

March 9, 2015

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, March 9, 2015 at 6:00pm. The purpose of the meeting was to review proposed amendments to the Personnel Policy and consider scheduling two (2) special meetings.

Members present:

Chairman Charles R. Peterson

Dr. Delilah Blanks

Daniel Dowless

Billy Ray Pait

Wayne Edge

G. Michael Cogdell

Arthur A. Bullock

James G. Smith

Excused: Vice Chairman Russell Priest

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Commissioner Dowless provided an invocation. County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. Human Resources: (Amy Pharr, Director)

A. Mrs. Pharr provided an overview of proposed amendments to the Personnel Policy.

Following discussion, the following actions were taken:

- 1) Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board unanimously adopted the **Amended Civil Leave Policy**.
- 2) Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board unanimously tabled the **Amended Drug & Alcohol Free Workplace Policy** to a future meeting.
- 3) Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously adopted an **Amended Longevity Pay Policy**, to allow for employees who retire prior to October 31 to receive a prorated longevity payment.
- 4) Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously adopted the **Amended Paid Holidays Policy**.
- 5) Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously adopted the **Amended Separation, Disciplinary Action and Reinstatement Policy**.
- 6) Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Board unanimously adopted the **Amended Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy**.
- 7) Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Edge, the Board unanimously adopted the **Amended Use of Vehicles for County Business Policy**.
- 8) Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board unanimously approved acceptance of sick leave balance from other governmental units for current employees who were hired prior to 2012.

County Manager Greg Martin joined Mrs. Pharr to further discuss optional amendments to the Adverse Weather Conditions Policy. Following a presentation of each of the four (4) options and upon a motion by Commissioner Blanks, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell, the Board unanimously adopted Amendment option three (3) which allows for compensation paid to non-essential employees when offices are closed for inclement weather and compensation paid to essential employees based on hours worked, without additional credit for inclement weather hours.

Chairman Peterson briefly recessed the meeting at 6:39pm.

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Chairman Peterson reconvened the meeting at 7:09pm.

ITEM 3. County Manager: (Greg Martin)

- A. Mr. Martin provided a proposed date for a meeting with Representative William Brisson, Representative Ken Waddell and Senator Bill Rabon. Upon a motion by Commissioner Edge, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board unanimously scheduled a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 6:30pm to meet with the legislative delegation A meeting place will be determined at a later date.

- B. Mr. Martin reviewed the upcoming webinar Best Practices for Boards of Equalization and Review, scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2015 at 2pm. Along with the webinar, Mr. Martin indicated that Tax Assessor Chris Ellis and County Revaluation Project Lead Tim Cain will be prepared to share analytical information regarding the 2015 Revaluation. There are also other planning related matters, such as Home Health to discuss during this meeting. Upon a motion by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Bullock, the Board unanimously scheduled a Special Meeting for Monday, March 23, 2015, at 2pm to view the webinar, information from Mr. Ellis and Mr. Cain, and to discuss Home Health among other topics.

Commissioner Cogdell asked to address the Board and Captain Jeff Singletary who was in attendance. Commissioner Cogdell asked about a proposed food service agreement for inmates to begin as soon as possible and continue to the new detention facility. Captain Singletary indicated that Trinity Services Group (TSG) services New Hanover, Brunswick and Columbus Counties. He has spoken with Sheriff Hatcher in Columbus County and received favorable comments and recommendations.

County Manager Greg Martin shared that initially TSG was being considered to provide meal services for the new detention center. However, during the meeting, it was determined that cost reductions could be realized immediately.

Mr. Martin stated that an agreement with Trinity Services Group will be included on the upcoming regular meeting Agenda for the Board's consideration.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Dowless, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk

Charles Ray Peterson, Chairman