

January 6, 2014

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, January 6, 2014 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
- G. Michael Cogdell
- Wayne Edge

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order. Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church, Bladenboro, NC provided the Invocation. County Manager Gregory J. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Smith shared with the Board that Reverend Hayes provided the devotional at the Morning Prayer service and commended him for taking his time to deliver such a wonderful message.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie the Board approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of Regular Meeting on December 16, 2013.
- C. Budget Amendments as follows:

Health

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1059005960.200	Supplies	6,789.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103530.080	F/S-Health Promotion	6,789.00	

Additional funds received from State.

Library

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
106700.234	Electronics	2,822.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103630.010	F/S-Library State Aid	2,822.00	

Additional funds received from Aid to Public Libraries.

Extension-Grants

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
106805.647	JCPC-Support Services for Students & Parents	34,751.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103230.026	JCPC-Support Services for Students & Parents	34,751.00	

JCPC Grant for Support Services for Students & Parents.

Extension Grant - Admin

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
106806.640	JCPC-Refund to State	5,905.17	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriated	5,905.17	

JCPC Admin Grant refund to State.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor Fund	473.50	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor Fund	473.50	

Increased funding. 100% State funds.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
146100.693	Medicaid Transportation	25,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.320	Medicaid Transportation	25,000.00	

100% Federal Reimbursement on current and future expenses.

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DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.535	Medicaid	213.10	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.010	Client Refund	213.10	

EPICS draft for October 2013.

DSS

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
1461006160.555	Refunds/Client Repay	50.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143591.010	Client Refund	50.00	

To reimburse a client for an NCHC enrollment fee.

D. County Attorney Invoices:

Date	Department	Amount
12/23/13	Human Resources	\$ 250.00
12/23/13	Health Department	\$ 500.00
1/01/14	Jan-14 Retainer	\$ 300.00
1/02/14	Finance Department	\$ 760.00
	Total	\$ 1,810.00

- E. Noble Oil Services Contract related to the disposal of oil filters, sludge/water and used oil recycling.
- F. Preceptor Agreement with Elon University related to the Physician Assistant Studies Program, which will offer opportunities for clinical experience for students of the Physician Assistant Studies Program. It will provide students the opportunity to participate in patient care, to accomplish clinical educational objectives under appropriate supervision, as well as allow for Bladen County's Nurse Practitioner to earn credit hours toward required licensure.
- G. Four-County Community Services Proposed CSBG Refunding Application, for Board review.

ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Commissioner Gillespie addressed the Board regarding an appointment to the Carver's Creek Fire District Advisory Board. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board unanimously appointed Jack Skipper, with an expiration date of April 5, 2016, to replace Dan McDuffie due to his relocation outside the service area.

ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one in attendance wished to address the Board.

ITEM 5. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Director)

A. Mrs. Lisa Coleman introduced Mr. Bryon Scott of Thompson, Price, Scott & Adams & Company, PA, Certified Public Accounting firm, to present the FY2012-2013 Audit. Mr. Scott reviewed the required auditor communications and then presented the Audit. Mr. Scott commended Financial Officer Lisa Coleman and County Manager Greg Martin for their diligence to make his tasks more efficient, as well as Tax Administrator Chris Ellis and his entire staff. Mr. Scott reviewed each of the major funds and comparisons to prior year. He stated that the only issue that needed to be discussed was lack of segregation of duties in departments that handle cash. That is an issue with many small local governmental units. All in all, the financial status of the County is good.

Commissioner Peterson asked Mr. Scott his opinion of what the County may need to do in order to increase revenues. Mr. Scott responded by talking about the economic development efforts already in process.

Mr. Scott completed his audit presentation by letting the Board know that he would be available to speak with any Board members at any time during the year if they wished to communicate with him.

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- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest the Board unanimously accepted the FY2013 Audit as presented.

ITEM 6. Health and Human Services: (Cris Harrelson, Director)

- A. Cris Harrelson provided an update regarding a possible Federal shutdown. Mr. Harrelson stated that there would need to be an appropriations bill passed by Congress before January 15, 2014 in order to avoid another Federal shutdown. There is legislation in place to secure reimbursement of federal programs to the Agency, but there is no terminology that indicates the timeframe of reimbursement. Commissioner Peterson asked that the County be prepared and suggested meeting now to create a game plan for the possibility. Mr. Harrelson stated that the Agency management team has been doing so.
- B. Department of Social Services Director Vickie Smith provided an update related to the NCFAST program and the rollout of the Universal Worker program. There had been issues with the NCFAST program when Food Nutrition Services were initially processed through this new system. Currently, all applications have been processed and the system is running well.

The Universal Worker system will allow for the client to meet with one frontline DSS staff member to apply for any and all programs for which they are eligible. This system will also allow the client to tell their story one time to one staff member, which will promote well-being by not having to repeat their hardships multiple times. The initial rollout date was January 2014. However, Bladen County requested and received a reprieve to launch the system on March 21, 2014. During this time, staff members will undergo additional training to prepare the local staff to operate efficiently and effectively.

ITEM 7. Emergency Services: (Bradley Kinlaw, Director)

- A. Bradley Kinlaw stated that a plot of land owned by the NC Forest Service has been identified and the County Fire Association is currently having the property surveyed for potential donation. A fire training facility will benefit all fire departments within Bladen County.

ITEM 8. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Bladen County Division on Aging Advisory Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board waived the policy regarding term limits, and unanimously reappointed William James to the Bladen County Division on Aging Advisory Committee, with the term expiring 12/31/2016.
- B. **Bladen County Library Board (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously appointed Sharon Anderson to the Bladen County Library Board, with the term expiring 12/31/2016.

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration at the January 21 Meeting:

- A. Bladen County Airport Appeals (2)
- B. Elizabethtown Planning & Zoning Commission (ETJ) (1)
- C. Elizabethtown Board of Adjustment (ETJ) (1)

ITEM 10. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. County Manager Greg Martin reviewed the calendars for January 2014 and February 2014.
- B. Mr. Martin discussed the NCACC Congressional Issues Request invited by the NC Association of County Commissioners and reminded the Board that their input was requested.
- C. Mr. Martin introduced the NC Broadband Inventory Assessment program through the Department of Commerce. Participation in the program headed by NC Broadband will identify broadband gaps within the county, demand for

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service, potential assets to support existing providers or to help attract additional providers for unserved or underserved areas. Mr. Martin stated that there was no income or expense to be realized by the County to participate.

- D. Mr. Martin updated the Board regarding the request for information by Commissioner Cogdell at the previous meeting, related to sewer lines in close proximity of the proposed US 701/NC 87 interchange. The Town of Elizabethtown does have an existing sewer line, which extends south of US 701/NC 87 intersection and serves the State Employees' Credit Union. The interchange project includes relocation of the sewer line.

ITEM 11. Closed Session

A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board entered into Closed Session in accordance with NCGS 143.318.11 (a) (4) Industry/Economic Development.

B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board existed the Closed Session.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board scheduled a Public Hearing for Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 6:30pm, related to a proposed \$25,000 Economic Incentive Grant to Bladen's Bloomin' Agri-Industrial, Inc..

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

James G. Smith, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board