

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF STOKES)
)
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 24, 2003

Meeting Highlights

General Government - Governing Body - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
General Government - Governing Body - APPROVAL OF MINUTES
PUBLIC COMMENTS
General Government - TAX ADMINISTRATION REPORT
Board of Equalization and Review (E&R)
General Government - GIS/MAPPING-AERIAL PHOTO/TOPO CONTRACT
General Government - LEPC/EOC – UPDATE
General Government - INFORMATION SYSTEMS-UPDATE
General Government - REGISTER OF DEEDS-UPDATE/WEB PAGE
General Government - ANIMAL CONTROL-UPDATE
General Government - Governing Body - APPOINTMENT – SURRY HOUSING CONSORTIUM
General Government - Governing Body - APPOINTMENT-STOKES COUNTY HOME HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
General Government - Governing Body - RESOLUTION-FARMER APPRECIATION DAY
Farmer Appreciation Day RESOLUTION FOR STOKES COUNTY
General Government - Governing Body - ADDITIONS TO THE NC SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM
General Government - Governing Body - PROPOSED HISTORICAL DISPLAY

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Administrative Building, located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Monday, February 24, 2003, at 7:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Sandy McHugh
Vice-Chairman John Turpin
Commissioner Howard Mabe
Commissioner Leon Inman
Commissioner Joe Turpin

Craig Greer, County Manager
Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Mabe delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman McHugh invited the citizens in attendance to join the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT –GOVERNING BODY-APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve or amend the minutes of the February 4th meeting and the February 10th meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve the minutes of the February 4th meeting and the February 10th meeting.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following citizens spoke to the Board during the public comments portion:

Brad Newsome
1055 Pine Ridge Road
King, NC 27021
Topic: **Tax on Chicken Houses**

Mr. Newsome reported to the Board that surrounding counties taxed chicken houses as follows:
Surry - \$3.25 per square ft; Yadkin - \$4.00; Wilkes - \$5.30.

Mr. Newsome expressed concerns on the 50% depreciation base.
Mr. Newsome concluded that the poultry farmers are not being hard to get along with, just concerned.

Mr. Tony Mabe
1201 Covington Road
King, NC 27021
Topic: **Tax on Chicken Houses**

Mr. Mabe noted that Mr. Newsome had expressed his concerns to Board and did not wish to speak.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-TAX ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Interim Tax Administrator Jake Oakley requested the approval for the following Refunds and Itemized Releases (Real/Personal) and Motor Vehicle Releases for the Month of January 2003:

Refunds

Johnny Wayne & Mary Carney Groce	\$459.62
Jennifer R. & Jeffrey L. Thomas	\$49.82
Iris Josephine Fulk	\$129.47
Esker L. Wilmoth, Jr.	\$196.32
Itemized Releases for January 2003	\$17,675.46
Motor Vehicle Release for January 2003	\$2,910.15

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the requested Refunds.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve the requested Refunds for Johnny Wayne Groce, Jennifer R. Thomas, Iris Josephine Fulk, and Esker L. Wilmoth, Jr.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the requested Itemized Releases for January 2003.

Vice Chairman John Turpin moved to approve the requested Itemized Releases for January 2003.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the requested Motor Vehicle Releases for January 2003.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the requested Motor Vehicle Releases for January 2003.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Interim Tax Administrator Oakley requested the Board's approval to allow voice mail to be reactivated for telephones in the Tax Department. Mr. Oakley noted that the voice mail had been disconnected due to some phones being placed on voice mail during most of the business day. Mr. Oakley concluded that if reactivation of voice mail was permitted for the Tax Department employees, it would be monitored to insure that calls are returned.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to reactivate or leave as is the voice mail for employees in the Tax Department.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve the motion to reactivate voice mail for Tax Department employees.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Joe Turpin voting against the motion.

Board of Equalization and Review (E&R)

Interim Tax Administrator Oakley requested the appointment of members to serve on the Board of Equalization and Review for 2003.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to appointment the Board of Commissioners to serve as the Board of Equalization and Review for 2003.

Commissioner Mabe moved to appoint the members of the Stokes County Board of Commissioners to serve as the

Board of Equalization and Review for 2003.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Oakley requested comments or changes from the Board concerning the Public Notice for notification of E&R meetings. Mr. Oakley requested at least three (3) dates to schedule E&R meetings for public notification.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve the following dates as agreed upon by the Board:

April 17th, Thursday –7:00pm; May 6th, Tuesday-7:00pm; May 19th, Monday-7:00pm to be advertised for E&R meetings.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Interim Tax Assessor Wren Carmichael presented the Board with a copy of the Member's Handbook for Boards of Equalization and Review prepared by the Staff of the Property Tax Division, Jack C. Bailey-Director, North Carolina Department of Revenue. (Copy available for review in the Clerk 's Office and Tax Administration)

Chairman McHugh moved to approve the motion that after the minutes of each E&R meetings have been approved by the E&R Board, a copy of the approved minutes would be filed with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners with the original being maintained by the Clerk of the E&R Board-Tax Department.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GIS/MAPPING-AERIAL PHOTO/TOPO CONTRACT

GIS Administrator Jake Oakley requested the Board's approval/acceptance and authorization for final payment to Sanborn of Colorado for the completion of Color Aerial Photography Ortho's and Topographic Data. Administrator Oakley concluded that all phases of the contract have been successfully completed and all services delivered as stated in the contract. The amount of final payment is \$32,150.00, which is the ten percent (10%) retainer fee that has already been budgeted.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve/accept the final phase of the Sanborn contract and approval for the final payment of \$32,150.00- 10% retainer fee.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve/accept the final phase of the Sanborn contract and approve final payment of \$32,150.00- 10% retainer fee.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GIS Administrator Jake Oakley also requested the Board's approval to swap the old USGS quad sheets with the new Topographic data, which will be done by Anderson & Associates at no charge.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve swapping the old USGS quad sheets with the new Topographic data, which will be done by Anderson & Associates at no charge.

Vice Chairman John Turpin moved to approve the motion to swap out the old USGA quad sheets with the new Topographic data, which will be done by Anderson & Associates at no charge.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Oakley concluded that the GIS Department has recently completed scanning all recorded Plats (2345 recorded survey maps) in the Register of Deeds Office.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-LEPC/EOC – UPDATE

EMS Director Ricky Tuttle, updated the Board concerning the recent LEPC Meeting that was held on Thursday, February 20th at 10:00am. Subcommittees for Bioterrorism, EMS System Planning, and Hazard Mitigation were established.

Director Tuttle noted that Homeland Security type grants were becoming available and a dedicated EOC location is an essential item in the application process. Mr. Tuttle requested the Board's approval to establish the 3rd floor of the Administrative Building as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Stokes County.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to establish the 3rd floor of the Administrative Building as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Stokes County.

Commissioner Inman moved to dedicated the 3rd floor of the Administrative Building as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Stokes County.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-INFORMATION SYSTEMS-UPDATE

Information Systems Coordinator Dianna Fulp presented an overview of the functions and responsibilities of the Information Systems Department.

Ms. Fulp noted future projects for the County Web Page: Permits for Planning and Health Departments and Update Web Page from Publisher to Front Page to enhance the Web Page.

Commissioner Joe Turpin suggested possibly using high schools students who were enrolled in Web Page classes to help with new enhancements to the Web Page in order to free up staff time.

Ms. Fulp updated the Board with Tax Office update concerning the Hewlett Packard 3000 MPE Unix Server. The support for this server will end December 2006. Ms. Fulp noted that this would be a very costly project.

Interim Tax Assessor Wren Carmichael noted that the 2005 Revaluation would have to be completed before any conversion could take place.

Vice Chairman John Turpin noted if there was a possibility that tax payers could be able view personal property accounts.

Finance Director Julia Edwards noted that this was being considered at the present time.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-REGISTER OF DEEDS-UPDATE/WEB PAGE

Register of Deeds Kathy Young presented the Board with information concerning the new Register of Deeds Website that recently went live on February 3rd. (www.stokescorod.org)

Funding for this project is provided from the Automation Enhancement and Preservation Fund which was setup by the Legislature effective 1-1-2002. (10% of Register of Deeds Fees collected)

Ms. Young presented the Board with information detailing the amount of fees collected by the Register of Deeds and number of documents recorded since July 1, 1997.

Ms. Young requested the Board's approval to use Automation Enhancement and Preservation Funding to purchase a new computer for the Register of Deeds' office. As present, the computer is almost completed full, and constantly giving the Department problems.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve Automation Enhancement and Preservation Funding to purchase a new computer for the Register of Deeds' office not to exceed \$1600.

Vice Chairman John Turpin moved to approve Automation Enhancement and Preservation Funding to purchase a new computer for the Register of Deeds' office not to exceed \$1600.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-ANIMAL CONTROL-UPDATE

Chief Animal Control Officer Sarah Shumate updated the Board concerning the following Animal Control activities:

- o Equipment donated from People for Paws
- o Ten positive rabies cases in 2002
- o Adoption decreased due to bordering of Pit Bulls (Court Case scheduled for March 31st)
- o 13,607 calls in 2002
- o Increase in cruelty complaints
- o 133 Bites in 2002
- o 739 after hour calls
- o Officers traveled 64,408 miles

Ms. Shumate concluded the update by informing the Board of upcoming rabies clinics that would be scheduled for the spring and fall.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY – APPOINTMENT – SURRY HOUSING CONSORTIUM

Chairman McHugh informed the Board of the vacant appointment to the Surry Housing Consortium and the possibility of at least one more vacancy.

Chairman McHugh requested Board members to submit nominations at the March 10, 2003 meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-APPOINTMENT-STOKES COUNTY HOME HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Chairman McHugh informed the Board of the vacant appointment to the Stokes County Home Health Advisory Board which must be a County Commissioner.

Chairman McHugh requested Board members to consider this appointment by the March 10, 2003 meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY- RESOLUTION-FARMER APPRECIATION DAY

Chairman McHugh presented and read the Farmer Appreciation Day Resolution for Stokes County, which is scheduled for March 25, 2003 at South Stokes High School.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the Farmer Appreciation Day for Stokes County.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve the Farmer Appreciation Day Resolution.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

FARMER APPRECIATION DAY RESOLUTION FOR STOKES COUNTY

Whereas, the County of Stokes, the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District, the Cooperative Extension, Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service desire to sponsor the **Farmer Appreciation Day** to recognize the economic contribution of our county farmers to Stokes County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT;

1. The Board of Commissioners agrees that the county farmers contribute greatly to Stokes County's economic base.
2. The Board agrees that all the county's people, in one matter or another benefit from farming activities.
3. The Board agrees that a **Farmer Appreciation Day** would show our county's support for the existing farming industry and honor the past activities which contributed so much to Stokes County.
4. The Board recognizes that a pig-picking and festival will be held at South Stokes High School with all Stokes County people invited.
5. Let it be proclaimed, that **March 25, 2002**, is **Farmer Appreciation Day** in Stokes County.

Adopted by the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners** this 24th day **February 2003**.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY- ADDITIONS TO THE NC SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM

Chairman McHugh presented requests from the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the following additions to the North Carolina Secondary Road System:

- Laurel Crest Road in Laurel Creek Subdivision – Sections 2 & 3- Entrance onto NC 66
- Norman Drive in Mountain View Estates – Entrance onto SR 2095, Westmoreland Farm Road
- Joseph's Lane in Venable Estates – Entrance onto SR 1180, Venable Road.

(No state funding is needed to improve the maintenance condition of these requested additions)

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the requested additions to the NC Secondary Road System.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the requested additions to the NC Secondary Road System.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
REQUEST FOR ADDITION TO THE STATE MAINTAINED SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM**

**NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF STOKES
ROAD DESCRIPTION – Laurel Crest Road in Laurel Creek Subdivision (Sections 2&3)
Entrance onto NC 66**

WHEREAS, the attached petition has been filed with the **Board of County Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** requesting that the above described road, the location of which has been indicated in red on the attached map, be added to the Secondary Road Systems; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is of the opinion that the above described road should be added to the Secondary Road System, if the road meets minimum standards and criteria established by the Division of Highways of the Department of Transportation for the addition of roads to the System.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the **Board of County Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** that the Division of Highways is hereby requested to review the above described road, and to take over the road for maintenance if it meets established standards and criteria.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes at a meeting on the **24th** day of **February, 2003**.

WITNESS by hand and official seal this the **24th** day of **February, 2003**.

**Clerk, Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes**

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
REQUEST FOR ADDITION TO THE STATE MAINTAINED SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM**

**NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF STOKES
ROAD DESCRIPTION – Norman Drive in Mountain View Estates, Entrance onto SR 2095
Westmoreland Farm Road**

WHEREAS, the attached petition has been filed with the **Board of County Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** requesting that the above described road, the location of which has been indicated in red on the attached map, be added to the Secondary Road Systems; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is of the opinion that the above described road should be added to the Secondary Road System, if the road meets minimum standards and criteria established by the Division of Highways of the Department of Transportation for the addition of roads to the System.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the **Board of County Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** that the Division of Highways is hereby requested to review the above described road, and to take over the road for maintenance if it meets established standards and criteria.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes at a meeting on the **24th** day of **February, 2003**.

WITNESS by hand and official seal this the **24th** day of **February, 2003**.

**Clerk, Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes**

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
REQUEST FOR ADDITION TO THE STATE MAINTAINED SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM**

**NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF STOKES
ROAD DESCRIPTION – Joseph’s Lane in Venable Estates – Entrance onto SR 1180**

Venable Road

WHEREAS, the attached petition has been filed with the **Board of County Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** requesting that the above described road, the location of which has been indicated in red on the attached map, be added to the Secondary Road Systems; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is of the opinion that the above described road should be added to the Secondary Road System, if the road meets minimum standards and criteria established by the Division of Highways of the Department of Transportation for the addition of roads to the System.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the **Board of County Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** that the Division of Highways is hereby requested to review the above described road, and to take over the road for maintenance if it meets established standards and criteria.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes at a meeting on the **24th** day of **February, 2003**.

WITNESS by hand and official seal this the **24th** day of **February, 2003**.

Clerk, Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY- PROPOSED HISTORICAL DISPLAY

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins requested the Board's approval for the proposed Resolution for the Establishment and Posting of a Display of Historical Documents.

Ms. Bullins noted the Resolution was prepared by former Staff Attorney John McGrath, who had requested the proposed Resolution from Wilkes County. The items modified were the following:

8. Act Creating Stokes County
 9. Stokes County Seal
- *Posting of the Resolution in the Lobby of the Stokes County Government Center
 - *Adoption date being 24th day of February 2003 and adopted by the current Board
 - *Inserting County of Stokes were applicable

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to adopt the Resolution with the amendment that the Display of Historical Documents be posted on the back wall of the Commissioners' Chambers instead of the 2nd floor lobby of the Stokes County Government Center.

Commissioner Joe Turpin suggested the possibility of personal/private donations for the cost of framing a document to cut down the County's cost of the Display of Historical Documents.

Commissioner Inman suggested the possibility of establishing a second display at the original site selection which was the 2nd Floor Lobby of the Stokes County Government Center upon completion of the display in the Commissioners' Chambers and the possibility of raising the funding for the second display.

Chairman McHugh suggested finding out the total cost of the display, any problems from the judicial system in placing a duplicate display in the lobby of the Government Center, and the plan for acquiring the funding for a duplicate display after the completion of the display in the Commissioners' Chambers.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to adopt the Resolution for the Establishment and Posting of a Display of Historical Documents with the amendment to change the placement of the Display of Historical Documents to be on the back wall in the Commissioners' Chambers.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to have a dedication ceremony for the Display of Historical Documents at the March 24th Commissioners' meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to have a dedication ceremony for the Display of Historical Documents at the March 24th Commissioners' meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF STOKES IN REGULAR SESSION
ASSEMBLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND POSTING OF A DISPLAY OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS**

