

**December 7, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, December 7, 2015 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

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

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

**ITEM 1.** Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order.

Prior to the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Peterson asked for a moment of silence in honor of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and the 2,403 victims who were killed in the surprise attack on December 7, 1941.

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 Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board approved the following Consent Items:

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of November 16, 2015 Special Meeting.
- C. Minutes of November 16, 2016 Regular Meeting.
- D. Minutes of November 30, 2015 Special Meeting.
- E. Budget Amendments, as follows:

**Revenue Department**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>104500.192.002</b>	Professional Services – Foreclosure	21,000.00	
<b>104500.192.000</b>	Professional Services – Legal	5,500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriated	26,500.00	

Foreclosure expense.

**Central Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105000.350</b>	M/R Building & Grounds	3,144.51	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.011</b>	Insurance Claims	3,144.51	

Insurance claim for damage due to power surge.

**Sheriff**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105100.200.021</b>	Supplies-K9	9,609.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103190.050</b>	Fund Balance Appropriated	5,644.00	
<b>103270.009</b>	Sheriff Donations	3,965.00	

Rollover of unspent K9 donations and current year donations.

**Animal Control**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>105200.499.028</b>	Spay/Neuter Program	4,921.78	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>103260.041</b>	Spay/Neuter Program	4,921.78	

Funding for July-September 2015.

**DSS**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<b>146100.706</b>	LIEAP	519.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>143531.033</b>	LIEAP	519.00	

Funding Authorization #1.

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**Solid Waste**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
205805.800	Unemployment Insurance	1,118.93	
<i>Revenues</i>			
203190.050	Fund Balance Appropriated	1,118.93	

Employee unemployment insurance for charging year ending 07/31/15.

**Emergency Medical Services**

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
325302.611.012	Contracted Services – Clarkton		1,500.00
325302.611.007	Contracted Services – Bladenboro	500.00	
325302.611.016	Contracted Services – Elizabethtown	500.00	
325302.611.021	Contracted Services – Tar Heel	500.00	

Re-allocate money from Clarkton that didn't receive allocation last quarter to the three other rescue's to cover cost for them to have TB skin testing for staff. This requires no more appropriation of funds.

**F. County Attorney Invoices.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>
11/16/15	Sheriff's Office	\$ 960.00
11/20/15	Sheriff's Office	\$ 550.00
11/23/15	Sheriff's Office	\$ 615.00
12/01/15	Dec-15 Retainer	\$ 300.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,425.00</b>

G. Surety Bonds for Officials.

H. Grant Award and Memorandum of Agreement for 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant.

I. Public Hearing scheduled for January 4, 2015 Regarding a Local Government Commission Application.

J. Human Resources Positions Reclassifications.

**ITEM 3. Employee Recognition:**

A. Chairman Peterson recognized Marsha P. White upon her retirement from the County as Board of Elections Deputy Director. Board of Elections Chairman Bobby Ludlum and Director Cynthia Shaw each thanked Mrs. White for her professionalism. Mrs. White expressed her appreciation to the Board for its support.

**ITEM 4. Election of Board Officers: (Greg Martin, County Manager)**

A. County Manager Greg Martin opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairperson. Commissioner Pait nominated Commissioner Peterson. Commissioner Cogdell nominated Commissioner Priest. Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed. Upon a vote by show of hands, Russell Priest was elected as Chairperson by a vote of 6-3 (Cogdell, Blanks, Bullock, Smith, Priest, Edge). Commissioner Peterson congratulated Commissioner Priest.

B. County Manager Greg Martin opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Cogdell nominated Commissioner Bullock. Commissioner Peterson nominated Commissioner Pait. Upon a vote by show of hands, Commissioner Bullock was elected as Vice Chairperson by a vote of 6-3 (Cogdell, Blanks, Bullock, Smith Priest, Edge).

**ITEM 5. Reception:**

Chairman Priest briefly recessed the meeting at 6:37pm for a reception in honor of Marsha P. White and the newly elected Board officers.

Chairman Priest reconvened the meeting at 6:48pm.

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**ITEM 6. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:**

- A. Mr. Horace Munn representing East Arcadia residents addressed the Board regarding EMS response times to the community. Mr. Munn expressed his frustration regarding recent calls with slow response times. Mr. Munn asked the Board to consider increasing EMS staff for additional coverage.

**ITEM 7. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

No one addressed the Board.

**ITEM 8. Sheriff's Office: (Jim McVicker, Sheriff)**

- A. Captain Jeff Singletary presented a request to establish two deputy sheriff positions to be assigned to Bladen Community College.
- B. Captain Singletary presented an agreement with Bladen Community College which would allow for reimbursement of the two newly established deputy sheriff positions on a quarterly basis. The term of the initial agreement is January 4, 2016 through June 30, 2015.

Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously approved two additional deputy sheriff positions to be assigned to Bladen Community College and the agreement with BCC, with further understanding that upon the College not being able to fully reimburse the county for these newly established positions, the positions would be eliminated.

**ITEM 9. Emergency Services: (Bradley Kinlaw, Fire Marshal)**

- A. Mr. Kinlaw provided a brief review the following priority items presented at a recent Board meeting:

<b>Item Description:</b>	<b>Requested Funds:</b>
Survey	\$ 5,800.00
Roof Repair (5 buildings)	\$ 1,000.00
HVAC (Chapel & Classrooms)	\$ 3,000.00
Paint	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,800.00</b>

Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved the priority items and funding for the items.

Commissioner Blanks asked Mr. Kinlaw to review EMS processes and response times to East Arcadia and to report back to the Board his findings.

**ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. **Bay Tree Lake Fire District Committee (2):** Commissioner Smith made a motion to appoint Clark Valentiner and Lenox Harrelson to Bay Tree Lake Fire District Committee. Commissioner Peterson provided a second. Following discussion, Commissioner Edge provided a substitute motion to reappoint Ray Hudson and James W. Davis. Commissioner Cogdell provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved. The three-year terms of service will expire November 3, 2018.

**ITEM 10. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration During December 21, 2015 Board Meeting:**

- A. Ammon Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)  
B. BARTS Advisory Board (5)  
C. Bay Tree Lake Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)  
D. Division on Aging Advisory Committee (2)  
E. East Arcadia Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)  
F. Economic Development Commission Advisory Committee (8)

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- G. Health & Human Services Advisory Council (5)
- H. Hickory Grove Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)
- I. Kelly Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)
- J. Library Board (3)
- K. Lisbon Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)
- L. Personnel Advisory Board (2)
- M. Tar Heel Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)
- N. Tobermory Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)
- O. White Oak Fire Department Firefighters Relief Fund Board (1)

**ITEM 12. County Manager: (Greg Martin)**

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed the Board calendars for December 2015 and January 2016.
- B. Mr. Martin reviewed a request on behalf of Bladen County Schools for capital project outlay requests. During budget deliberations, the Board of Commissioners chose to begin approving school system capital projects. The initial project list for Fiscal Year 2015-16 was presented as follows:

Location	Project	Cost
West Bladen HS	Replace carpet in band room	\$ 4,930.00
Bladen Lakes Primary	Canopy purchase & installation	\$ 5,946.00
East Arcadia School	Canopy purchase & installation	\$ 1,329.00
West Bladen HS	French drain installation adjacent to band room	\$ 21,272.00
East Bladen HS	Retrofit lights in main gym	\$ 4,290.00
West Bladen HS	Retrofit lights in gym	\$ 4,290.00
Bladenboro Middle	Bleachers for baseball field	\$ 14,280.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 56,337.00</b>

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the capital outlay requests as presented.

- C. Mr. Martin provided a brief overview of the process and pricing received from David Hill of Piedmont-Triad Regional Council for a compensation study for Bladen County in the amount of \$9,000. Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board unanimously approved a Compensation Study.

**ITEM 13. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

No one in attendance addressed the Board.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

ATTEST:

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Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

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Russell D. Priest, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners