

February 1, 2016

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 pm on Monday, February 1, 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
- 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.

Chairman Priest recognized and welcomed Commissioner Smith, who has recently dealt with health issues. Commissioner Smith thanked the Board members and others in attendance for their calls, prayers and friendship.

ITEM 2. Consent Items:

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

- A. Agenda.
- B. Minutes of January 19, 2016 Regular Meeting.
- C. Budget Amendments, as follows:

Animal Control

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105200.499.028	Spay/Neuter Grant	4,015.05	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103260.041	Spay/Neuter Grant	4,015.05	

July-September application for reimbursement.

Sheriff/Equitable Sharing

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
105100.120	Salaries	320.60	
535100.200	Supplies & Materials	5,000.00	
535100.395	Schools	5,000.00	
535100.499	Miscellaneous Expense	71,965.61	
535100.739	Non-Inventoriable	10,000.00	
535100.741	Capital Outlay - Vehicles	70,000.00	
535100.212	Uniforms	5,000.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
103270.014	Sheriff-Deputies Recreation	320.60	
533265.002	Sheriff-Treasury Funds	166,965.61	

Equitable Sharing funds received.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor Fund	452.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor Fund	452.00	

Funding Authorization #8.

Department of Social Services

<i>Expenditures</i>		<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
146100.689	Energy Neighbor Fund	500.00	
<i>Revenues</i>			
143531.031	Energy Neighbor Fund	500.00	

Funding Authorization #9.

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D. County Attorney Invoices.

Date	Department	Amount
1/01/2016	Retainer for Jan-2016	\$ 300.00
1/21/2016	Finance Office	\$ 750.00
1/27/2016	Sheriff's Office	\$ 1,550.00
	Total	\$ 2,600.00

E. NC Department of Environmental Quality Agreement regarding a 2015 Improving Energy Efficiency in Local Government Buildings, in the amount of \$10,000.

ITEM 3. Matters of Interest to Commissioners:

No one brought an item of discussion to the floor.

ITEM 4. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:

No one addressed the Board of Commissioners.

ITEM 5. Bladen County Schools: (Dr. Robert Heavenridge)

A. Dr. Heavenridge provided a brief overview of a Bladen County Public Schools Facility Needs Survey, which is completed every five (5) years. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved a Bladen County Public Schools Facility Needs Survey as presented.

ITEM 6. Emergency Services: (Bradley Kinlaw, Fire Marshal)

A. Mr. Kinlaw presented a proposed amendment for the Clarkton Fire Department's Funding Agreement for FY 2015-16. The Board of Directors requested a reduction of its annual allocation from \$67,860 to \$55,010. The surplus funds will be added to its county fund balance account. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved the amended Clarkton Fire Department Funding Agreement for FY 2015-16.

B. Mr. Kinlaw provided a brief overview how the County came to have numerous storage lockers, as they were left behind at the former White Lake Detention Facility. Mr. Kinlaw further explained that several public safety agencies have shown interest in utilizing the storage lockers. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously declared unused storage lockers surplus and approved the donation of surplus items to public safety agencies.

ITEM 7. Sheriff's Office: (Sheriff Jim McVicker)

A. Sheriff McVicker and Captain Jeff Singletary presented a Resolution to declare certain property surplus. Following discussion and upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously adopted the following Resolution:



B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously approved a transaction with Lawmen's Safety Supply to trade in surplus firearms pursuant to NCGS 143-129-7. Sheriff McVicker

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stated that the trade-in will allow for the department to purchase ammunition and other firearm supplies.

ITEM 8. Revenue Department: (Renee Davis, Tax Administrator)

- A. In accordance with NCGS 105-369, Mrs. Davis and Tax Collector Carol Cain presented a report of unpaid 2015 Taxes that are now liens on real property. Mrs. Davis also stated that the current year collection rate is 84.72%. At the same time last year, the rate was 84.76%. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved a "Summary of Levy Uncollected Report".
- B. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Smith the Board unanimously established a deadline of March 21, 2016 to pay taxes to avoid advertisement of unpaid 2015 real property taxes.

ITEM 9. Emergency Medical Services: (David Howell, Chief)

- A. Mr. Bradley Kinlaw presented a reclassification request, in Mr. Howell's absence, regarding an EMT-Intermediate staffed position to a Paramedic position. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bullock, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously approved reclassifying a staffed EMT-Intermediate position to a Paramedic position.

ITEM 10. Finance Department: (Lisa Coleman, Finance Officer)

- A. Mr. Martin provided an overview of the process by which a Request for Proposals for interim financing was submitted to eight (8) lending institutions on December 10, 2015, with a deadline to respond of December 22, 2015. No bids were received on the deadline date. Requests to each of the lending institutions were sent again on December 28, 2015, and again, no one responded. Following many conversations, two institutions submitted bids as follows:

Bank	Rate	Addtn'l Fees	Total Payments
BB&T	2.48%	Approximately \$10,000	\$ 1,116,496.44
Yadkin Bank	3.20%	No fees	\$ 1,279,040.00

Mr. Martin recommended the Board of Commissioners accept the proposal from BB&T for the term of 2.48% on a two-year construction loan. This reflects an approximate savings of \$150,000 compared to the next lowest proposal.

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to adopt the following Resolution approving financing terms with Branch Banking & Trust Company, with a second provided by Commissioner Dowless:



Chairman Priest called for any questions or comments. Following discussion regarding concern over the County's current banking partner not responding, the Board further discussed the process of securing banking services. It has been a practice to submit Request for Proposals every five (5) years to secure the best value in banking services. The County entered into a five-year agreement with First Bank on January 1, 2015 as its bid was the most competitive. Commissioner Blanks asked Mr. Martin to request a letter from First Bank, explaining its reasoning for not responding to the Request for Proposals for interim financing.

Commissioner Peterson called for a vote. Chairman Priest reviewed a motion on the floor provided by Commissioner Peterson, and seconded by Commissioner Dowless to adopt a Resolution approving financing terms with Branch Banking & Trust Company. The motion was unanimously adopted.

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- B. Mr. Martin provided a brief overview of a Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse regarding interim financing of a law enforcement and detention center construction project, pursuant to United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously adopted the following Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse:



ITEM 11. Advisory Board Appointments:

- A. **Lisbon Rural Fire Service District Committee (5):** Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board, waiving the policy on term limits, unanimously reappointed J. B. Priest, Israel Cromartie and Johnson Carter to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 2, 2018; and unanimously reappointed John Wayne Packer and George Barber to three-year terms of service, with the terms expiring January 2, 2019.

ITEM 12. Advisory Board Appointments for Consideration at the February 15, 2016 Meeting:

- A. **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (1)**
- B. **Child Fatality/Protection Team (2)**
- C. **Dublin Fire District Committee (1)**
- D. **Lumber River Council of Governments Region N Aging Advisory Committee (6)**
- E. **Nursing Home Advisory Committee (3)**

ITEM 13. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed Board calendars for the months of February and March 2016.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Russell Priest, Chairman
Bladen County Board of Commissioners