

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
)	STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
COUNTY OF STOKES)	DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
)	JUNE 3, 2004

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in special session for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2004/05 County Budget in the Government Center Building, Courtroom "A" located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Thursday, June 3, 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

County Manager Richard Morris
 County Attorney Jonathan Jordan
 Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Chairman McHugh called the Public Hearing to order.

County Attorney Jonathan Jordan 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.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman McHugh moved to approve the motion according to General Statute 53A-52 - the Board will fix the maximum time allotted to 2 minutes per speaker; provide the maintenance of order and decorum in the conduct of the hearing; personal attacks and insults will be gavelled; any off topic speeches will be gavelled; and if it is repeated the speaker will lose the remainder of their time. Vice Chairman John Turpin seconded the motion carried unanimously.

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Larry Cartner	PO Box 50, Danbury	Stokes School	School Funding		X

Dr. Cartner commented on the following items:

- o Building bridges to the future with a graduation rate and an academic rate passing the State average and dropout rate below the state average
- o More and more education requirements are being shifted to the local level
- o Current funding in Stokes County is \$318 less per student than current State average
- o Proposed reduction of \$380,000 means a loss of employees, increased student safety issues along with increased student health concerns

Dr. Cartner request full funding of the proposed Board of Education's budget.

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Ronnie Mendenhall	Westfield, NC	Stokes School	School Budget		X

Mr. Mendenhall commented on the following items:

- o Local reduction of funding impacts small schools
- o Increased combination classes
- o Loss of one position would devastate a small school
- o Loss of one position would increase class size to 27-28 students

- o Lack of funding would reduce resources for all schools

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Jay Tilley	Walnut Cove, NC	Stokes School	School Budget		X

Mr. Tilley commented on the following items:

- o Supports the Board of Education’s proposed budget
- o Lack of State funding effects local spending
- o “No Child Left Behind” standards with no additional federal/state funding
- o Average funding for students less than State average (\$238 less than last year)
- o Consider the reasonable Board of Education’s request

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Melisa Jessup	PO Box 50, Danbury	Stokes School	School Budget		X

Ms. Jessup commented on the following items:

- o Support request for locally paid positions
- o State allotment does not always take in consideration of each schools’ needs
- o Help balance out teacher/student ratio
- o Help lessen combination classes
- o Support “No Child Left Behind” mandates
- o Support of new web base program
- o Support Board of Educations’ requested budget

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Olivia Shelton	602 Main Street, Danbury	Stokes School	School Budget		X

Ms. Shelton commented on the following items:

- o Concern for locally paid positions
- o The need for less combination classes
- o Support the proposed School Board’s budget with the locally paid positions

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Todd Martin	117 Rosewood Lane, King	Stokes Schools	School Funding		X

Mr. Martin commented on the following items:

- o Capital budget - proposal to use ADM funding instead of County Funding
- o ADM funding needed for future construction of schools
- o Mt. Olive Elementary has 17 mobile units on the campus
- o Unfair for students having to attend classes in mobile units
- o Request to fully fund Stokes County Schools’ submitted budget

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Randolph Pickell	104 Green Leaf Ln, King	Citizens	School Funding		X

Mr. Pickell declined to speak.

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Shannon Boles	PO Box 50, Danbury	Stokes School	School Funding		X

Ms. Boles commented on the following items:

- o Every grade level last year at Walnut Cove Elementary had combination classes
- o Impact of combination class on students
- o Local funding needed to provide teaching positions needed to eliminate combination classes
- o Request for support of Board of Education's submitted budget for locally paid positions

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Ken Sevier	Germanton, NC	Stokes Schools	School Budget		X

Mr. Sevier commented on the following items:

- o Emphasis funding for SRO Officers be provided by County
- o Use state funding for SRO to lower class size
- o "No Child Left Behind" resources needed

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Beauford Bailey	2619 Glenhaven Ln, Winston Salem	Citizen	W.C. Colored School	X	

Mr. Bailey commented on the following items:

- o Support the schools but request funding for Senior Citizens
- o Need for funding for Walnut Cove Senior Center
- o Importance of Walnut Cove Senior Center
- o Needs of the Senior Citizens
- o Request \$30,000 to help run the Walnut Cove Senior Center

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Roger Tucker	1121 N.S. School Rd, Danbury	Piney Grove M. School	School Funding		X

Mr. Tucker commented on the following items:

- o Request full funding of the Stokes County Board of Education's budget
- o Support of obtaining good personnel
- o Need for better pay and benefits to keep good personnel
- o School facilities are used for recreation for Stokes County

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Sandra Weavil	639 Dan Valley Road	Stokes Schools	School Funding		X

Ms. Weavil commented on the following items:

- o Effects on small elementary schools
- o Effects of losing Spanish for elementary grades
- o Loss of Arts for elementary grades
- o Effects on new businesses coming to Stokes County
- o Effects on new teachers coming to Stokes County
- o Request full funding of the School Board's budget

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Ginny Carpenter	2608 White Fence Way	Stokes Schools	School Funding		X

Ms. Carpenter commented on the following item:

- o Grade level scoring
- o Asking for bare bones medium - no extras
- o Request adoption of the School Board's budget

- o Communities are a direct reflection of how well they educate their children

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Amy Musten	600 N Main St, Danbury	Stokes School	School Funding	X	

Ms. Musten commented on the following items:

- o Impacts of economic on local levels
- o Needs for children of Stokes County
- o Children future of Stokes County
- o Small schools have the same needs as larger schools in the County
- o Importance of small class sizes
- o Request full funding of Board of Education's budget

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Betty Shackelford	5112 N Main St, King	Stokes School	Nursing		X

Ms. Shackelford commented on the following items:

- o Need for more school nurses
- o Medical needs of Stokes County students
- o Reduction of funding impacts on students needs
- o Request Commissioner to follow a school nurse

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Gregory Hairston	1070 Brookridge Dr, Walnut Cove	Senior Center	Senior Services		X

Mr. Hairston commented on the following items:

- o Advocate for schools and seniors
- o Need for funding for Seniors Citizens
- o Request \$30,000 for the Walnut Cove Senior Center

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Reba Elliott	PO Box 937, King	Citizen	Budget	X	

Ms. Elliott commented on the following items:

- o Fairness in proposed County Budget
- o Slashes last year in DSS, Mental Health, and Health
- o Increases for few departments last year
- o No COLA since 2000/01
- o Reclassifications done for selected departments
- o Need for reclassifications to be done by outside firm
- o Request Board to reconsider County Manager's Budget

Name	Address	Organization	Specific Budget Item	Oppose	Support
Fredricka Cecile	1741 Marshall Smith Rd, King	Citizen	Budget		X

Ms. Cecile commented on the following items:

- o Personal thanks for courtesy from County Manager for allowing questions concerning the proposed budget
- o Impact of no funding provided for Mountain Rescue
- o Need for County Funding for Mountain Rescue
- o Request Board to reconsider County Funding for Mountain Rescue
- o Fairness to all departments

There being no further comments to come before the Board, Vice Chairman John Turpin moved to adjourned the Public Hearing.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman