

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF STOKES

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
DECEMBER 28, 2004

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building), located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Monday, December 28, 2004, at 7:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman John Turpin
Vice-Chairman Leon Inman
Commissioner Sandy McHugh
Commissioner Joe Turpin
Commissioner Jimmy Walker

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

Chairman John Turpin called the meeting to order.

County Attorney Jonathan Jordan delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman John Turpin 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 John Turpin entertained a motion to approve or amend the minutes of the December 13th meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve the minutes of the December 13th meeting.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – HEALTH DEPARTMENT – PHN RECLASSIFICATIONS

PHN Supervisor Erma Perkins requested the approval of the Board to reclassify the two recently approved School Public Health Nurse I positions to School Public Health Nurse IIs. Supervisor Perkins submitted information from Joy F. Reed, Head – Public Health Nursing & Professional Development and Patrick McCoy, Local HR Program –NC Office Of State Personnel which indicated that the Department of Health and Office of State Personnel have worked collaboratively and have determined that all of the new school nurse positions approved by the General Assembly should be classified as School Public Health Nurse IIs.

Supervisor Perkins also noted the following:

- Current Health Dept. School nurse is classified as PHN II (1 position)
- Current Stokes County School nurses are classified as PHN IIs (2 positions)
- With new positions, total of 5 positions in the County
- Responsibilities of school health nurse
- No local funding for either position
- One position is permanent
- One position is a two year position
- Current School nurse is utilized in the Health Dept. during holidays and summer vacation
- Additional funding not used for salary can be used for purchase of needed equipment
- School nurses will be required to be certified within three years by the State

The Board discussed responsibilities associated with the PHN I and PHN II positions, current school health nurses in the County, and the future need for school nurses.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the requested reclassifications for the current School Public Health Nurse I positions to School Public Health Nurse II positions.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the recommendation to reclassify the the new School Public Health Nurse I positions to School Public Health Nurse IIs.

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – SAFETY OFFICER RECLASSIFICATION

Sergeant Eric Cone requested the Board's approval to reclassify the current Safety Officer, which is funded by the Safe Schools/Health Students Grant from a Deputy Sheriff I to a Deputy Sheriff II position.

Sergeant Cone noted the following:

- Position currently vacant
- Position will be funded as long as funds are available from Grant
- Position projected to last to the beginning of 2006
- Recruitment difficult due to pay scale
- No local funding
- Sheriff has no plans of requesting the position beyond the Grant

The Board discussed the reclassification of the current Safety Officer position.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the reclassification of the current Safety School Officer –Deputy I to Safety School Officer-Deputy II.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the request to reclassify the Safety Officer-Deputy I to Safety Officer- Deputy II with funding provided by the Safe Schools Grant and the understanding when the Safe Schools funds are exhausted, the position is exhausted.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – PROPOSED ATM MACHINE – GOVERNMENTAL COMPLEX

County Manager Rick Morris presented information concerning a proposed Cash only ATM machine and a full service ATM machine on the Governmental Complex.

The following are responses from Lexington State Bank and the Local Government Credit Union:

Lexington State Bank (LSB)

(Current banking institution for County)

LSB would not propose a cash payout machine at this time due to financial obligations associated with the construction of the new bank in Danbury. Possibly could revisit submission of at a proposal in 2005.

LSB will not furnish a full service ATM at the Government Center due to close proximity of ATM at the new bank location.

Local Governmental Credit Union (LGCU)

(All permanent part/full County time employees eligible along with State employees)

LGCU no longer places cash payout machines in buildings.

LGCU will place a full service machine in the upper parking of the Government Center. All expenses for installation (est. - \$70,000) will be paid by Local

Governmental Credit Union. Full service machine will be placed in an existing location with no renovations to landscaping and minimal impact to parking lot.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins also noted the following:

- o County currently has approximately 95 employees using direct deposit to Local/State Government Credit Union
- o County currently has 69 employees participating in payroll deductions to Local/State Government Credit Union
- o Approximately 1100 eligible State Employees – Stokes County Schools
- o Approximately 30 housed in Administrative Office-Danbury
- o Other eligible participants- Department of Transportation
- o Other eligible participants- Hanging State Park
- o Other eligible participants- Stokes Reynolds Hospital
- o Benefit for County employees

Manager Morris concluded that the Local Government Credit Union would incur all expenses, no upkeep or maintenance issues for the County, three-year contract period with annual renewals, and no renovations needed to landscaping with minimal impact to parking lot.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve the request for a Local Government Credit Union ATM Machine on Government Center Complex – upper parking lot with a three-year lease.

Commissioner Jimmy Walker moved to approve the request for a Local Government Credit Union ATM machine on the Government Center Complex-upper parking lot with a three-year lease.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE – REGIONAL SEWER FUND UPDATE

County Manager Rick Morris presented information from the Local Government Commission (LGC) concerning the County's Fund Balance and Regional Sewer Fund Balance.

The LGC noted that signs of financial weakness in the Regional Sewer Fund because of current liabilities exceeded liquid assets (cash, investments, receivables). LGC suggested that the Board considers increasing the user fees and/or reducing expenses in order to improve the financial condition of the fund.

County Manager Morris concluded that capital improvements needed for this ten-year old system and a proposed rate increase would be provided to the Board at the January 10th meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – PROPOSED AMBULANCE BIDS – CONTINUATION

Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall and EMS Director Monty Stevens presented the requested information for purchase of a "demo" ambulance:

- Demo Ambulances are not exempt from bidding requirements in GS 143-129
- Located demo with 7300 miles in Texas
- Differences from bid specifications:
 - Interior compartment layout
 - Plexiglas tint color
 - No built in interior drug box
 - No radios installed
 - No stripping/lettering (must remove demo lettering)
 - IV Hook hangers installed in a different location
 - Interior color scheme
 - Cab mounted light bar
 - No built in refrigerator
 - No stretcher installed

Mr. Stovall concluded that this demo with the additional cost for radios, lettering, stripping, and stretcher that are required in our bid specifications would be \$941.00 more than the new Horton cost that was provided earlier.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the purchase of (2) two Horton Emergency vehicles –2004 Ford E-450 (523-B Type III) Ambulances at cost of \$215,612.00– Northwestern Emergency Vehicles. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – HOME HEALTH - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #47

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #47 which is necessary to amend the General Fund for transfers to cover cost for Home Health’s Accreditation. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Home Health		
100.5190.230	Medical Supplies	\$3,375.00	
100.5190.490	Dues & Subscriptions		<u>\$3,375.00</u>
		<u>\$3,375.00</u>	<u>\$3,375.00</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$00.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #47.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #47.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #48

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #48 which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate funds from insurance claim for accident. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Sheriff’s Department		
100.4310.351	Maintenance & Repairs-Auto		<u>\$4,385.00</u>
			<u>\$4,385.00</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$4,385.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased.

Account Number	REVENUES	Decrease	Increase
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100.3839.850	Insurance Claims	<u>\$4,385.00</u>
		\$4,385.00

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #48.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #48.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – JAIL -BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #49

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #49 which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate and transfer funds for the Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital contract for medical services for the Jail. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Jail		
100.4320.030	Salaries & Wages-Contract Pay	\$3,560.00	
100.4320.110	Group Insurance	\$1,540.00	
100.4320.441	Misc. Contractual Services-SRMH		\$40,000.00
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$34,900.00</u>	
		\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00

This will result in a net increase of \$00.00 n the appropriations of the General Fund.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #49.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #49.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ELECTIONS - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #50

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #50 which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate and transfer funds for the election cost. The appropriations are to be changed as followed:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	Elections		
100.4170.010	Salaries & Wages – Overtime		\$625.00
100.4170.020	Salaries & Wages- Part time	\$4,000.00	
100.4170.190	Board Reimbursement		\$5,000.00
100.4170.310	Travel		\$500.00
100.4170.321	Postage		\$1,500.00
100.4170.340	Printing		\$14,000.00
100.4170.350	Maint. & Repairs – Equipment		\$1,200.00
100.4170.390	Precinct Officials	\$470.00	
100.4170.430	Rental of Buildings		\$25.00
100.4170.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$500.00	
100.9910.000	Contingency		
		\$22,225.00	\$22,225.00

This will result in a net increase of \$00.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #50.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #50.

Commissioner Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – CERTIFIED NURSING PROGRAM DESIGNATION – WALNUT COVE – UPDATE

County Manager Rick Morris updated the Board with information relating to designated space for the Certified Nursing Program (FTCC) at the Old Duke Power Building in Walnut Cove. Manager Morris stated that Forsyth Technical Community College has indicated that they wish to maintain that designated space at the current time. They are unsure if the current location will continue to be suitable. FTCC has submitted a Rural Economic Development Grant, which will be decided in February for a “business incubator”. FTCC may approach the Board later to use the designated space for this program.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – GOVERNMENTAL COMPLEX RENOVATIONS

County Manager Rick Morris presented additional information related to the Governmental Complex Renovations.

Manager Morris noted there had been two meetings related to the County space allocation: one meeting with Board of Elections for them to emphasize to the Commissioners their need and desire to move to the area now occupied by the Fire Marshal/EMS and one meeting involving the Court Facilities Sub- Committee of the Stokes County Criminal Justice Council.

The following is a summary of comments from attendees of the Court Facilities Sub- Committee:

The Honorable Moses Massey (Senior Resident Superior Court Judge) –

- A jury assembly room is needed
- Security improvements are needed ASAP
- Space should be multi-purpose

The Honorable Bud Oliver (Chief District Court Judge) –

- Would like two additional courtrooms downstairs mirroring those upstairs
- Upstairs security improvements are needed ASAP
- Add an additional jury room and conference space for mediation
- Add holding cells downstairs
- Upgrade courtroom #3 to a formal courtroom layout
- Obtain additional bailiff support when additional courtrooms added

District Attorney Ricky Bowman –

- Add additional space for mediation
- Add additional space to support a full time assistant district attorney/support clerk in Danbury
- Retain easy public access to his offices
- Consolidate probation into one office/area

Clerk of Court Dean Hartgrove –

- Additional administrative space needed ASAP
- Currently using vault space for recent hire
- Security improvements needed ASAP

John Cowden (Chief Probation and Parole Officer) –

- Probation has current need for additional storage space
- Additional office space required if additional probation officers are hired

Commissioner Sandy McHugh –

- Requested review of current utilization of 2nd floor court space
- Recommended concurrence by all stakeholders affected by move before coming to Board of Commissioners

- o Emphasized factoring in county budget status into any move decision

Sheriff Mike Joyce –

- o Current space adequate for Sheriff's Dept.
- o Security should be addressed ASAP
- o Some drug funding may be available for security upgrades

County Manager Morris noted that the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is currently working on a Facility Needs Assessment which should address immediate needs as well as a 20-year projection of court requirements. Manager Morris stated that at the direction of Judge Massey, the Executive Committee of the Stokes County Criminal Justice Council along with other interested parties immediately convene to start work on a plan for security upgrades to the Government Center.

Manager Morris noted the immediate need for office space for the new District Court Judge Mark Badgett. Manager Morris recommended the following:

- o Locate Judge Badgett's office in the current Veterans' Administration Office
- o Relocate Veterans' Administration in the front portion of the area that formerly housed the Tax Office.
- o Estimated cost of renovations = \$1000
- o Estimated cost of furniture = \$2000
- o Remaining portion of former Tax Office remain under the control of Sheriff Joyce and be utilized as a multi-use conference/meeting area
- o Room could still be utilized after normal business hours by the Explorers

Manager Morris requested the Board's approval to begin renovations as soon as possible to provide Judge Badgett an office.

The Board discussed the needs presented to the Court Facilities Sub-Committee.

Commissioner McHugh noted the need to identify funds in order to complete the third floor in order to start the moves in Phase I & II.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to direct the County Manager to move Veterans Affairs, up fit the existing Veterans Affairs office for Judge Badgett with funding up to \$2000 for furnishings.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to move Veterans Affairs, up fit the existing Veterans Affairs office for Judge Badgett with funding up to \$2000 for furnishings.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded the motion.

Commissioner Walker noted the amount in the motion should included the requested \$1000 for office renovations.

Commissioner Joe Turpin amended his motion to included up to \$3000 for renovations and furnishings.

Vice Chairman Inman amended his second.

The motion to move Veterans Affairs, up fit the existing Veterans Affairs office for Judge Badgett with funding up to \$3000 for renovations and furnishings carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – APPOINTMENTS – CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP BOARD, STOKES PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN, WORK FIRST, CHILD FATALITY TEAM, AND RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL-YMCA

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to appoint Commissioner Jimmy Walker to the following appointments: (Commissioner Walker was nominated at the December 13th meeting)

- o Criminal Justice Partnership Board
- o Stokes Partnership for Children
- o Work First – Welfare Reform Committee
- o Child Fatality Team
- o Recreation Advisory Council – YMCA

Commissioner McHugh moved to appoint Commissioner Jimmy Walker to the following:

- o Criminal Justice Partnership Board
- o Stokes Partnership for Children
- o Work First – Welfare Reform Committee
- o Child Fatality Team
- o Recreation Advisory Council – YMCA

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – APPOINTMENT – CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to appoint Commissioner Sandy McHugh to the Child Protection Team. (Commissioner McHugh was nominated at the December 13th meeting)

Commissioner Walker moved to appoint Commissioner Sandy McHugh to the Child Protection Team.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – CENTERPOINT BOARD – APPOINTMENTS

Chairman John Turpin noted two (2) existing vacancies on the Centerpoint Board of Directors. Each appointment has specific requirements:

- One vacancy must be filled with a family member representing the interests of individuals in recovery from addiction
- One vacancy must be filled with a clinical professional from the fields of mental health, developmental disabilities, or substance abuse.

The Board requested the vacancies be placed on the County website.

There were no nominations.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATION – PROPOSED CELL PHONE - COMMUNICATIONS

County Manager Morris presented information to the Board concerning placing a Verizon cell phone at each station at Communications to eliminate expenses incurred by County employees using private cell phones.

The following is an estimated cost:

Verizon - Current rate		
Single Line	\$	39.99
American Choice		
400 daytime minutes		
Additional Line	\$	20.00
Additional Line	\$	20.00
		\$79.99*
		*plus applicable taxes
Single Line	\$	59.99

American Choice
800 daytime minutes

Additional Line	\$	20.00
Additional Line	\$	20.00
		\$99.99*

*plus applicable taxes

each minute over 400 minutes \$.45 per minute
each minute over 800 minutes \$.40 per minute
New state rate effective 1-1-05
estimate to be slightly cheaper

New state rate effective 1-1-05
estimate to be slightly cheaper

County Manager Morris stated that all lines (except the Crimes' Stoppers) coming into Communications is recorded and using cell phones could possible prevent calls being recorded. County Manager Morris stated that further investigation would be done to determine if cell phones could be recorded.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – CODE OF ETHICS – AMENDMENT

County Attorney Jonathan Jordan requested an amendment to the Code of Ethics Section 15- Effective Date which would be effective December 6, 2004 and shall apply to all County Commissioners holding office on that date.

Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to amend the Code of Ethics – Section 15 – Effective Date to be December 6, 2004 and that shall apply to all County Commissioners holding office on that date.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the motion to amend the Code of Ethics – Section 15 – Effective Date to be December 6, 2004 and that shall apply to all County Commissioners holding office on that date.

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman John Turpin entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Joe Turpin moved to adjourn the meeting.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

John Turpin
Chairman