

April 5, 2010
Board of Commissioners Meeting

Mr. Mike Aldridge appeared before the board to request the commissioners to The Duplin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, April 5, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room, County Administration Building (224 Seminary Street), Kenansville, North Carolina.

Present: Chairman Cary Turner, Commissioners David Fussell, Frances Parks, Harold Raynor, Zettie Williams and Reginald Wells.

Also Present: Mr. Mike Aldridge, County Manager; Ms. Paige Marshburn, Administrative Officer, Ms. Wendy Sivori, County Attorney and Ms. Teresa Lanier, Finance Officer.

Commissioner Zettie Williams gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: March 15, 2010 minutes, Budget Amendments #175 - #190; Tax & Solid Waste Releases #7390 - #7417; Dental Bad Debt Writeoff -\$3,459.28-Period Ending 2/28/07, resolution designating Mr. Mike Aldridge agent for NC Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., Closed Session 143-318.11 (a) (6) personnel matters and Closed Session 143-318.11 (a) (4) economic development matters.

Mr. Aldridge, County Manager, presented Administrative Budget Amendments #I330 – #I368, Audit Report FY 6/30/09 – Mt. Olive (Waylin) Fire District. Mr. Aldridge added to the agenda: Mr. Brian Pierce, EMS Director to discuss fire district lines, April 5, 2010 there will be one mile walk from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in recognition of Public Health Week and a consolidated agreement between the State of North Carolina and Duplin County Health Department.

The following reports were received by the board and are on file with the clerk:

Finance Activity Report
Fund Balance Report
Vehicle Tax Billing – 2009 – 2010

Public Comments:

Mr. Jimmy Dixon appeared before the board to express his concern about the ruling for public speaking to be limited to three minutes per person. There have been instances where some have spoken for longer periods and Mr. Dixon encouraged the board if the rule is three minutes, they need to abide by it.

Mr. Dixon also discussed that he has received communications via email and telephone, from people he did not formally know, from Onslow County relating to his candidacy

for the District 4 House Seat. The communication he received was warning him about tactics being used which they found offensive. He was informed that citizens from Duplin County were encouraging Onslow County voters to use his religion status to encourage their friends not to vote for Mr. Dixon.

Ms. Jerri Parker, North Carolina Department of Transportation, appeared before the board to discuss any road issues in Duplin County. There were no problems reported.

Mr. Billy Holland, Kenansville, appeared before the board to request a resolution for the abandonment of Secondary Road 1382 from State maintained to privately owned road, which the State has already approved (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to adopt a resolution to return State maintained Road 1382 back to a privately owned road.

Ms. Donna Brown, Utilities Director, appeared before the board to discuss farmers (especially this time of the year) using the county's water hydrants. She stated that not only could it be an issue of water supply problem but it could be very dangerous and it could contaminate the county's water system.

Commissioner Parks asked if each water meter was read monthly. She was speaking particularly about a citizen that contacted her complaining how her monthly bill would change from one month to the next but did not use any more water from one month to the next. Ms. Brown responded that the location in which Ms. Parks was asking about was a radio read meter, which is the most accurate reading performed. Donna will provide a data log to this customer as to exactly when the water was used.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to request the commissioners to submit the names of those volunteers to be part of the gang member committee. Commissioner Turner was the only one that responded and he had four names to turn in.

Pastor Coleman, Magnolia, appeared before the board to discuss the 33 gangs between Sampson and Duplin Counties. He suggested giving him a list of all the names of these gangs and he will distribute the list throughout the churches in the counties asking to put the gang names on their prayer lists.

Mr. David Thompson, Executive Director, North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) appeared before the board to present an update on the activities of the County Commissioner Association in Raleigh that could be beneficial to the 2010-2011 Duplin County budget and he also spoke on some legislation that might be coming up. Mr. Thompson is proposing to reduce Duplin County membership fees by 5 percent and if adopted the dues would be \$6,726. Duplin County has been very active and successful in debt setoff with this program. EMS Medicaid enhancement is another program that is a benefit to Duplin County though NC Association of County Commissioners. (See handout in minutes.)

Mr. Mike Barnette, McDavid Associates, Inc. appeared before the board to get approval for the program plans and policies of the new 2009 Community Development Block

Grant Scattered Site Housing (CDBG SSH) Program and to get authorization for the chairman to sign. The proposed program is consistent with the previously approved documents for the County's 2008 CDBG Community Revitalization (CR) and 2008 CDBG Hookup (HU) programs (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to approve the 2009 CDBG SSH "Program Plans and Policies" and to authorize the chairman to sign.

Mr. Randall Tyndall, Planning, appeared before the board to give an update on the 2010 Census (See handout in minutes.)

Mr. Ken Jones, Eastpointe CEO, appeared before the board to request adoption of a proclamation recognizing individuals with developmental disabilities and substance addictions. Eastpointe helped support the gang awareness event at the Event Center. They also won two State Prevention awards for Meth Summit and Prevention of Drinking and Driving. These were the only two awards given out in North Carolina and Duplin County won both. Mr. Jones left a proclamation for the commissioner's consideration at another meeting (See handout in minutes.)

Mr. Bob Canupp, Eastpointe Finance Officer, appeared before the board to present the annual audit report for FY ending June 30, 2009 (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to accept the annual audit report for FY ending June 30, 2009.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Williams effective July 1, 2010 for the commissioners to rotate and serve on all the various Duplin County boards for a term of one year. Commissioner Fussell, Raynor, Turner, Wells and Williamson voted for and Commissioner Parks voted against. Motion carried.

Mr. Gary Rose, Tax Administrator, appeared before the board to discuss advertising delinquent taxes in newspapers (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Wells to advertise delinquent taxes in all newspapers (Wallace Enterprise, Warsaw-Faison News, Beulaville Advertiser and Duplin Times/Duplin Today), thus approving budget amendment #191. Commissioner Fussell, Parks, Turner, Wells and Williams voted for and Commissioner Raynor voted against. Motion carried.

Ms. Heather Beard, Economic Development, appeared before the board to discuss a conflict of interest policy needed for submission to the IRS for tax exempt status (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to approve a conflict of interest policy and authorize the chairman to sign.

Ms. Heather Beard deferred action on the Menlo Logistics to a later date.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to present Ms. Lynda West with a retirement plaque for service to Duplin County Library from August 2, 1999 to April 19, 2010.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to read a proclamation and present a retirement plaque to Ms. Millie Brown for service to Duplin County Department of Social Services from October 1, 1957 to April 3, 2010.

Mr. Stephen Williamson, Event Center Advisory Board Chairman, appeared before the board to discuss several items regarding the Event Center. In order to develop a plan for the immediate operation of the building, the events center advisory board has solicited a proposal from Ms. Dianne Johnson, a former SMG employee, which is now a local resident. The advisory board recommends the commissioners approve the proposal submitted by Cannon Consulting for developing a business plan/transition plan in the amount of \$2400.00 (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to concur with the recommendation of the advisory committee and approve the proposal submitted by Cannon Consulting for developing a business plan/transition plan in the amount of \$2400.00, thus approving budget amendment #193.

Mr. Williamson also discussed VenuWorks early termination agreement of March 31, 2010. This would save the county about \$21,000 in management fees that can now be diverted to the operations budget to keep the event center going. Mr. Williamson requested the commissioners to accept this early termination with VenuWorks.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to accept March 31, 2010 as early termination with VenuWorks, thus approving budget amendment #192.

Mr. Williamson recommended establishing temporary positions for the current staff of Mr. Larry Sessoms, Ms. Laverne Fullwood and Mr. John Vogt through April 30, 2010. Beyond that date, the only staff will be Larry Sessoms and Laverne Fullwood. Mr. John Vogt's position will terminate as of April 30, 2010.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to:

- Establish Mr. Larry Sessoms, Ms. Laverne Fullwood and Mr. John Vogt as temporary county employees at their current rate of pay with no benefits.
- To accept Mr. John Vogt's last day of April 30, 2010.
- To accept Mr. Sessoms and Ms. Fullwood beginning April 1, 2010 to operate the building.

Mr. Williamson discussed that VenuWorks has cancelled the ABC license prior to the end of VenuWork's contract and the county needs to apply for the license in order to accommodate events that have already been scheduled.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks for the county to apply for their ABC license in order to accommodate events at the event center. Motion died for the lack of a second.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to inform them that the event center cannot use Ticketmaster as a ticket resource after the next event. Ticketmaster had the contract with VenuWorks. The county will need to find another ticketing system.

Mrs. Joan Williams appeared before the board to accept a proclamation on “The Week of the Young Child”. Child Care Resource and Referral funded by Duplin County Partnership for Children will be celebrating the week of April 11 – 17 (See handout in minutes.)

