

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in regular session at the Double Creek Voluntary Fire Department located on HWY #268, Pinnacle, North Carolina, on Monday, August 11, 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.

Mr. Marshall Gordy 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 28th meeting.

Chairman McHugh noted the following amendment to the minutes:

Page 13 – Stokes County placed 2nd in the State-should read “placed second in the Region”

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the minutes of the July 28th meeting with the noted amendment.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following citizen spoke to the Board:

Gray Marshall
 1080 Beagle Lane
 Westfield, NC 27053
Topic: County Property Taxes

Mr. Marshall requested information from the Board concerning a recent visit from the Tax Department concerning his property valuation. Mr. Marshall expressed concerns about the increase in his valuation, which would increase his property tax.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-TOURISM COUNCIL-NOMINATIONS

Economic Director Ron Morgan presented the Board with the following list of possible nominations for the Stokes County Tourism Council:

| Last Name | First Name | Industry Sector | Representing |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Allen | Joan | Food and Beverage | Danbury General Store |
| Barley | Dean | Events and Conferences | The Vineyard Camp |
| Bullins | Mark | Travel Trade | JD Cruises & Tours |
| Cavanaugh | Marvin | Citizens at Large | Northeast |
| Charleville | Jane-Priddy | Attractions | Priddy General Store |
| Clifford | Ron | Citizens at Large | Southwest |
| Cox | Todd | Public | King Planning Department |
| Fulk | Pat | Events and Conferences and Northwest | Wade Fulk Tours |
| Giroux | Sara | Events and Conferences | Arts Council |
| Hill | Sam | Events and Conferences | Silk Bouquets |
| Hoskins | Dave | Accommodations | Southwyck Farm |
| Hylton | Michael | Public | Cooperative Extension |

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jolly | Jon | Sport/Recreation | Hanging Rock Outdoor Center |
| Landreth | Carolyn | Attractions | One Way Architectural Antiques |
| Meadows | Gareath | Public | Historical Society |
| Morgan | Ron | Public | Economic Development |
| Nichols | Wade | Public | Heritage Tourism |
| Reid | Sharon | Attractions | The Herb Merchant |
| Simpson | David | Attractions | Germanton Vineyard & Gallery |
| Last Name | First Name | Industry Sector | Representing |
| Snyder | Bonnie | Accommodations | Squires Inn |
| Sudderth | David | Public | Planning Department |
| Younts | Bruce | Attractions and Southeast | Younts Vineyard |

Director Morgan noted the first meeting for the Stokes County Tourism Council was scheduled for September 16th at 6:00 pm at the Danbury Public Library at which time the Council would draft a plan of organization, which would include By-Laws, goals, terms of office, etc. Upon completion, the draft would be returned to the Board of Commissioners for any amendments and approval by the Board.

Director Morgan recommended the proposed list which serves all industrial and geographic sectors of the County.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to accept any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

The Board can considered these nominations and/or submitted further nominations at the August 25th meeting.

Commissioner Mabe nominated Economic Director Morgan's recommendations to serve on the Stokes County Tourism Council.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Director Morgan also updated the Board concerning the recent addition to the webpage-www.stokescounty.org, which is a guideline for establishing a business. The addition also links to several other areas of assistance.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – SOIL/WATER-AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD – NOMINATIONS

District Soil Conservationist Tom Smith-Natural Resources presented the Board with the following recommendations from the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District, Stokes County Farm Bureau, and Stokes Cooperative Extension Service to serve on the Agricultural Advisory Board:

Agricultural Advisory Board

| Township | Name |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Big Creek Township | Grant Christian |
| Quaker Gap Township | Michael Joyce |
| Yadkin Township | Robert P. |
| Lindsay | |
| Snow Creek Township | Manley Stovall |
| Peters Creek/Danbury Township | Mark Pendleton |
| Meadows/Sauratown Township | Dale Hartman |
| Beaver Island Township | Tommy Durham |

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to accept any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

The Board can considered these nominations and/or submitted further nominations at the August 25th meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin nominated the recommendations submitted by Conservationist Smith on behalf of Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District, Stokes County Farm Bureau, and Stokes Cooperative Extension Service to serve on the Agricultural Advisory Board.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE TO DUKE POWER FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Chairman McHugh presented the Board with a proposed Resolution of Gratitude to Duke Power For Its Contributions to the Emergency Operations Center.

Chairman McHugh expressed the Board's gratitude for the continued contributions in the development of an Emergency Operations Center for Stokes County.

Chairman McHugh read the proposed Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE
TO DUKE POWER FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**

WHEREAS, Duke Power has been a loyal and helpful partner in developing an Emergency Operations Center for Stokes County; and,

WHEREAS, Duke Power has donated 26 chairs to the Stokes County Emergency Operations Center; and,

WHEREAS, Duke Power has agreed to furnish other furniture and make other contributions to the Stokes County Emergency Operations Center, and,

WHEREAS, Stokes County is extremely appreciative of Duke Power's commitment of time and resources to the Stokes County Emergency Operations Center and is grateful to Duke Power for its involvement and loyal attendance of LEPC meetings, now,

THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that, the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners** do hereby acknowledge **Duke Power's** contributions to the **Stokes County Emergency Operations Center** and extend our sincere appreciation for Duke Power's continued cooperation and commitment to seeing this project through to completion and implementation.

Adopted this 11th day of **August 2003**.

Sandy McHugh
Chairman

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the Resolution of Gratitude to Duke Power For Its Contributions to the Emergency Operations Center.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Resolution of Gratitude to Duke Power For Its Contributions to the Emergency Operations Center.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McHugh presented the approved Resolution to Mr. Jimmy Flythe, District Manager-Business and Community Relations –Duke Power.

Mr. Flythe expressed appreciation to the Board on behalf of Duke Power for the County's continued Cooperation during emergency situations and the opportunity to be involved with this very worthwhile project (Emergency Operations Center).

EMS Director Ricky Tuttle reported the status of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Director Tuttle noted that the approved grant funding would fund the approximately \$8000 needed for the completion of wiring for the EOC. EMS Director Tuttle noted that the grant must be expended by September 30, 2003 and that the EOC would be operational by September 30, 2003.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-EMS-TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Chairman McHugh presented a request to the Board from EMS Paramedic Fred Lawson for reimbursement in the amount of \$171.25 for tuition per County policy (personnel handbook-page #18-section 9). (Fred Lawson is currently pursuing an Associates Degree in EMS)

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the submitted tuition reimbursement request from EMS Paramedic Fred Lawson for tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$171.25.

Commissioner Mabe moved to approve the tuition reimbursement request from EMS Paramedic Fred Lawson in the amount of \$171.25.

Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – TAX DEPARTMENT -BUDGET AMENDMENTS #4

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Amendment #4 which is necessary to transfer funds for the purchase of a computer for the Tax Office.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve Budget Amendment #4.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve Budget Amendment #4.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously

| GENERAL FUND | | INCREASE | DECREASE |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| Tax Administration | | | |
| Equipment-Non Capitalized | 100.4140.511 | \$ 2,612.00 | |
| Contingency | 100.9910.000 | | \$ (2,612.00) |

The Board requested Finance Director Julia Edwards bring computer specifications for any future budget amendments for the purchase of a computer.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – SHERIFF’S DEPT.-BUDGET AMENDMENTS #5

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Amendment #5 which is necessary to appropriate funds from Calendar fund to purchase brochures for the public in “How to Handle Bad Checks” and to appropriate funds from State Fines & Forfeitures to replenish funds for drug operations and to purchase a metal detector.

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve Budget Amendment #5.

Vice Chairman John Turpin moved to approve Budget Amendment #5.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

| GENERAL FUND | | INCREASE | DECREASE |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| REVENUES | | | |
| State Fines & Forfeitures | 100.3301.413 | \$ (5,280.00) | |
| Sheriff’s Dept-Miscellaneous | 100.3839.001 | \$ (267.00) | |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| Sheriff’s Department | | | |
| Departmental Supplies | 100.4310.260 | \$ 280.00 | |
| Printing | 100.4310.340 | \$ 267.00 | |
| Drug Operations | 100.4310.520 | \$ 5,000.00 | |

GENERAL GOVERNMENT –JAIL -BUDGET AMENDMENTS #6

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Amendment #6 which is necessary to appropriate funds from an OBJ Grant and State Fines & Forfeitures to purchase bulletproof vest .

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve Budget Amendment #6.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve Budget Amendment #6.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

| GENERAL FUND | | INCREASE | DECREASE |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| REVENUES | | | |
| OBJ-Enforcement Grant | 100.3301.416 | \$ (2,480.00) | |
| State Fines & Forfeitures | 100.3301.413 | \$ (2,480.00) | |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| Jail | | | |
| Departmental Supplies | 100.4320.260 | \$ 4,960.00 | |

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – FINANCE –HOLD HARMLESS FUNDING

Finance Director Julia Edwards informed the Board that the Hold Harmless Funding had been deposited into the County’s account.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – TAX DEPARTMENT/ COLLECTIONS

Finance Director Julia Edwards presented the Board with an update concerning the fiscal year property tax collections. As of 8-11-03, 9% of the projected revenue (\$1,452,363) had been collected by the Tax Administration.

Chairman McHugh recessed the meeting until the arrival of County Attorney Tryone Browder.

The Board resumed the regular August 11th meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PROPOSED CONTRACT FOR KENNEDY COVINGTON-LAWSUIT NOVANT HEALTH vs. STOKES COUNTY

County Attorney Tyrone Browder presented the Board with information concerning a propose contract with Kennedy Covington Lobdell & Hickman, LLP to represent Stokes County and its Commissioners regarding the Novant Health Lawsuit related to the establishment of a hospital in King.

Attorney Browder recommended that the Board seek outside legal representation concerning the Novant Health Lawsuit due the amount of time the lawsuit could possible incur and the lack of expertise in hospital law.

Attorney Browder recommended that the County obtain Attorney Mary Beth Johnston (expertise in hospital law-Kennedy Covington Lobdell & Hickman) to represent the County regarding the Novant Health Lawsuit. The County will be billed on an hourly basis: (Johnston-\$320 per hour; other attorneys from \$110 to \$410 per hour based on level of experience and subject matter; paralegals from \$70 to \$110 per hour; long distance telephone charges; photocopies; outside computer research, filing fees, etc.)

Chairman McHugh entertained a motion to approve the Engagement Letter regarding the Novant Health Lawsuit from Kennedy Covington.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Engagement Letter regarding the Novant Health Lawsuit from Kennedy Covington.

Commissioner Mabe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board expressed their appreciation to the Double Creek Fire Department and the Community for the opportunity to hold the Commissioner’s meeting in their community.

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

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman