

**March 7, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 7, 2011 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Bladen County Courthouse.

The following members were present:

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

Attorney: Allen Johnson, Johnson Law Firm

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order. Commissioner Dowless provided the Invocation and County Manager Greg Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 1.**

**Consent Items:**

Chairman Peterson requested to add Closed Session in accordance with N.C. G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney-Client Privilege. Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board approved the addition to the agenda and the following consent items:

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes of February 7, 2010 (Regular Meeting)
- C. County Attorney Invoice(s):
  - 2-17-11 \$ 360.00 Agricultural Service Center Lease Agreement
  - 2-22-11 \$ 495.00 Review Voice Data Solutions Agreement
  - 3-01-11 \$ 300.00 Retainer for the Month of March
  - 3-03-11 \$ 5,575.00 Southeastern Regional vs Bladen County
  - 3-03-11 \$ 500.00 Bladen County Water District
  - \$ 7,230.00
- D. Budget Amendments as follows:

Department and Account Number	Account Description	Increase	Decrease
*****			
<u>Animal Control</u>			
Expenditures			
105200 499,028	Spay/Neuter Program	\$ 444.12	
Revenues			
103260 041	Spay/Neuter Program		\$ 444.12
*****			
(Funding for Quarter for Spay/Neuter Program)			
*****			
<u>DSS</u>			
Expenditures			
146100,6160,500	USDA Commodities	\$ 1,146.00	
Revenues			
143531,260	USDA Commodities		\$ 1,146.00
(Amendment necessary to pay current expenses)			
Expenditures			
146100,688	Crisis Intervention	\$ 10,000.00	
Revenues			
143531,220	Crisis Intervention		\$ 10,000.00
(Increased funding from the State – Funding Authorization #6)			
Expenditures			
146160,571	Caring for Kids	\$ 8.75	
Revenues			
143531,344	Caring for Kids		\$ 8.75
(Due to employee matching funds – Fluor Foundation)			
Expenditures			
146160,571	Caring for Kids	\$ 17.50	
Revenues			
143531,344	Caring for Kids		\$ 17.50
(Due to employee donations from – Fluor United Way)			
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**ITEM 7.**

**Tax Office: (Chris Ellis, Tax Administrator)**

- A. Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Blanks, the Board approved reappointment of Chris Ellis as Bladen County Tax Assessor for a term of four (4) years in accordance with NCGS 105-294(a).
- B. The Honorable Niki Dennis, Clerk of Superior Court, administered the Oath of Office to Bladen County Tax Assessor Chris Ellis.

**ITEM 8.**

**Bladen County Water District (Randy Garner, Director)**

Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board entered Session as the Water District Board of Directors.

- A. Director Randy Garner appeared before the Board to request approval to write off accounts with recurring charges for properties no longer owned by persons who signed User Agreements. He stated that accounts would be placed on debt set-off to collect outstanding debts if possible. Chairman Peterson asked County Manager Greg Martin to research and advise the Board if the user agreement could be tied to the property. Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board approved the request to write off debts with recurring charges for properties no longer owned by the person who signed the User Agreement.

- B. Mr. Garner presented the following agreements to the Board for approval:

- Agreement approved at the meeting on February 21, 2011 to add to the Water District Rules and Regulations as Appendix E for recurring flat rate customers. Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board approved agreement by a vote of 8 Ayes (Commissioner Tatum, Pait, Smith, Peterson, Blanks, Priest, Gillespie and Gooden) to 1 No (Commissioner Dowless).

- Agreement for new customers to tap into existing lines. Upon a motion by Commissioner Pait, seconded by Commissioner Tatum, the Board approved agreement. This will be incorporated in the Water District Rules and Regulations as Appendix F.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Pait, the Board exited session as the Bladen County Water District Board of Directors.

**ITEM 9.**

**Advisory Board Appointments:**

- A. Bladen County Nursing Home Advisory Committee (2)
- B. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (7)
- Upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board tabled the appointments to the Bladen County Nursing Home Advisory and Juvenile Crime Prevention Council until the meeting of March 21, 2011. Additional information was requested regarding the appointments.
- C. BRAC Regional Task Force Board of Directors (1)

The Board was asked to consider appointment to serve on the BRAC Regional Task Force Board of Directors. Chairman Peterson opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Gillespie nominated Greg Martin. Commissioner Gooden nominated Ron Taylor. Nominations were closed. Greg Martin was appointed by a vote of 6 Ayes (Tatum, Pait, Smith, Peterson, Priest, and Gillespie) to 3 Ayes for Ron Taylor (Gooden, Blanks, and Dowless).

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- D. The following Board Appointments will be considered at the meeting on March 21, 2011:
- Bladen County Highway Safe Committee (5)
  - Keep Bladen Beautiful Committee (1)
  - Elizabethtown Planning & Zoning Commission (1)
  - Board of Adjustments (ETJ) (1)
  - Southeastern Economic Development Commission (3)
  - White Lake Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustments (1)

**ITEM 10. County Manager: (Greg Martin)**

- A. Mr. Martin reviewed the calendar for upcoming events.
- B. Mr. Martin provided information to the Board regarding the Northwoods Electronic Management System that DSS Director June Koenig will present to the Board for consideration at the March 21, 2011 meeting.
- C. Mr. Martin advised the Board that the Budget Committees of Bladen County and Bladen Community College met on February 28, 2011 at Bladen Community College. The Committees reviewed information provided by the college.

**ITEM 11. Individuals/Delegations Wishing to Address Commissioners:**

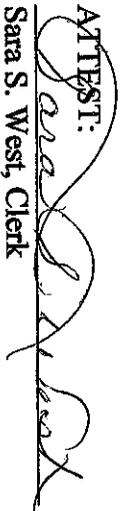
- No one addressed the commissioners.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parr, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board entered Closed Session in accordance with N.C. G. S. 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney-Client Privilege.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Dowless, the Board exited Closed Session and re-entered Open Session.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tatum, seconded by Commissioner Dowless the Board adjourned at 7:45 pm.

  
Charles Ray Peterson, Chairman  
Bladen County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:  
  
Sara S. West, Clerk