

January 19, 2016

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 19, 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
- Billy Ray Pait
- G. Michael Cogdell
- Dr. Delilah Blanks
- Daniel Dowless
- Wayne Edge

Excused: James G. "Jimmie" Smith

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

ITEM 1. Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order.

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

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

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

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of January 4, 2016 Regular Meeting.
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Central

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105000.350	M/R Building & Grounds	9,500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.050	Fund Balance Appropriated	9,500.00	

Re-route sewage lines in Sheriff's department to new sewage tap.

Motor Pool

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.357	Vehicle Repair	2,830.10	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	2,830.10	

Insurance payment for 2014 Dodge Charger.

Motor Pool

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105010.357	Vehicle Repair	2,837.62	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103190.011	Insurance Claims	2,837.62	

Insurance payment for 2011 Ford Crown Victoria.

Sheriff

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.5175.120	Salaries	30,856.47	
105100.5175.181	FICA	2,361.00	
105100.5175.182	Retirement	2,207.00	
105100.5175.183	Group Insurance	5,802.00	
105100.5175.185	Retiree Health Insurance	1,728.00	
105100.5175.186	LEO 401K	1,543.00	
105100.5175.200	Supplies and Materials	500.00	
105100.5175.212	Uniforms	2,500.00	
105100.5175.739	Non-Inventoriable	2,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103270.013	BCC Deputies	49,497.47	

Establish budget fund for new deputy positions at Bladen Community College.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.693	Medicaid Transportation	100,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.320	Medicaid Transportation	100,000.00	

100% Federal Reimbursement.

D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
1/05/2016	Sheriff's Office	\$ 760.00
1/05/2016	Sheriff's Office	\$ 370.00
	Total	\$ 1,130.00

- E. Tax Refunds and Releases No. 12-15, incorporated by reference and made a part of these Minutes.
- F. Contract Extension for A. Wayne Raynor, Interim Health and Human Services Agency Director for the months of February, 2016 through April, 2016.
- G. Community Services Block Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2016-17 Application for Funding of a Community Anti-Poverty Plan in the amount of \$1,425,864 and to be administered by Southeastern Community and Family Services, Inc. for information; pursuant to the North Carolina Administrative Code (10A NCAC97C.0111(b)(1)(A), which requires each CSBG grant recipient to submit its Community Anti-Poverty Plan to each County Commissioner Board that it serves.

ITEM 3. Recognition of Employees:

- A. The following employees were recognized for their years of service to the County of Bladen and its citizens:

Employee	Department	Years of Service
Tina Clark	Finance	5
Mitchell Hester II	Sheriff's Office	5
Kevin Hunsinger	Sheriff's Office	20
Donna Parnell	Jail	5
Sonya Powers	Health	10
Beth Singletary	Health	10
Anna Johnson	Health	15
Maxine Jessup	Division on Aging	5
Jannie Mason	Library	15
Elizabeth Hines	Library	20
Patty Luevanos	E M S	10
Brenda Burney	D S S	15
Dorothy Zeigler	D S S	15
Deborah Storms	D S S	20
Kenny Hester	Water	20

- B. Chairman Priest briefly recessed the meeting at 6:41pm for a reception in honor of the recognized employees.

Chairman Priest reconvened the meeting at 6:59pm.

ITEM 4. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

No one brought an item of discussion to the floor.

ITEM 5. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one addressed the Board of Commissioners.

ITEM 6. Lumber River Council of Governments: (Adrian Lowery)

- A. Mr. Adrian Lowery provided a brief overview of a Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool Program (SFRLP15) which was approved at a previous meeting by the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Lowery stated that the \$170,000 total funding is planned to be used to rehabilitate three (3) homes. The program is intended to rehabilitate energy-related issues, in order to assist in creating a more energy-efficient home, thereby potentially reducing on-going energy costs. Following discussion, the Commissioners expressed their appreciation and interest of the program.

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ITEM 7. Bladen Community College: (Dr. William Findt, President)

- A. Dr. Findt expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to address the Board of County Commissioners. Board Chairman Dennis Troy, Executive Vice President Jeff Kornegay and Network Systems Administrator Phillip Pope were also in attendance. Dr. Findt provided an overview of a Connect NC Bond Act which will be on the March 2016 ballot. If accepted by North Carolina voters, the act would provide \$6,533,125 in funding for BCC campus improvements and would also earmark \$1,227,000 to be shared between Jones Lake and Singletary Lake State Parks.

Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution in support of the Connect NC Bond Act:



ITEM 8. Bladen County Schools: (Dr. Robert Heavenridge)

- A. Mr. Martin stated that Dr. Heavenridge was unable to attend the meeting. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously tabled the presentation to a future meeting.

ITEM 9. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)

- A. Mrs. Coleman provided an overview of a Financial Dashboard for the six-months ending December 31, 2015.
B. Mrs. Coleman reviewed a Request for Proposals for Auditing Services, to be published by February 1, 2016. This has been a County practice every three (3) years to assure fiscal-responsibility. Mrs. Coleman has identified seven CPA firms to contact for proposals.

ITEM 10. Computer Operations: (Robin Hewett, Director)

- A. Mr. Hewett provided an update to the Board regarding audio and video recording of Board of Commissioners meetings. Mr. Hewett stated that he had received a quote from a security company, but anticipates an additional quote from Evans Computer Solutions which may be more in line with the needs of the County. Commissioner Cogdell expressed his appreciation to Mr. Hewett for the information and follow-up.

ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (2):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously reappointed Divora Shaw and Sandra R. Guions to three-year terms, with terms expiring January 16, 2019.
B. **Bladen County Airport Appeals Board (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board, waiving the policy on term limits, reappointed Jeff Huff, Reynold Hester and John Dove to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 22, 2019.
C. **Division on Aging Advisory Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board, waiving the policy on term limits, unanimously reappointed Linda Bryan to a three-year term of service, with the term expiring December 31, 2018; and recommended CAP Supervisor Sonya Powers to fill Shonteia Keaton's agency appointment.
D. **Lisbon Rural Fire Service District Committee (5):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously tabled appointments to a future meeting.

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- E. **Local Emergency Planning Committee (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously appointed Curt Vincent to an unexpired term, with the term expiring June 30, 2017.
- F. **Personnel Advisory Board (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously appointed Renee Summerlin, with the term expiring December 31, 2018.

Chairman Priest recognized Commissioner Blanks to address the Board. Commissioner Blanks expressed her continued support of Bladen County Schools and asked for the Sales Tax Referendum to be revisited to include additional funding for the school system. Commissioner Blanks expressed her concern regarding a perceived division between the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education. Commissioners Cogdell and Bullock expressed their concerns regarding the ages of several school facilities and a declining student population, as well.

ITEM 12. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of January and February 2016.
- B. Mr. Martin reviewed NC Community College System-required certification regarding a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) training facility to be constructed on BCC's campus. Mr. Martin stated that this was the project for which BCC was awarded Golden LEAF Foundation funding in the amount of \$500,000 to assist with construction of a new facility. A \$1,300,000 grant application is being considered by the Economic Development Commission and the County of Bladen has budgeted \$50,000 toward the project. Mr. Martin stated that an additional certification requires signature regarding the County's responsibility for Bladen Community College's estimated \$25,026 in additional annual operating costs, including staffing, utilities and maintenance, for the new facility.
- C. Mr. Martin asked the Board to consider scheduling a Planning Session. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously scheduled a Planning Session for Monday, February 8, 2016 to begin at 5:30pm. A location will be determined.
- D. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously voted to create a Sales Tax Referendum Ad Hoc Committee to develop educational information and outreach of the referendum.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Russell D. Priest, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners