

**June 11, 2012**

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, June 11, 2012 at 6:00 pm regarding FY 2012-2013 Budget.

Members present were:

Charles Ray Peterson, Chairman  
James G. "Jimmie" Smith, Vice Chairman  
Lewis Tatum  
Mark Gillespie  
David Gooden  
Daniel Dowless  
Billy Ray Pait  
Russell Priest  
Delilah Blanks

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of Silence in honor of Bladen County Sheriff's Deputy Dewayne Charles Hester who was killed in the line of duty on Friday, June 8, 2012. Commissioner Tatum provided the Invocation and County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 1. Board Discussion Regarding FY 2013 Budget:**

Chairman Peterson asked County Manager Greg Martin to review adjustments to date regarding the FY 2013 proposed budget. Handouts were provided with information pertaining to suggested adjustments by the Board and FY 2012 Year End Predictions and FY 2013 Year End Predictions.

Mr. Martin stated that Economic Development Director Chuck Heustess was present to provide an update regarding refinancing of the Department of Motor Vehicle Call Center.

Mr. Heustess stated that First Citizens Bank had been selected for refinancing of the DMV Call Center. He thanked the Board for their assistance and stated that without the help of the Board, Economic Development would not have been able to complete the projects that have been done.

Mr. Heustess further stated that number 4 incubator has been put on hold as permits to build cannot be obtained unless an annexation agreement is signed.

Chairman Peterson thanked Mr. Heustess for the information and asked that he continue to update the Board.

Mr. Martin reviewed the handouts provided to the Board regarding the FY 2012-2013 proposed budget.

Commissioner Blanks requested a salary adjustment for Tax Administrator Chris Ellis and that the two (2) positions for the Department of Social Services be included in the FY 2013 budget.

DSS Director June Koenig appeared before the Board and requested that CSA II and IMCW II positions be placed back in the FY 2012-2013 budget.

County Manager Greg Martin stated that one option could be to leave the CSA II position as an item but appropriate funds only if the position is filled.

Upon a Motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Gooden, the Board approved by a vote of 7 AYES (Gillespie, Gooden, Pait, Dowless, Smith, Blanks and Priest) to 2 NOES (Peterson and Tatum) to include the IMCW II position and leave the CSA II position as an item and appropriate funds only if the position is filled

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In further review of the FY 2013 proposed budget, the Board agreed that there would be no additional funding for Bladen Community College.

Commissioner Pait asked County Manager Greg Martin if funds for recurring expenses are taken from fund balance, wouldn't taxes need to be increased?

Mr. Martin said yes, at some point a tax increase would be required. He shared his concern again regarding the importance of having sustainable revenue for recurring expenses.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tatum, seconded by Commissioner Blanks and approved to adjourn at 7:18 pm.

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Charles Ray Peterson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sara S. West, Clerk