

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS

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STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT

COUNTY OF STOKES

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DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

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JUNE 18, 2003

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in recessed session (recessed from the Wednesday, June 11, 2003 meeting) in the Council Chambers of the Administrative Building, located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order and delivered the invocation.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman McHugh opened the meeting by inviting the citizens in attendance to join the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **WORK SESSION-PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2003/04 COUNTY BUDGET**

The Board discussed the following departments in the proposed county fiscal year 2003-04 budget:

##### **Finance**

Finance Director Julia Edwards presented information from Service Support Supervisor Danny Stovall concerning cost of the lease telephone system, postage machine rental, copier rental, internet connection, pagers, and cellular telephones.

##### **Solid Waste**

Information was presented concerning stickers for tax bills would be estimated at 10 to 15 cents.

Information was presented concerning the Collection Site Cost for Annual Holidays.

Public Works Director Jay Kinney estimated that \$25,541 is saved by closing the greenbox sites on holidays.

##### **Arts Council**

Vice Chairman John Turpin presented information from other counties across the State concerning local funding to the Arts Council which indicated that Stokes County is above Counties (our size & surrounding) in local funding.

The Board requested a complete list of revenues, expenditures, and programs from the Arts Council for the next work session.

Discussion of hold harmless funding \$20,314.

##### **DSS-HCCBG Funding**

Discussion of Block Grant current and proposed funding.

Funding reinstated into DSS Budget for In Home Care Funding.

Vice Chairman John Turpin informed the Board that a grant \$19,000 had been received to be administered by NWPCOG for the Respite Care Program. (Area on Aging)

##### **Schools - Current Expense and Capital Outlay**

Finance Director Julia Edwards presented new proposed budget documents reflecting a reduction in the amount of hold harmless funding.

Commissioner Inman noted concerns (1) budget being proposed by purpose and function-limits Board of Education to use funding according to need; (2) use of hold harmless funding for school budget.

Chairman McHugh noted (1) General Statute 115C.429 which details Board of Commissioners' authority to appropriate funding according to purpose and function;

(2) General Statute 115C.426 which details a budget outline which should be submitted to the Board of Commissioners; (3) At present, after several requests, no complete budget which includes all revenues and expenditures had not been received by the Board of Commissioners.

Dr. Ron Carroll responded that the Board of Education's attorney had noted that the submitted budget was a legal request of funding and that the Board of Education had not received a formal request from the Board of Commissioners. An explanation of federal and state funding had been submitted after the budget had been submitted. (not incorporated into the proposed school budget).

**Motion:** Chairman McHugh moved that the Board of Commissioners formally request that the School Board submit a complete school budget, which includes all revenues and expenditures.

**Second:** Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Chairman McHugh moved to amend the motion that the Board of Commissioners request that the School Board submit a complete school budget which includes all revenues and expenditures to also include last year's final adopted budget.

**Second:** Vice Chairman John Turpin and the amendment carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Chairman McHugh moved to approve the motion that if any member of the Board of Commissioners or the Interim County Manager request any additional information during the next week from the School Board that the request would be supported and approved by the Board of Commissioners and that information be given to the Board of Commissioners.

**Second:** Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Further discussion of the school budget would continue upon receipt of a complete budget from the Board of Education.

#### **Tax Administration**

Discussion of savings from changing vendors used for mailing of tax bills.(\$10,000)

**Motion:** Chairman McHugh moved decrease departmental supplies \$2000 and decrease miscellaneous contractual services \$8000 from the Tax Administration proposed 2003-04

Budget.

**Second:** Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously

#### **Economic Development**

Chairman McHugh confirmed that Economic Director Ron Morgan had no negative concerns moving the Economic Development office back to Danbury.

**Motion:** Chairman McHugh moved to decrease rental/office and equipment \$4500 from the proposed Economic Development budget.

**Second:** Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Finance – Refinancing**

Finance Director Edwards informed the Board the following concerning the refinancing of the 1991 and 1999 Certificates of Participations:

- (1) Must be approved by Local Government Commission
- (2) Possibly on the Local Government Commission's agenda for July
- (3) Bond Attorney estimated \$600 in legal fees
- (4) No public hearing necessary due to refinancing

#### **Special Appropriations**

Includes outside agencies.

Elderly and disabled transportation transferred to Senior Services

#### **Debt Service**

\$333,555 increase due to refinancing.

#### **Transfer to other Funds**

Discussion of transfers to other funds.

#### **Contingency**

\$100,000 proposed recommendation for fiscal year 2003/04.

#### **Enhanced 911 Fund**

Estimated funding has been included in miscellaneous contractual services to complete new radio project started in fiscal year 2002/03.

#### **Capital Reserve Fund**

Capital Reserve Fund had been depleted due to Governor Easley taking hold harmless funds.

\$145,000 proposed for this fiscal year 2003/04 to rebuild capital reserve fund.

#### **Revaluation**

Discussed 2005 Revaluation.

#### **Grant Fund**

Includes Tobacco Trust for Farmer's Market.

#### **Senior Service Center Fund**

New Fund-transferred Walnut Cove Senior Center from Senior Services' budget.

All expenditures and revenues will be handled by the County Finance Department for audit control.

#### **Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital Revenue Bond Fund**

Discussed Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital Revenue Bond Fund.

#### **Regional Sewer Fund**

Sewer System in Danbury must be maintained in separate fund.

Discussion of Sewer System.

#### **King Fire District**

No concerns on proposed recommendation.

#### **Rural Hall Fire District**

No concerns on proposed recommendation.

**Walnut Cove Fire District**

No concerns on proposed recommendation.

**Stokes County Service District**

Recommendation for proposed funding submitted by the Fire Commission accepted by the Board.

Discussion of Mountain Rescue –confined space rescue - \$10,000. Fire Marshal to research possibility of other fire departments being able to provide confined space rescue.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to recess the meeting until Friday, June 20, 2003 at 6:00pm.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously

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**Darlene Bullins**  
Clerk to the Board

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**Sandy McHugh**  
Chairman