

**October 6, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 6, 2014 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

- James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Chairman
- Mark Gillespie
- Charles Ray Peterson
- Billy Ray Pait
- Daniel Dowless
- G. Michael Cogdell
- Wayne Edge
- Delilah Blanks
- Russell Priest

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.

**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 Regular Meeting on September 15, 2014.
- C. Budget Amendments as follows:

**Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104200.610</b>	Contract Services	6,500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriation	6,500.00	

eCivis Grant Management – annual cost.

**Planning**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104220.270</b>	Dues and Subscriptions	500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103110.001</b>	Zoning/Cell Tower	500.00	

Cover fees associated with cell tower public hearing.

**Health**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>1059005985.200</b>	Supplies	4,304.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103530.103</b>	DHHS-IAP	4,304.00	

Grant received from State.

**Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>106805.640</b>	JCPC-Refund to State	13,660.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.010</b>	Miscellaneous Revenue	13,660.00	

Refund to State for the JCPC Supportive Services for Student and Parents. This will be refunded from the Board of Education.

**Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>106805.640</b>	JCPC-Refund to State	2,275.00	
<b>106806.640</b>	JCPC-Refund to State	2,083.89	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriated	4,358.89	

Refund to State for the JCPC Program and Administration.

**Administration**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>106900.903</b>	To DSS		361.00
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriated		361.00

Additional funding for Family Reunification – Funding Authorization #1.

**Department of Social Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.689</b>	Energy Neighbor Fund	450.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.031</b>	Energy Neighbor Fund	450.00	

Increased funding – Funding Authorization #3.

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Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor Fund	450.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor Fund	450.00	

Increased funding – Funding Authorization #4.

D. County Attorney Invoices:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>
9/03/14	Emergency Management	\$ 500.00
9/12/14	Health Department	\$ 3,515.00
9/16/14	Board of Elections	\$ 200.00
9/18/14	Health Department	\$ 970.00
9/25/14	Health Department	\$ 510.00
9/25/14	Health Department	\$ 710.00
10/01/14	Health Department	\$ 485.00
10/01/14	Oct-14 Retainer	\$ 300.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,190.00</b>

- E. National 4-H Week Proclamation.
- F. CodeRED Services Agreement.
- G. Professional Consulting Agreement with Maximus, Inc.
- H. Public Hearing Scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2014 at 6:30pm to Receive Comments Regarding Bladen Area Rural Transportation System (BARTS).

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

- A. Chairman Smith recognized Rosemary P. Bengston upon her retirement from the County as a Public Health Nurse II. Cris Harrelson also thanked Mrs. Bengston for her professionalism and the way in which she conducted herself with not only her patients, but her co-workers as well. Mrs. Bengston thanked the County Commissioners for their support of the Health Department.
- B. Chairman Smith asked 4-H Youth Development Director Stacie Kinlaw to join him for a presentation of a 4-H Week Proclamation, as follows:



Ms. Kinlaw thanked the Board for its continued support and shared that when she was newly hired in NC Extension Service, there was only one (1) county 4-H club. Currently, there are seven (7) throughout the County.

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

No one in attendance wished to address the Board.

**ITEM 5. Health and Human Services Agency: (Cris Harrelson, Director)**

- A. Mr. Harrelson presented amendments to the Board of Health Operating Procedures. As set forth in G.S. 153A-76 and G.S. 153A-77, the Bladen County Board of Commissioners, in exercise of its jurisdiction over commissions, boards and agencies, assumed direct control of any activities theretofore conducted by the Bladen County Board of Health by adoption of a resolution dated November 13, 2012. All powers, responsibilities and duties

previously bestowed upon the Bladen County Board of Health were thereby granted to the Bladen County Board of County Commissioners. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the Board unanimously approved the amended Board of Health Operating Procedures.

- B. Mr. Harrelson provided an overview related to the resignation of the Director of Nursing after just four weeks of employment. During the recent exhaustive search for a Director of Nursing, Public Health Nurse II Debra Conner stepped up and demonstrated her abilities and willingness to serve the County and its citizens. She exhibited her capabilities of maintaining the responsibilities of the Director of Nursing. Ms. Conner has been asked to serve in the capacity as Interim Director of Nursing and plans to officially apply for the permanent position once advertised. If Ms. Conner is selected and accepts the permanent position of Director of Nursing, then Ms. Conner's current position of Public Health Nurse will be posted. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board unanimously approved the use of Lapse Funds from the vacated Public Health Nurse position to fund a new Nurse position.
- C. Mr. Harrelson requested the Board consider restructuring the Care Management Program from two (2) Social Workers to one (1) Public Health Nurse and two (2) Public Health Nurse II's. Commissioner Blanks asked about the social issues that might not be addressed through the program going forth with the loss of both Social Worker positions. Mr. Harrelson shared that this restructure was suggested by Community Care of North Carolina, the entity that funds the program. Commissioner Blanks again reiterated her reservations of doing away with Social Workers in the Care Management Program. Mr. Harrelson assured Commissioner Blanks that he would consult with Community Care of North Carolina to make sure that social issues will be addressed under this new structure of the Care Management Program. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved to restructure the Care Management Program.
- D. As part of the Young Families Connect Program, a partnership between Prevent Child Abuse and Bladen County Health Department to support a successful Basic Preschool and School Age parent program is required. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved the Memorandum of Agreement with NC Incredible Year Network for the Young Families Connect Program.
- E. Due to an unexpected staffing shortage in the Care Management Program and the need for services for the current patient caseload, it is requested to consider contracting with North Carolina Public Health Alliance to provide short-term staffing until vacancies are filled. Upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously approved the contract with North Carolina Alliance of Public Health Agencies.
- F. Mr. Harrelson presented a contract with Shaw Recovery for the disposal of x-ray films which have been housed for several years and for which Bladen County has no use. Shaw Recovery is able to harvest silver from the x-rays for which they will compensate Bladen County. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved the contract with Shaw Recover, along with the Business Associate Agreement and HIPAA Agreement.
- G. Mr. Harrelson provided an overview of the Young Families Connect Program, which is required to work in collaboration with Bladen Community College to recruit an advisor and four (4) participants for the Preconception Health Peer Education program. This program is federally funded and is designated to serve pregnant and parenting families ages 13-24. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board

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unanimously approved a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) with Bladen Community College, regarding the Young Families Connect Program.

Commissioner Blanks stated her feelings regarding the Board of Commissioners responsibilities as the Board of Health. She specified that she felt that the Board was not fulfilling the General Statutes as a Board of Health. Mr. Harrelson assured Commissioner Blanks that he would contact individuals at the School of Government to confirm the process and procedures for the Board of Health meetings. Mr. Harrelson also stated that he would follow up with Commissioner Blanks and the entire Board at a future Board of Commissioners meeting.

**ITEM 6. Advisory Board Appointments**

- A. Keep Bladen Beautiful (3):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously reappointed Sondra Guyton, with the term expiring 9/30/17. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board unanimously reappointed Natasha Bullock, with the term expiring 9/30/17. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Gillespie, the Board unanimously tabled a third appointment.
- B. Tobermory Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Advisory Board (1):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the Board unanimously appointed Michael S. Underwood, with the term expiring 12/31/15.

**ITEM 7. Advisory Board Appointments For Consideration at October 20, 2014 Meeting:**

- A. East Arcadia Fire Service District Committee (3)  
B. EMS Advisory Council (6)  
C. Keep Bladen Beautiful (1)

**ITEM 8. County Manager: (Greg Martin)**

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed calendars for the months of October and November, 2014.
- B. Mr. Martin stated that the Bladen County Chapter of United Way is planning its Day of Caring event for November 7, 2014. During FY 2013-14, Bladen County appropriated \$200 specifically for this annual project. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved \$200 for United Way's Day of Caring.
- C. Mr. Martin presented a brief overview of recent talks with the White House, EPA and US Army Corps of Engineers with respect to the Waters of the US proposed rule. It appears, should legislation be passed to enact this as law, that there may be a potential cost in time and money to counties and local partners. It is proposed to expand federal oversight of "waters of the US", including wetlands, rivers, streams, lakes and other bodies of water. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution in Opposition to a Waters of the US Rule, to be submitted to Bladen County's legislative delegation and copies to National Association of Counties'(NACo) Associate Legislative Director Julie Ufner and the NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC).



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- D. Mr. Martin provided a brief summary of recent discussions regarding proposed measures to secure the courthouse. Chairman Smith asked Lieutenant Jeff Singletary and Sheriff Prentis Benston to move to the desk in front of the Board should there be any specific questions asked which they would field. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Edge made a motion to schedule a Special Meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 12pm regarding courthouse security. Commissioner Blanks provided a second and the motion was unanimously approved.
- E. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Dowless the Board scheduled a Special Meeting on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 5pm regarding a potential jail construction project. The motion passed by a vote of eight (8) AYES (Smith, Gillespie, Cogdell, Blanks, Priest, Dowless, Pait, Edge) to one (1) NO (Peterson).

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Priest, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.

ATTEST:

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

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James G. Smith, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners