

June 7, 2010
Board of Commissioners Meeting
6:30 p.m.
Ed Emory Auditorium in the Lois G. Britt Agriculture Center

The Duplin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, June 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ed Emory Auditorium in the Lois G. Britt Agriculture Center, 165 Agriculture Drive, Kenansville, North Carolina.

Present: Chairman Cary Turner, Commissioners Frances Parks, Harold Raynor, and Reginald Wells. Commissioner Zettie Williams present by telephone.

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

Absent: Commissioner David Fussell
Ms. Paige Marshburn, Administrative Officer

Commissioner Wells gave the invocation.

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

Animal Control – May 2010
Cabin Lake – May 2010
Duplin County Airport – 2010
E911 – May 2010
Inspections – May 2010
Outstanding County Tax for Year 2009
Soil & Water – May 2010
Vehicle Tax Billings – 2009-2010

Motion was made by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: May 24, 2010 minutes, Budget Amendments #225 - #234, Tax & Solid Waste Releases #7486 - #7509; Health Department Bad Debt Write Off Period ending April 30, 2007 - \$5000.38 [general services] and \$583.70 [dental]; Closed Session 143-318.11 (a)(4) legal matters and a Closed Session 143-318.11 (a)(5); to add a request to advertise for a Carpenter position; discuss Building Inspections Department and to add pending Senate Bill 1381 that has been introduced for Wake and Mecklenburg Counties to allow them to advertise delinquent taxes on their county web site.

Mr. Aldridge presented Administrative Budget Amendments K480 – L541 to be made part of the minutes.

Public Comments:

Ms. Shannon Viteck, Unit Manager with Vocational Rehabilitation appeared before the board to explain how their budget works. The Vocational Rehabilitation program has to have a 21.3% match (\$25,355.00) in order to get the remaining 78% Federal funding for the program. Her request is that this program stays in Duplin County and if the 21.3% match is not funded, the program will not remain open in Duplin County (See handout in minutes.)

Ms. April Pickett, Director Carousel Center in Wilmington, appeared before the board to discuss the free services offered by this agency. These services have been offered to Duplin County for 10 years, while being denied for any financial help. She request reconsideration by Duplin County Board to donate, some if not all, \$10,000.

Ms. Joan Williams, Executive Director for Duplin County Partnership for Children, appeared before the board to speak on the economic concerns of the proposed budget 2010-2011. She discussed how important it is to have a local library. Transportation is another essential service needed to help keep our population working and accessing education. The county must give Economic Development the support they need to help Duplin County grow.

Mr. Willie Gillespie spoke on behalf of Ms. Betrice Miller. She is concerned that there is no county water on Faison Chapel Road and if the wells become contaminated that she would not have permission to replace them or drill a deep water well. She appeared with a petition of several names that lived on Faison Chapel Road requesting county water. Commissioner Parks told Ms. Betrice that Ms. Donna Brown, Director of Utilities was here and would speak with her on break about her concern.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board to present the 2010-2011 budget. The budget has been revised as of June 7, 2010 due to the Tax Department determining that their value estimates were inflated (See handout in minutes.)

Commissioner Turner pointed out before the public hearing began that the recommendations presented in the budget by Mr. Mike Aldridge have not been finalized.

The Public Hearing on the budget 2010-2011 began at 7:40 p.m.

Mr. Jack Zoesh appeared before the board to discuss the school board issue. He advised the salary and benefits in the county needed to be benchmarked. He was concerned why "head count" is never seen on paper. Mr. Zoesh does not recommend a 2% salary increase. He advised giving merit increases to employees that deserve and not to the employees that do not deserve.

Mr. Mike Orlicki, Wallace, appeared before the board to discuss the continued increase in spending, cost of living increase across the board and benefit increases without corresponding improvements in productivity.

Ms. Rebecca Judge appeared before the board to discuss the longevity increase for employees of 10 years plus. She asked: Does this mean that if all the employees receive the

2% increase in salary, that the longevity people also receive the 2%? Mike answered yes. She was also concerned on the veteran amount in the budget. Mike answered that is the Veteran Service Department coordinated by Ms. Laura Drakeford.

Mr. Jimmy Dixon appeared before the board to make comments about the budget. He commented about the general receptiveness of the board to be transparent versus the current lack of transparency which is the worst it has ever been at the board of education.

Public Hearing closed at 8:01 p.m.

Mr. Brian Pearce, EMS Director, appeared before the board and presented Ms. Patsy Rouse with her retirement plaque for working 16 years with Duplin County EMS.

Ms. Donna Brown, Utilities Director, appeared before the board to discuss a letter received November 4, 2009 from the Division of Water Resource stating that the water shortage plan for Duplin County did not meet the requirements set forth in the North Carolina's General Session adopted in July 2009. Ms. Brown has worked with the Division of Water Resource to implement the new requirements in the water shortage plan and having it approved for Duplin County. Ms. Brown requests to repeal the old water shortage plan and adopt the new water shortage ordinance, resolution and response plan approved by the Division of Water Resource.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to abolish the old and adopt the new ordinance, resolution and response plan.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to go out of regular session and go into water district Albertson.

The Board returned to Regular Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to go out of regular session and go into Water District B.

The Board returned to Regular Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to go out of regular session and go into Water District D.

The Board returned to Regular Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to go out of regular session and go into Water District E.

The Board returned to Regular Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to go out of regular session and into water district F.

The Board returned to Regular Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to go out of regular session and into water district G.

The board returned to Regular Session.

Ms. Heather Beard, Economic Development, and Mr. Wade Farris, Wallace Committee 100, appeared before the board to discuss the relationship between Wallace Committee 100 Wilmington Industrial Development Organization, and Duplin County. To keep a relationship with Wilmington Industrial Development Organization, Wallace Committee 100 is asking the county to donate \$12,600.00 which is the interest cost on the shell building for next year. The two year contract is a silent contract with the Wallace Committee 100 and has no binding commitment with Duplin County.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to donate the \$12,600.00 to the Wallace Committee 100 with the understanding that the funds will come from Economic Development capital reserve fund.

Mr. Aldridge appeared before the board with several miscellaneous items.

Sheriff Blake Wallace requests commissioner's authorization to apply for 2010 JAG Grant in the amount of \$16,640. These funds pay for the house arrest equipment.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, authorizing Sheriff Blake Wallace to apply for the 2010 JAG Grant in the amount of \$16,640.

Duplin County Board of Commissioners is required to give public notice of intent to adopt the resolution authorizing the levy of an additional ¼ cent sales and use tax in Duplin County. The resolution with certified copies of the election results will be forwarded to the Department of Revenue at least 90 days prior to the tax being collected. The statute authorizes the collection of additional tax that may begin January 1, 2011 or July 1, 2011.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to give public notice of intent to adopt the resolution authorizing the levy of an additional ¼ cent local sales and use tax by January 1, 2010.

The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board is requesting a two-year reappointment for Mr. Alex Asbun, Duplin General Hospital, representing the private sector to the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board beginning July 1, 2010 and expiring June 30, 2012.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to reappoint Mr. Alex Asbun to serve on the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development board beginning July 1, 2010 and expiring June 30, 2012.

Contract and Agreement with Ms. Dianne Johnson, Canon Consulting, to market and manage the Duplin County Events Center beginning June 8, 2010 through December 31, 2010 (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to approve this contract with Ms. Dianne Johnson to manage the Events Center for Duplin County from June 8, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

In the budget 2010-2011 there is a new revenue source from Eastpointe for the lease of the Hardison building. Eastpointe has agreed to pay the county \$40,000 per year for the use of this building (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to lease the Hardison Building to Eastpointe for \$40,000 a year; thereby, authorizing the chairman and clerk to sign the lease.

Ms. Sheila Lewis, Regional Ombudsman II, would like to appoint Ms. Teresa Walker to serve on the Duplin Adult Care Committee and Ms. Marion Kelly to serve on the Duplin Nursing Home Committee.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to appoint Ms. Teresa Walker to serve on the Duplin Adult Care Committee and Ms. Marion Kelly to serve on the Duplin Nursing Home Committee.

A resolution was prepared for Ms. Grace Carter in support of naming the bridge over Rockfish Creek on H. C. Powers Road in honor of Mr. Ivey Salmon, her father (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to adopt the resolution for naming the bridge over Rockfish Creek on H. C. Powers Road in honor of Mr. Ivey Salmon, Ms. Grace Carter's father, and authorize the chairman to sign.

The boards of commissioners need to give the authorization to contract with Mr. Ferrell Thigpen for building inspection services on an as needed basis (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, carried unanimously, to authorize Mr. Ferrell Thigpen for building inspection services on an as needed basis and to authorize the Chairman and Finance Officer to sign same.

The Duplin County Criminal Justice Partnership Program Advisory Board has updated expiration dates on several positions (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to approve the expiration dates on the positions as provided.

Need approval for a contract between Mr. Glen Thomas Jr. D/B/A, Thomas Lawn Maintenance and Duplin County Airport for lawn maintenance service for \$800/month for 80 acres (See handout in minutes.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to approve contract between Thomas Lawn Maintenance and Duplin County Airport for lawn maintenance service for \$800/month for 80 acres and authorize county finance officer to sign.

The policy for facility naming and sponsorship that covers the honoree names of buildings and any sponsorship activity is now ready for adoption by the commissioners.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Raynor, carried unanimously, to adopt the Facility Naming and Sponsorship policy.

The county needs to decide if they are interested in Senate Bill 1381 that will allow counties to advertise delinquent taxes on the county website.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to contact Mr. Charlie Albertson and Mr. Russell Tucker and let them know we are interested in advertising delinquent taxes on the county website.

The county is still in critical need of a carpenter for the county and request the board to allow this position to be advertised.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wells, seconded by Commissioner Parks, to advertise for a carpenter position. Commissioner Parks, Raynor, Wells and Williams for voted for. Commissioner Turner voted against. Motion carries 4 to 1.

Motion was made by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to go into Closed Session – Economic Development Matters 143-318.11 9 (a) (4) and also Closed Session – Land Acquisition 143-318.11 (a) (5).

The board returned to regular session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to authorize the Airport Board to proceed with the negotiation with the land owners for purchase of their property as per appraisal and reappraisals.

Commissioner Parks made a remark on the report from Cabin Lake showing the revenues going up.

By consensus of the board a budget work session is scheduled for June 15, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the commissioner's room, if needed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Parks, seconded by Commissioner Wells, carried unanimously, to recess to June 15, 2010 at 9:00 in the commissioner's room, if needed.

Clerk