

**March 28, 2013**

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Conference Room of the Bladen County Health Department at 300 Mercer Mill Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina. The purpose of the meeting was to meet with Representative William Brisson and Representative Ken Waddell, regarding matters of interest to Bladen County and to discuss and receive feedback regarding the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners five priority goals and hot topics for the 2013 session. Senator Bill Rabon was unable to attend.

**Members present:**

James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Chairman  
 Mark Gillespie, Vice Chairman  
 Charles Ray Peterson  
 Delilah Blanks  
 G. Michael Cogdell  
 Billy Ray Pait  
 Daniel Dowless

**Guests:** Representative William Brisson  
 Representative Ken Waddell

1. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order and provided the Invocation.
2. The following Matters of Interest to Commissioners were discussed:
  - A. HB 4 Regarding Possible Closure of Local Employment Security Office (ESO)
  - B. SB 73 – An Act to Require Local Workforce Development Boards to Use a Competitive Selection Process to Award Adult and Dislocated Worker Services Provider Contracts Authorized in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
  - C. Department of Correction (DOC) Inmate Crews to Clean Bladen Roadsides
3. State Budget Concerns:
  - A. Possible Closure of White Lake Correctional Facility
  - B. Forestry Assistant County Ranger Position
  - C. Funds for VIPER Tower
  - D. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF)
  - E. Additional Land Purchases by the State for Game Lands
4. Matters of Interest to Cape Fear Valley Health:
  - A. Bladen Healthcare, LLC, President Dan Weatherly discussed 'How the decision not to expand Medicaid will affect North Carolina residents.
  - B. Mr. Weatherly also spoke to Representatives Brisson and Waddell regarding the sequestration that will take effect on April 1, 2013.
5. Reviewed the following 2013 Top Legislative Goals:
  - A. Oppose Shift of State Transportation to Counties
  - B. Reinstate ADM and Lottery Funds for School Construction
  - C. Oppose Unfunded Mandates and Shifts to Counties
  - D. Ensure Adequate Mental Health Funding
  - E. Preserve the Existing Local Revenue Base
6. Discussed the following Hot Topics:
  - A. Motor Vehicle Property Tax
  - B. Inmate Medical Costs
  - C. Non-Emergency Medicaid Transport
  - D. Tax Reform
7. Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm.

James G. Smith, Chairman

ATTEST.

Sara S. West, Clerk

