

May 20, 2015

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 4:30 pm Commissioners Room, 105 East Broad Street, Elizabethtown, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget.

Members present were:

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
Russell Priest, Vice-Chairman (arrived at 4:33 pm)
Delilah Blanks
Michael Cogdell
Arthur Bullock (arrived at 5:00 pm)
James G. "Jimmie" Smith
Daniel Dowless
Billy Ray Pait
Wayne Edge

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order.

County Manager Greg Martin provided an overview of the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. Mr. Martin highlighted several issues which will impact the Budget and the proposed \$0.82 tax rate, as follows:

- Revaluation
- Detention and Law Enforcement Center
- EMS Appropriation
- Bladen County Schools and Bladen Community College

Mr. Martin explained a Revenue Neutral Calculation which determines the tax rate required to generate the same level of real estate property tax revenue following the 2015 county-wide Revaluation.

Mr. Martin also discussed ongoing financial concerns, specifically Bladen County Schools resulting from State funding reductions and long-term capital needs; Health Services, resulting from mandated programs; and challenges with expenditures growing at a faster rate than revenues.

Discussions encompassed sales tax, water system expansion, security for the Bladen Community College campus, debt service and staffing needs for the Detention center and Bladen County Schools proposed FY 2015-2016 Budget.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was recessed at 5:45 pm until Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 4:30 pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman