

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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JULY 28, 2003

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, July 28, 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

Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Inman 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.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT –GOVERNING BODY-APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve or amend the minutes of the July 14th meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the minutes of the July 14th meeting

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following citizens spoke to the Board:

Selwyn Matthews

1638 Sauratown Road
Germanton, NC 27019

Ms Matthews requested information from the Board concerning the status of the inventory tax reimbursements. Ms. Matthews requested that if funding was available from the inventory tax reimbursements, please consider redistribution to the Health Department and Mental Health.

Chairman McHugh stated that the inventory tax reimbursements had not been received from the State and is estimated to be transferred around the 11th of August to the County

Stan Squires

2753 HWY 89W
Danbury, NC 27016

Mr. Squires spoke to the Board concerning tourism in Stokes County. Mr. Squires reminded the Board that Hanging Rock State Park gets around 400,000+ visitors each year.

Mr. Squires requested that the Board look into Bike Trails, Dan River Accesses, and the Foundry at Moratock Park.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT–CLOSED SESSION

Chairman McHugh moved to enter into closed session to consult with the County Attorney retained by the County in order to preserve the attorney client privilege for discussion of a possible judicial action pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened to the regular session of the July 28th meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT–TAX ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Tax Administrator Wren Carmichael requested the Board's approval for June 2003 Itemized Releases (real and personal) in the amount of \$398.96, June 2003 Motor Vehicle Releases in the amount of \$740.54, and a refund in the amount of \$50 for Piedmont Lounge/Barry Woods.

TO: THE STOKES COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR

By the powers invested in me as the Chief Accounting Officer of Stokes County, North Carolina, this order of compliance pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 105-352(b)(1) and 105-352(b)(2) is issued to you. I further acknowledge that the receipts for prepayments of taxes for the fiscal year 2003-2004 have been delivered to me, and that such prepayments have been deposited to the credit of Stokes County.

Witness my hand and official seal this 28th day of July 2003.

Julia Edwards, Finance Officer & Chief
Accounting Officer, Stokes County, North Carolina

Sworn to and Subscribed Before Me This
28th Day of July, 2003

Darlene Bullins
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 9-27-2004

Tax Administrator Carmichael requested the Board's approval of the Resolution which presents the annual settlement of property taxes charged to the Tax Collector-Section Tax Administrator Carmichael presented the following:

For the County of Stokes
2002-2003 Property Tax Collections Settlement
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-373
[\(copy attached at the end of minutes\)](#)

For the Town of Walnut Cove
2002-2003 Property Tax Collections Settlement
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-373
[\(copy attached at the end of minutes\)](#)

For the Town of Danbury
2002-2003 Property Tax Collections Settlement
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-373
[\(copy attached at the end of minutes\)](#)

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the Resolution, which presents the annual settlement of property taxes charged to the Tax Collector-Section 105-373.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve the Resolution, which presents the annual settlement of property taxes charged to the Tax Collector-Section 105-373.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

State of North Carolina)
)
County of Stokes)

Resolution

WHEREAS, Section 105-373 of the North Carolina General Statutes provides for an annual settlement of the property taxes charged to the Tax Collection; and

**WHEREAS, that, in keeping with this requirement, the attached settlement summary was provided to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners
by the Stokes County Tax Administrator, Wren Carmichael;**

- (1) Orders the insolvent amount for 2002 be entered into the minutes as the accepted insolvent amount, and further, that said insolvent amount be credited to the Stokes County Tax Administrator in his settlement. And;**
- (2) Orders the tax liens for 2002 property taxes for the purpose of collection to be recharged to the Stokes County Tax Administrator. And further;**
- (3) Orders that the settlement for delinquent (prior years taxes) be entered into the minutes, and that the uncollected balance of said taxes be recharged to the Stokes County Tax Administrator for the purpose of collection. And finally;**

- (4) **Orders that the 2002 property tax settlement by the Stokes County Tax Administrator be accepted in accordance with Section 105-373(e) of the North Carolina General Statutes.**

Adopted this the 28th day of July 2003

Sandy McHugh, Chairman
Stokes County Board of Commissioners

ATTESTED:

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – LEPC/EOC –UPDATE

Chairman McHugh presented an updated report from EMS Director Ricky Tuttle who was unable to attend the meeting due to attending visitation services for an employee's family member.

Emergency Operations (EOC)

- Duke Power has made donation of 21 desk chairs and will continue to search for a conference table with chairs.
- American Red Cross will be making a \$500.00 donation
- Request Board approve Resolution recognizing contributions made by Duke Power and American Red Cross to the EOC
- Laptop computer and printer from the EOC grant have been ordered

Department of Justice Grant-2002

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) –suits, boots and gloves for the Sheriff's Department has arrived.
- Decontamination trailer should be completed within next 2 weeks
- Exercise proposal is due in the Central Branch Office on July 31st. Exercise will be conducted in 2004.

Department of Justice Grant-2003

- Memorandum of Agreement between NCEM and Stokes County due August 28, 2003.
- Equipment order (\$41,885.00) is due September 30, 2003.

Citizens Corp/CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

- Citizens Corp grant has been approved.
- CERT grant should be approved in the near future
- Danny Bottoms, Robert Snyder, Monty Stevens, and Ricky Tuttle have completed the CERT, Train the Trainer Course.

Emergency Operation Plan Grant (EOP)

- No word on approval or denial.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT–ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- PROPOSED TOURISM COUNCIL UPDATE

Economic Development Director Ron Morgan presented information for the proposed Stokes County Tourism Council which included background information, tourism options that relate to the strengths and resources of Stokes County, possible grants, and request to define goals that Stokes County can support. Director Morgan also presented a composition of the proposed Stokes County Tourism Council, which could possibly include representatives from the following:

- Public Sector
- Private Sector-Accommodations
- Sport/Adventure/Recreation Tourism
- Food and Beverage
- Events and Conferences
- Transportation
- Travel Trade
- Citizens at Large

Director Morgan also submitted possible nominations for representatives from each Sector.

Chairman McHugh moved to establish a Stokes County Tourism Council and have the Board entertain nominations for that Council at the next regular meeting (August 11th).

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Economic Director Morgan concluded that the grant from the State-DOT for the proposed Visitor's Center (which had not been started due to budget constraints) is still viable and the County has requested an extension in order not to lose the funding and that possible other funding/grants will be available.

Commissioner Joe Turpin, RPO Representative, noted the recent interest in a biking trail for Stokes County funded by transportation funds.

Commissioner Joe Turpin requested Director Morgan to develop a flow chart for the County's web page that could assist citizens who wanted to start a business.

Director Morgan stated he had such a document that could be placed on the web page with minor modifications.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-WINSTON SALEM URBAN AREA MPO-RESOLUTION

Chairman McHugh presented information from Chris Murphy, Winston Salem/Forsyth County Planning Board concerning the Board's membership in the Winston Salem Urban Area MPO.

Mr. Murphy requested the following from the Board:

- Appoint an alternate to serve on the MPO-TAC
- Appoint a staff person to represent Stokes County on the TCC
- Approve the Resolution Accepting the Invitation to Join the MPO

Chairman McHugh requested a volunteer to serve as an alternate to serve on the MPO-TAC.

Commissioner Joe Turpin volunteered to serve on the MPO-TAC as an alternate.

Commissioner Inman moved to appoint Commissioner Joe Turpin to serve on the MPO-TAC as an alternate.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to appoint a staff member to serve as a representative on the TCC(Technical Coordinating Committee).

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the motion to allow the Planning and Zoning Director to designate a person to attend the TCC meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the Resolution Accepting the Invitation to Join the Winston Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve the Resolution Accepting the Invitation to Join the Winston Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE INVITATION TO JOIN THE WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

WHEREAS, the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) strives to ensure continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning for all of the Winston-Salem Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, based on the 2000 Federal Census, the United States Census Bureau issued new boundary designations for the Winston-Salem Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Advisory Committee voted to amend the boundaries of the MPO to include the newly designated urban areas on November 21, 2002; and

WHEREAS, all/part of **Stokes County** is located within the newly designated Winston-Salem Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Advisory Committee voted to extend an invitation of membership to **Stokes County** on February 20, 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the **Board of Commissioners** of **Stokes County** that the offer of membership to the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is hereby accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the **Board of Commissioners** of **Stokes County** that we understand we will not be able to participate as a member of the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization until we sign the Memorandum of Understanding which governs the operations of the organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the **Board of Commissioners** of **Stokes County** that we authorize the Chairman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

The motion for the adoption of the Resolution was made by Commissioner Joe Turpin and _____ seconded by Vice Chairman John

Turpin. The vote was unanimously.

Adopted on this the 28th day of July, 2003.

Chairman Sandy McHugh

Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – NURSING HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve nominee Laura Hudgins or to submit any other nominee to serve on the Stokes County Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee. Ms. Hudgins was nominated at the July 14th meeting. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Inman moved to appoint Laura Hudgins to serve on the Stokes County Nursing Home Committee Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – PLANNING DEPARTMENT– BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS – ALTERNATE MEMBER

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve nominee Matthew Robbins or to submit any other nominee to serve on the Stokes County Board of Adjustments-Alternate Member. Mr. Robbins was nominated at the July 14th meeting. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to appoint Matthew Robbins to serve as an Alternate Member on the Stokes County Board of Adjustments.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-COUNTY APPOINTMENTS BY GENERAL STATUTES

Chairman McHugh presented information to the Board concerning appointments that were the Board should appoint at the reorganization meeting held each December.