Mr. Brian Pearce, EMS Director, appeared before the board to discuss the fire district changes between Oak Wolfe and Faison to lower some homeowners insurance on Tear Shirt Road. A resolution is needed to approve changing the fire district lines.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to table this discussion to the next meeting. Commissioner Turner will talk to parties involved.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to present a contract for adoption between Duplin County IT Department and Kirk Software for emergency maintenance of DBC programs for Duplin County departments and to provide computer programming services to the staff of the IT Department (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to approve the contract and authorize IT Department and Finance Officer to sign same.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to present two leases: one between the County and Chinquapin Recreation and one between the County and Mr. Kenneth Douglas Kennedy on a ten foot wide strip along the Western property line of the old Chinquapin school property. Both leases are for a one year term.

Motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to approve the two leases and authorize the chairman and clerk to sign same.

Commissioner Fussell appeared before the board and introduced Mike Orlovski to discuss information from the meeting when Mr. Jack Zoesch, Mr. Dick White, Mr. Brent Davis, Commissioner Parks, Mr. Mike Aldridge and Commissioner Turner met to discuss balancing the budget (See handout in minutes.)

At this time the chairman seat was given to Commissioner Parks to allow Chairman Turner to make motions.

Motion was made by Commissioner Turner, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, to put a freeze on all departmental budgets and to allow them to spend only for day to day operations until June 30, 2010. Commissioner Fussell, Raynor and Turner voted for and Commissioners Parks, Wells and Williams voted against. A tie vote results in no action being taken.

Motion was made by Commissioner Turner, seconded by Commissioner Fussell, to eliminate all vacant positions that are currently vacant (See handout in minutes.). Commissioners Fussell, Turner and Raynor voted for. Commissioner Parks, Williams and Wells voted against. A tie vote results in no action being taken.

At this time the chairman seat was returned back to Chairman Turner.

Commissioner Harold Raynor appeared before the board to submit two resolutions to be sent to the General Assembly of North Carolina and Attorney General regarding the health care bill passed into law on March 23, 2010. These two resolutions will be printed in the local newspapers (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Fussell to adopt two resolutions to be sent to the General Assembly of North Carolina regarding the health care bill that was signed into law on March 23, 2010. Commissioners Fussell, Parks, Raynor and Turner voted for. Commissioners Wells and Williams voted against. Motion carried.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board requesting the board members to appoint a date to meet with Mr. Doug Haas, Division of Emergency Management Coordinator, for this region. It is a new condition this year for the emergency management grant that there be a meeting to get training from the state in responding to emergency situations. It was the consensus of the board to meet on July 7, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner's room.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to present a three year contract for approval between Duplin County and Thomas C. Vernon Lawn Service for mowing services at various county owned water facility sites throughout Duplin County (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to approve the contract between Duplin County and Thomas Vernon Lawn Service for three years and authorize Chairman, County Manager and County Finance Officer to sign same.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board with a letter from Services for the Aged recognizing Ms. Gertrude O. Finch, of Wallace, on her 101st birthday (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to authorize the chairman to sign the letter to Mrs. Gertrude Finch recognizing her 101st birthday.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board with the consolidated annual agreement with the state of North Carolina and our local health department for providing necessary services (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to authorize the chairman and Finance Officer to sign.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to go over several items:

- The solid waste fee will be increased based on the January consumer price index (CPI) (See handout in minutes.)
- Ms. Lillie Brown, Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Board Chair, sent a letter inviting board members to sit on her board (See handout in minutes.)
- A letter from Senior Tar Heel Legislature explaining what took place at the meeting (See handout in minutes.)
- James Sprunt Community College sent a newsletter about their electronic recycling campaign. Electronics devices such as computers, DVD/VHS players, televisions, radios and telephones can be taken to James Sprunt April 19 – April 22, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (See handout in minutes.)
- Mr. Frank Brown sent a memo giving his resignation effective immediately due to serious health problems.
- Gary Rose, Tax Administration, will hold an Equalization & Review meeting in the commissioner's room on Monday, April 12, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.
- The next board meeting will be held on April 19, 2010 at the Albertson Ruritan Building at 6:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to go into Closed Session pursuant to 143-318.11 (a) (6) personnel matters and Closed Session pursuant to 143-318.11 (a) (4) economic development matters.

The board returned to regular session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Raynor carried unanimously, that the board accepts Mrs. Millie Brown's resignation as Director of Social Services effective April 30, 2010 and on May 1, 2010 accept Ms. Nannette Smith to become the Interim Director of Social Services at a salary of \$60,349.00, Grade 74, Step 11A.

Motion was made by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Williams, carried unanimously, to recess to meet on April 12, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room in the County Administrative Building.

Clerk

