update to the Board regarding the trapping request made by Mr. Kenneth Gooden at the Board meeting on January 7, 2013. Mr. Martin advised that Sgt. Andy Waldrop with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources indicated that there may not be any benefit to posting game lands when used for trapping.
- C. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board adopted the following Resolution in Support of Legislative Goals adopted by the Membership of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners:



- D. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board approved a letter of support for construction of a Rock Arch Ramp Fishway at Lock and Dam # 2 and # 3.

**ITEM 11.** 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 Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board exited Closed Session and re-entered Open Session.

County Manager Greg Martin stated that the Board Planning Session was scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

Chairman Smith stated that he was proud of all of the Bladen County employees, Law Enforcement and other personnel for the manner in which everything was handled during the train derailment incident in Bladenboro.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Dowless, the Board adjourned at 9:10 pm.

*James G. Smith*  
 James G. Smith, Chairman  
 Bladen County Board of Commissioner

ATTEST:  
*Sara S. West*  
 Sara S. West, Clerk to the Board