Chairman McHugh entertained motions to appoint the following:

- o Deputy Tax Collector
- o Budget Officer
- o Finance Officer
- o Fire Marshal
- o Emergency Management Director
- o Planning Director
- o Economic Development Director

Deputy Tax Collector – General Statute 105-349

Tax Administrator Wren Carmichael recommended the following to be appointed as Deputy Tax Collectors: Joanne Fallon, Cheryl Hill, and Jackie Hostetter (one year beginning July 1)

Commissioner Mabe moved to appoint per General Statute 105-349- Joanne Fallon, Cheryl Hill, and Jackie Hostetter as Deputy Tax Collectors for a one-year appointment.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Budget Officer – General Statute 159-9

The Budget Officer is usually the County Manager, which is currently vacant. An interim would need to be appointed and appoint the new manager when hired.

Vice Chairman John Turpin moved to appoint per General Statute 159-9- Interim County Manager Sandy McHugh to serve as Interim Budget Officer until a new County Manager is hired.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Finance Officer – General Statute 159-24

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to appoint per General Statute 159-24 –Julia Edwards as Finance Officer until reorganization of the Board.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously

Fire Marshal – General Statute 153A-234

Commissioner Inman moved to appoint per General Statute 153A-234 –Brad Cheek as Fire Marshal until reorganization of the Board.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously

Emergency Management Director – General Stature 166A-7

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to appoint per General Statute 166A-7 –Ricky Tuttle as Emergency Management Director until reorganization of the Board.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously

Planning Director and Economic Development Director –General Statute 153A-76

Commissioner Mabe moved to appoint per General Statute 153A-76 –David Sudderth as Planning Director and Ron Morgan as Economic Development Director until reorganization of the Board.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – EMS – REGIONAL COMPETITION

Chairman McHugh and Vice Chairman John Turpin presented information to the Board concerning the recent participation by the Stokes County EMS in the NC State Paramedic Preliminary Regional Competition.

The Board recognized Scott Brown and Fred Lawson-Stokes County Paramedics who participated in the NC State Paramedic Preliminary Regional Competition. Stokes County placed 2nd in the Region.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT–JAIL- BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Amendment #1 which is necessary to appropriate funds from fund balance for replacement/repairs to three locks and two hoods over keyholes on block crossover doors at the jail. Funds were appropriated last fiscal year BA #40, but work was not completed.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve Budget Amendment #1.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve Budget Amendment #1.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL FUND	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES		
Fund Balance	100.3991.000	\$ (1,913.00)

EXPENDITURES		
Jail		
Maint. & Repairs Buildings	100.4320.352	\$ 1,913.00

GENERAL GOVERNMENT–SHERIFF’S DEPT- BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Amendment #2 which to appropriate funds from Calendar funds to purchase 1000 junior badges used for children to create a positive image for law enforcement.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve Budget Amendment #2.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL FUND	INCREASE	DECREASE
REVENUES		
Sheriff’s Department		
Miscellaneous	100.3839.001	\$ (310.00)

WHEREAS, The **Westfield exchange** is the **least densely populated** area of any of the service areas serviced by the three telephone service providers. At \$39.95 per month, the DSL service provided by **Surry Telephone Membership Corporation is also the most affordable** (Alltel DSL service is \$49.95 per month).

THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that, we the Board of Stokes County Commissioners commends Surry Telephone Membership Corporation for its leadership and commitment to providing High Speed Internet service at an affordable rate to its subscribers in Stokes County.

Adopted this **28th** day of **July 2003**.

Sandy McHugh
Chairman

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-COOPERATIVE EXTENSION-GRANT REQUEST

Chairman McHugh presented a request from Jeffrey Boyles-Cooperative Extension for support from the Board for a grant request to the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and NC Tobacco Trust for continuing operation of the Growers' CoOp. (no County funding)

Commissioner Inman moved to support the grant requests to the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and the NC Tobacco Trust.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS-WORK SCHEDULE

Chairman McHugh requested the Board's approval to allow Emergency Communications Director to use the 168 hour flexible schedule due to staffing problems until vacant positions are filled.

Commissioner Inman moved to allow Emergency Communications Director to use the 168-hour flexible schedule due to staffing problems until vacant positions are filled.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – SALARY REQUEST

Chairman McHugh requested the Board's approval to allow the Sheriff to move a Sergeant to a Deputy Sheriff II (day shift) position with a salary of \$30,001.01.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve the Sheriff's request to move a Sergeant to a Deputy Sheriff II (day shift) position with a salary of \$30,001.01.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-VEHICLE DECALS/SIGNAGE

Commissioner Joe Turpin requested the Board investigate the possibility of purchasing vinyl-cutting machine for decals and signs.

Chairman McHugh requested Finance Director Julia Edwards to have Purchasing Agent Danny Stovall investigate the cost and feasibility of the purchase of a vinyl cutting machine for decals and signs.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-VACANT COUNTY MANAGER'S POSITION

Commissioner Mabe requested that the Board discuss the selection process for the hiring of a County Manager either in closed or regular session whichever is appropriate.

Chairman McHugh requested before the Board discuss the issue of the selection process for hiring a County Manager, a legal opinion of whether the issue should be discussed in open or closed session should be obtained.

Vice Chairman John Turpin suggested the possibility of discussing the issue after an legal opinion is obtained at the August 5th-Planning Meeting.

Meeting for August 11th will be at the Double Creek Fire Department.

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

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman

COUNTY OF STOKES

2002-2003 PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. 105-373

CURRENT

CHARGES		CREDITS	
\$16,038,423.93	(Total to Collect)	\$15,063,224.93	(Amount Deposited)
\$54,201.69	(Interest Collected)	\$67,977.59	(Releases Authorized)
\$5,976.87	(Misc Credits Allowed)	\$110,783.44	(Discounts Allowed)
\$2,528.31	(License)	\$557,264.00	(Real-Pers Property Liens)
\$3,416.40	(Misc Fees including ADV, NFS, GAR)	\$305,297.24	(Motor Vehicle Liens)
\$16,104,547.20		\$16,104,547.20	

DELINQUENT

CHARGES		CREDITS	
1,452,028.72	(Total to Collect)	\$623,414.06	(Amount Deposited)
1,690.83	(Misc Credits Allowed)	\$11.29	(Discounts Allowed)
		\$11.29	
		2001	\$385,604.96
		2000	\$96,725.03
		1999	\$56,673.61
		1998	\$29,088.84
		1997	\$17,338.54
		1996	\$20,275.45
		1995	\$7,042.88
		1994	\$4,215.63
		1993	\$3,921.32
		1992	\$1,747.57
		1991	\$780.23
		\$40,827.67	(Releases Authorized)
		\$789,466.53	(Amount Uncollected)
\$1,453,719.55		\$1,453,719.55	

TOWN OF WALNUT COVE

2002-2003 PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. 105-373

CURRENT

CHARGES		CREDITS	
\$343,832.78	(Total to Collect)	\$319,048.09	(Amount Deposited)
\$1,083.74	(Interest Collected)	\$1,180.05	(Releases Authorized)
\$566.01	(Misc Credits Allowed)	\$2,447.14	(Discounts Allowed)
		\$16,417.07	(Real-Pers Property Liens)
		\$6,390.18	(Motor Vehicle Liens)
\$345,482.53		\$345,482.53	

DELINQUENT

CHARGES		CREDITS	
28,083.77	(Total to Collect)	\$16,653.78	(Amount Deposited)
		2001	\$8,858.52
		2000	\$1,701.77
		1999	\$1,462.99
		1998	\$472.00
		1997	\$1,124.63

	1996	\$1,181.16
	1995	\$872.31
	1994	\$870.27
	1993	\$38.39
	1992	\$36.81
	1991	\$34.93
	\$116.52	(Releases Authorized)
	\$11,313.47	(Amount Uncollected)
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\$28,083.77	\$28,083.77	

TOWN OF DANBURY

2002-2003 PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. 105-373

CURRENT

CHARGES	CREDITS
\$17,309.43(Total to Collect)	\$16,163.51(Amount Deposited)
\$57.74(Interest Collected)	\$90.36(Releases Authorized)
\$106.00(Misc Credits Allowed)	\$83.78(Discounts Allowed)
	\$665.56(Real-Pers Property Liens)
	\$469.96(Motor Vehicle Liens)
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\$17,473.17	\$17,473.17

DELINQUENT

CHARGES	CREDITS
953.37 (Total to Collect)	\$668.27 (Amount Deposited)
	2001 \$425.54
	2000 \$123.33
	1999 \$112.25
	1998 \$7.15
	(Releases Authorized)
	\$285.10 (Amount Uncollected)
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\$953.37	\$953.37