WHEREAS, the **Board of Commissioners** for the **County of Stokes** (hereinafter the Board) desires to acknowledge the importance of those principles which were fundamental to the foundation of the legal codes and governmental systems for the United States of America, the State of North Carolina, and the **County of Stokes**; and;

WHEREAS, the Board further desires to recognize and affirm the historical importance of preserving these principles and the place which they have occupied in our national, state, and local heritage, and;

WHEREAS, the Board further desires to preserve and display for the education and benefits of the citizens of **Stokes County** a collection of documents embodying these principles and reflecting the heritage of our nation, state, and county;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize and direct the posting of the following historical display:

1. Declaration of Independence. The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776, by fifty-six representatives of a new nation proclaiming itself to be the United States of America. Its publication not only announced its freedom from the "political bands" which had connected it to Great Britain, but, more importantly, set forth the fundamental proposition on which this nation was founded: "that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness — that to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

The document presented in this display is a facsimile of the original.

2. United States Constitution. Adopted in 1789, the Constitution of the United States replaced the Articles of Confederation that had governed our nation following the victory over the British in the American Revolution. The United States Constitution provided the Framework by which we chose to govern ourselves. From its preamble, which set forth the goals for which it was established — order, justice, and liberty — to the checks and balances of its three branches of government and its vesting of ultimate power in the people themselves, it remains to this day a time-honored blueprint for the greatest form of government ever devised.

The document presented in this display is a facsimile of the original.

3. Bill of Rights. The first ten Amendments to the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, were ratified effective December 15, 1791 at the insistence of many who felt that the Constitution itself did not adequately safeguard the rights of the people to be protected from the potential abuses of an all powerful government as had been the case with the American Colonies under the rule of Great Britain. The rights established under the first ten Amendments which have now been made applicable to the States through the 14th Amendment, embody many of those freedoms which we count today as fundamental to the American experience, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures, the right to trial by jury, and others.

The document presented in this display is a facsimile of the original.

4. Magna Carta. The Magna Carta was signed in 1215 A.D. by King John of England, who agreed to the demands of his barons for guarantee of rights. Through this he bound himself and "his heirs, for ever" to grant to the people of his kingdom the rights and liberties which they had demanded. As Churchill remarked, "Here is a law which is above the King and which even he must not break. This reaffirmation of a supreme law and its expression in a general charter is the great work of Magna Carta; and this alone justifies the respect in which men have held it."

The document presented in this display is a facsimile of the original, which was in Latin. Among other things, it states:

John by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and count of Anjou, to the archbishops, bishops, earls, barons, justiciars, foresters, sheriffs, stewards, servants, and to all his bailiffs and liege subjects, greetings.

In the first place we have granted to God, and by this present charter confirmed for us and our heirs for ever that the English church shall be free, and shall have her rights entire, and, liberties inviolate...

No freeman shall be taken or imprisoned or disseised or exiled or in anyway, destroyed, nor will we go upon him nor send upon him, except by lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.

To no one will we refuse or delay, right or justice.

Moreover, all these aforesaid customs and liberties, the observance of which we have granted in our kingdom as far as pertains to us toward our men, shall be observed by all of our kingdom, as well clergy as laymen, as far as pertains to toward their men.

With Magna Carta, King John placed himself and England's future rulers within the rule of law. The rule of law places a restraint on the exercise of arbitrary power, and it places all people in civil government under law. This same precept was continued with the formation of the American government and legal code. The Bill of Rights itself flows in many respects from the liberties which were first recognized the Magna Carta.

5. Justinian Code. In 527 A.D. Emperor Justinian came to power in the city of Constantinople at the heart of the Eastern Roman Empire. At that time the law of the Eastern Empire consisted of statutes and the legal expositions of jurists. The law spanned the previous thirteen centuries of Roman civilization and the massive volumes are often repetitious and contradictory. Justinian commissioned the lawyer Tribonian to undertake the work of systematizing this mass of legal rules. The law was organized by subject matter. Important rules were to be placed first. The law was to be stated clearly. Contradictory or repetitious material was to be removed. The result was the Justinian Code, which formed the basis of the civil law of many continental European countries for centuries thereafter, continuing to this day.

The impact of this work on all future Western legal systems, including that of the United States of America, was enormous. The Justinian Code proceeded from first principle, clearly organizing and stating important rules of law so that the populace was not only apprized of their existence, but could clearly find and understand them. The Code also established the importance of uniform application of one set of law. The original Justinian Code was contained in multiple volumes and was in Latin. The text presented in this display contains excerpts, which show the nature of the principles set forth in the Code. These principles were crucial to the code of law, which was established upon the foundation of this country.

6. Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments have profoundly influenced the formation of Western legal thought and the formation of our country.

As one of the earliest examples of a set of laws designed to govern people and their moral obligations, they have served as a crucial part of the foundation for the legal code of the United States of America and all 50 States, and indeed for Western civilization. This is perhaps symbolized best by the presence of Moses, the great law giver, whose image is engraved on the walls of the United States Supreme Court, holding the Ten Commandments.

The text presented in this display is from the King James version of the Bible, This is in keeping with the historical nature of the display, as it was the first great English translation and was widely disseminated at the time of the foundation of our country, state, and county. Although the Bible is certainly religious

in nature, the purpose of including the Ten Commandments in this display is to honor and respect the development of the American judicial system; to acknowledge that the Ten Commandments and the principles which they set forth were fundamental to the foundation of the legal code of our country, state, and county, and indeed of Western civilization itself; and to recognize that, as with the Magna Carta and the Justinian Code, they are an integral part of our historical, societal, governmental, and judicial heritage.

7. The North Carolina Constitution. In our constitutional republic, each State has its own sovereign government and exercises all of those powers reserved to it under the 10th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Constitution for the State of North Carolina establishes time framework for the governmental system of this State and also assures to the people most of the same privileges and immunities granted under the Bill of Rights. Our State Constitution has the added historical significance of having been first adopted in 1776, only a matter of months after the Declaration of Independence, and then having been adopted in an entirely new form in 1868 as a part of Reconstruction in the South, when the approval of new constitutions was a condition of being re-admitted to the Union. The 1868 Constitution, among other things, outlawed slavery amid prohibited the State from ever again seceding. Though revised and readopted in 1970, most of the provision of the Constitution of 1868 remain in effect today.

The document presented in this display is a facsimile copy of time original first and last pages of the 1868 Constitution, with explanatory text, as provided by the Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

8. Act Creating Stokes County. Stokes County was formed in 1789 from Surry. It was named in honor of Colonel John Stokes, a soldier of the Revolution, who was desperately wounded at the Waxhow Massacre when Colonel Buford's regiment was cut to pieces by Tarleton. After the war, Washington appointed him a judge of the United States district court of North Carolina. The documents in this display are a facsimile copy of the original provided by the Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

9. Stokes County Seal. Adopted by the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners** on **February 6, 1978.** The Stokes Recreation Department along with the Stokes Arts Council held a design contest, which received 93 entries. Seven entries were submitted to the Board. The entry submitted by Mr. R. Neil Maxey, Walnut Cove, NC was adopted. Mr. Maxey was given a \$50.00 savings bond. The copy in this display is a facsimile of the seal used by Stokes County. The Seal portrays a building- Duke Power Steam Station, a tobacco leaf-a major crop, location within the State, and the date of creation-1789.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that a verbatim reproduction of this **Resolution** be posted together with the above documents, for the purpose of expressing the intent of the Board in authorizing the display.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Display, including this Resolution, be posted in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Stokes County Administrative Building, Government Center Complex in Danbury, North Carolina.

ADOPTED by **THE STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** this **24th** day of **February, 2003.**

Sandy McHugh, Chairman
ATTEST:

Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

John Turpin, Vice Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Howard Mabe, Commissioner

J. Tyrone Browder, County Attorney

Leon Inman, Commissioner

Joe Turpin, Commissioner

Chairman McHugh noted the March 10th meeting is scheduled to be at the Francisco Community Building at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to adjourn meeting.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman