

October 17, 2016

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 17, 2016 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

- Russell Priest, Chairman
- Arthur Bullock, Vice Chairman
- Charles R. Peterson
- Daniel Dowless
- Dr. Delilah Blanks
- Billy R. Pait
- Wayne Edge
- G. Michael Cogdell
- James G. "Jimmie" Smith

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Priest called the meeting to order.

Reverend Larry Hayes, Good News Baptist Church of Bladenboro, provided the Invocation. Guest 4-H member Clinton Ryckley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Priest expressed his appreciation to Bladen County’s First Responders, Law Enforcement, Emergency Services, Emergency Medical Services and Human Services departments who have been working long hours and away from their families during Hurricane Matthew and aftermath.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of October 3, 2016 Regular Meeting
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Tax Administration

Expenditures		Increase	Decrease
104500.325	Postage	3,000.00	
Revenues			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriated	3,000.00	

Postage due to sending out exemption audits.

Department of Social Services

Expenditures		Increase	Decrease
146100.693	Medicaid Transportation	100,000.00	
Revenues			
143531.320	Medicaid Transportation	100,000.00	

100% Federal for current and future expenses.

Department of Social Services

Expenditures		Increase	Decrease
146100.6160.571	United Way – Caring for Kids	750.00	
Revenues			
143531.344	United Way – Caring for Kids	750.00	

2nd Quarter Allocation

D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
9/28/16	Sheriff’s Office	\$ 420.00
9/29/16	E M S	\$ 625.00
9/30/16	Revenue Dept.	\$ 3,520.00
10/01/16	October 2016 Retainer	\$ 300.00
10/03/16	Sheriff’s Office	\$ 3,525.00
10/07/16	Division on Aging	\$ 525.00
	Total	\$ 8,915.00

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- E. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 9-16, incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.
- F. Sheriff's Office Records Retention Schedule Amendment.
- G. County Management Records Retention Schedule Amendment.
- H. AT&T Service Agreement for East Arcadia Nutrition Site.
- I. Duke Energy Progress, LLC Easement for the purpose of providing electrical service to a Detention & Law Enforcement Center.
- J. Revised FY 2016-17 Medication Assistance Program (MAP) Agreements.

ITEM 3. Public Hearing:

- A. Chairman Priest declared open the Public Hearing to receive comments regarding a FY 2017-18 Community Transportation Program Grant.
No one in attendance addressed the Board.
Chairman Priest declared closed the Public Hearing.

ITEM 4. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

Chairman Priest recognized Commissioner Smith to address the Board. Commissioner Smith stated that a number of Bladen County residents are still struggling with flooding in the Rowan and Kelly areas.

Chairman Priest recognized County Manager Greg Martin to make a few comments. Mr. Martin expressed his appreciation to Human Services departments, and outside agencies that provided additional resources, specifically from McDowell, Gaston, Brunswick and Randolph Counties.

Chairman Priest recognized Commissioner Bullock to address the Board. Commissioner Bullock expressed his appreciation to the County of Bladen on behalf of Elizabethtown Rescue Squad. The Squad's building was flooded and the County provided an alternate location in the Industrial Park in order for the Squad to continue its service.

Chairman Priest recognized Commissioner Peterson to address the Board. Commissioner Peterson expressed his appreciation to the entire County staff. He shared that county departments worked together with other agencies as a well-oiled cohesive unit.

- A. Chairman Priest and Vice Chairman Bullock recognized the following employees for their years of service:

Employee	Department	Years of Service
Michael McGavock	Division on Aging	5
Charmonia Buie	D S S	5
Jennifer Dunham	D S S	5
Sylvia Charles	D S S	10
Cathy Mazur	D S S	20
Emily Bronsn	D S S	25
Sharon McGavock	D S S	25
Cereca Newkirk	D S S	30
Glenda Bagwell	E M S	5
Stephen Hester	E M S	5
Marion Moore	E M S	5
Donna Cagle	E M S	10
Lisa Britt	Health Dept.	5
Twanna Lewis	Health Dept.	15
Leigh Cromartie	Library	5
Tramain Harvey	Sheriff's Office	5
Wanda Monroe	Sheriff's Office	20

Chairman Priest briefly recessed the meeting at 6:48pm for a reception in honor of the recognized employees.

Chairman Priest reconvened the meeting at 7:05pm.

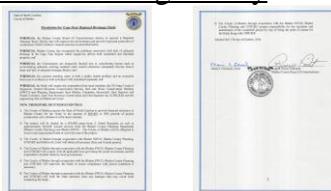
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ITEM 5. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

A. Cape Fear Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. representative Kathleen Riely addressed the Board regarding plans to submit applications to various grant agencies to assist in funding a Cape Fear Regional Drainage Study. Planning Director Greg Elkins also shared that by including the other counties involved in the Cape Fear Resource Conservation and Development, the study could be more comprehensive and effective. The CFRC&D covers not only Bladen, but also includes Columbus, Robeson, Brunswick, New Hanover and Pender Counties, involving the Cape Fear and Lumber River basins.

Following Ms. Riely's update, the Board expressed appreciation for her presentation and plans to complete the study.

B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution in Support of a Cape Fear Regional Drainage Study:



ITEM 6. Department Focus: Library: Kelsey Edwards, Director

A. Mrs. Edwards provided an overview of services available through the Bladen County Library and its branches. Mrs. Edwards also stated that computers are available to citizens to be able to access the FEMA website to initiate a disaster relief application following Hurricane Matthew.

ITEM 7. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)

A. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a financial dashboard for the three-month period ending September 30, 2016.

ITEM 8. Department of Social Services: (Vickie Smith, Director)

A. Mrs. Smith and Income Maintenance Program Administrator Lisa Nance provided an update regarding Food & Nutrition Services, specifically involving storm-related emergency situations. Mrs. Smith stated that currently there are 3,700+ households in Bladen County which receive Food & Nutrition assistance. She stated that should Bladen County be designated as a Disaster Area, disaster Food & Nutrition Service may be made available to anyone in the County, whether or not they are currently receiving benefits.

B. Mrs. Smith stated that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) representatives may be in Bladen County at some time. Historically, FEMA has established a location to receive disaster relief applications within the Powell-Melvin Agriculture Center on Smith Circle. However, Mrs. Smith stated that affected residents can open a claim by contacting FEMA online or by telephone.

ITEM 9. Advisory Board Appointments:

A. East Arcadia Fire Service District Committee (3): Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously reappointed Calene Brown and Meredith Snowden and, waiving the rules on term limits, reappointed Clela Moseley, to three-year terms, with the terms expiring October 30, 2019.

B. Health and Human Services Agency Advisory Council (1): Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously appointed Rebecca Hester to fill an unexpired term, with the term expiring December 31, 2016.

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- C. **Keep Bladen Beautiful (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board unanimously appointed Mike Shaw to a three-year term of service, with the term expiring October 15, 2019.

ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During November 21, 2016 Board Meeting:

- A. Bay Tree Lakes Fire District Committee (1)
B. Clarkton Fire District Committee (2)

ITEM 11. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of October and November 2016. During calendar review, Commissioner Smith made a motion to reschedule the November 7, 2016 Board meeting to November 14, 2016. Commissioner Cogdell provided a second. The Board passed the motion unanimously.
- B. Mr. Martin provided an update regarding a recent application to the Rural Impact County Challenge, a NACo program available to ten (10) US counties per year. Mr. Martin stated that Bladen County was recently notified of its successful acceptance into the Program. A fall symposium is scheduled for December 7-9, 2016 in Tallahassee, FL. It is a requirement of the program for an Elected Official to be involved in the program. Mr. Martin stated that he would follow up with Chairman Priest in the upcoming days regarding a recommendation.
- C. Mr. Martin provided a recommendation for Bladen County to waive inspection fees related to Hurricane Matthew. Historically when Bladen County has been impacted by large storms, Building Inspection fees for storm-related damage have been waived in order to further alleviate financial hardships on the citizens of Bladen County. Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously approved waiving Building Inspection fees for storm-related damage repairs and construction.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Russell Priest, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners