

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 13, 2006

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, March 13, 2006 at 7:00 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:  
Clerk to the Board/Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins  
County Attorney Jonathan Jordan  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
Economic Development Director Ron Morgan  
Mr. James Booth - District Soil/Water Supervisor  
Arts Council Director Eddy McGee  
Emergency Communications Director Del Hall  
EMS Director Monty Stevens  
Captain Al Tuttle - Sheriff's Department

Chairman Leon Inman called the meeting to order and delivered the invocation.

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

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

#### **PUBLIC HEARING - KOBEWIELAND COPPER PRODUCTS, LLC - GRANT**

Chairman Inman called the Public Hearing regarding the KobeWieland Copper Products, LLC- Grant to order.

The following spoke during the public hearing:

**Lonnie P. Bowman**  
1145 Power House Road  
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

Mr. Bowman spoke in opposition of "corporate welfare". Mr. Bowman noted the use of temporary labor at KobeWieland and urged Board members not to support the incentive grant. Mr. Bowman also urged the Board to not allocate funding to the Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project. Mr. Bowman also expressed his appreciation to Commissioner McHugh for the hard work and long hours of dedication during her time as Commissioner.

Chairman Inman closed the Public Hearing.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT -GOVERNING BODY-APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve or amend the minutes of the February 25<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the minutes of the February 25<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup> meetings. Commissioner John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following spoke during public comments:

**Mr. Gino S. Abrego**  
129 Marie Drive  
King, NC 27021  
RE: **County Law for Run-In Shed For Horses, Colts, Foals, Mules**

Mr. Abrego urged the Board to consider adopting a county law for Run-In-Shed for Horses, Colts, Foals, and Mules for protection in winter months. Mr. Abrego stated that almost half of the NC counties already have this law in place. Mr. Abrego concluded by reiterating the need for the Run-In-Shed.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - PROPOSED KOBEWIELAND COPPER PRODUCTS - GRANT**

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion regarding the proposed KobeWieland Copper Products- Grant.

Commissioner McHugh noted the pros and cons of economic incentive grants.

Commissioner McHugh stated the difficulty in this issue, but confirmed the need to try to keep large employers in the county.

Commissioner McHugh supported the incentive grant.

Commissioner Walker requested that the agenda item be postponed in order to request additional information from Budget Director Dennis Thompson regarding the impact on the county's budget.

Commissioner John Turpin also noted the pros and cons of economic incentive grants, but opposed using tax dollars for this incentive grant.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin spoke in favor of the incentive grant for KobeWieland Copper Products and noted that this grant is available for all businesses in Stokes County who do what KobeWieland Copper Products has done to qualify for this incentive grant.

Chairman Inman noted that all the concerns expressed by the Board were valid and this was not an easy choice. Chairman Inman also noted the amount of money that KobeWieland had put into this expansion project and the increase in the County's tax valuation.

Commissioner McHugh reiterated that this is an incentive grant available to any business in Stokes County that meets certain criteria and the incentive paid to KobeWieland will be taken from the tax increase paid by KobeWieland, which is only a small percentage.

Economic Development Director Ron Morgan noted that the incentive grant will be rebated to KobeWieland over the next seven years.

The Board further discussed the pros and cons of the incentive grant to KobeWieland Copper Products.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the KobeWieland Copper Products Grant.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried (3-2) with Commissioner John Turpin and Commissioner Walker voting against the motion.

Commissioner Walker stated that his vote tonight was not against the incentive grant, but needed additional time to obtain further information regarding the proposed incentive grant.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - NATURAL RESOURCES - PROPOSED FARMER APPRECIATION DAY RESOLUTION**

Mr. James Booth, Chairman-Soil and Water Supervisors presented the following proposed Farmer Appreciation Day Resolution for the Board's consideration:

FARMER APPRECIATION DAY  
RESOLUTION FOR STOKES COUNTY

**Whereas**, the County of Stokes, the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District, the Cooperative Extension, Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service desire to sponsor the Farmer Appreciation Day to recognize the economic contribution of our county farmers to Stokes County.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT;**

- 1) The Board of Commissioners agrees that the county farmers contribute greatly to Stokes County's economic base.
- 2) The Board agrees that all the county's people, in one matter or another benefit from farming activities.
- 3) The Board agrees that a Farmer Appreciation Day would show our county's support for the existing farming industry and honor the past activities, which contributed so much to Stokes County.
- 4) The Board recognizes that a pig-picking and festival will be held at South Stokes High School with all Stokes County people invited.
- 5) Let it be proclaimed, that **March 30, 2006 is Farmer Appreciation Day in Stokes County.**

**Adopted** by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners this \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Stokes Board of Commissioners

Mr. Booth noted that the Farmer Appreciation Day scheduled for March 30, 2006 would be held at South Stokes High School and extended an invitation to Board members.

The Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Booth for his hard work and dedication to making this event possible each year and the daily dedication to the Soil and Water Conservation District.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins noted that the witness "County Manager" should read as "Clerk to the Board".

Commissioner John Turpin moved to approve the Farmer Appreciation Day Resolution.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - ARTS COUNCIL EVENTS - MORATOCK PARK FACILITY**

Arts Council Director Eddy McGee updated the Board regarding upcoming Arts Council events.

Director McGee requested the Board's direction regarding the upcoming 2006 Annual Stokes Stomp. Director McGee noted the following:

- The need to generate more revenue from the Stomp
- This year marks the 32<sup>nd</sup> Stokes Stomp
- The Stokes Stomp is the longest running arts council sponsored program in NC
- The event is a 6 to 9 months planning process
- Revenue data from previous stomps
- The tremendous number of volunteer hours versus the revenue received from the stomp
- Stomp to be held September 16-17, 2006
- 32<sup>nd</sup> Stokes Stomp Theme is "Homecoming"
- 2005 Grammy Nominee "Blue Ridge" to perform
- Stokes County's own Alan Bibey to perform
- Stokes County native Lou Reid to perform
- No charge for admission

Director McGee noted that one idea to generate more revenue could be to charge \$3 per car for parking. (Those arriving on Saturday will be given a free parking pass for Sunday)

Economic Development Director Ron Morgan reiterated the quality entertainment scheduled for this year's event and that quality entertainment is what brings outsiders to this event.

The Board discussed the location of parking areas for the stomp, revenues and expenditures of the Stomp, dedicated volunteers, and other possible ideas for revenue for the Stomp.

Commissioner Walker suggested the possibility of placing the names of local vendors on the back of the parking tickets with perhaps a coupon to that particular place.

Director McGee concluded that the Arts Council Board would continue to look for other ways to increase revenue from the Stomp.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS - PROPOSED REVERSE 911 SYSTEM - HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT**

Emergency Communications Director Del Hall presented the following bids for the purchase of a Reverse 911 System for E911 Communications Department, which will be funded through a Homeland Security Grant: (Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall was unable able to attend due to sickness)

Sprint	16-port system/database	\$41,684.60	
	CD database	\$1,500.00	Annual Cost
	Annual Maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> year included in purchase cost	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> year	\$5,048.78	
Sprint	24-port system/database	\$47,175.88	
	CD database	\$1,500.00	Annual Cost
	Annual maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> year included in purchase cost	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> year	\$5,655.78	Annual Cost
Voice Technologies	16-port system/database	\$64,625.00	
	Standard maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> year included in cost	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> year	\$5,834.00	Annual Cost
Surf Simple Technologies	16-port system "only"	\$33,000.00	
	Standard maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> year included in cost	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> year	\$1,410.00	Annual Cost
Surf Simple Technologies	12-port system "only"	\$28,000.00	
	Standard maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> year included in cost	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> year	\$1,410.00	Annual Cost
Surf Simple Technologies	12-port system "only"	\$30,000.00	
	Standard maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> year included in cost	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> year	\$1,410.00	Annual Cost

Emergency Communications Director Del Hall explained the Reverse 911, which is an emergency notification system to notify citizens (by telephone) of disasters (medical, fire, or law enforcement related) or weather related incidents.

Reverse 911 also offers specialized applications, which can be directed to different needs and concerns of specific communities in the County.

One program (Guardian Caller) would allow the Emergency Communications Department to monitor the health and well being of senior citizens or other Homebound individuals by scheduling automatic calls at a specific time and day.

If the system does not receive back the proper touch-tone notifications, then Communications would be immediately notified and the responsible units would be dispatched.

The Board discussed the benefits of the system which could save lives and time by getting information to the public instantly, specifics of the system, pros and cons of the system, and annual cost of the system if approved.

Director Hall noted that Emergency Management Director Monty Stevens and Sheriff Mike Joyce would oversee and approve all information going out.

Emergency Communications Director Del Hall, Information Technology Director Dianna Fulp, E911 Systems Coordinator Sharon Lloyd, and Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall recommends the purchase of the 16-port reverse 911 system/database proposed by Sprint.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve a bid for the Reverse 911 System.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approve the purchase the Reverse 911 System funded by the Homeland Security Grant from Sprint (16-port system/database) at the cost of \$41,684.60.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - PURCHASING- TELEPHONE SYSTEM RENTAL - TOLL FREE STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins requested that the agenda item be placed on the March 27<sup>th</sup> agenda due to Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall unable to attend tonight's meeting due to sickness.

Chairman Inman requested the Clerk to place the agenda item on the March 27<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - EMS - EMS RECEIVABLES - LIQUIDATIONS**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins and Emergency Medical Services Director Monty Stevens presented information regarding the EMS Receivables due in the amount of \$712, 000 which was suggested in the 04/05 audit to be formally written off to eliminate the need to continue to maintain the detail on these old receivables. There had been no collection on these accounts during the 04/05 fiscal year.

Interim Manager Bullins explained the following current EMS Billing procedure:

- Stokes County EMS currently accepts assignment for Medicare and Medicaid
- Stokes County EMS files appropriate private insurance
- EMS currently turns over all unpaid invoices after 120 days to the Tax Department for further collection as allowed by General Statutes

Interim Manager Bullins suggested the following:

- Stokes County transferred the noted accounts in the amount of \$711,899 (invoices ranging from 07-01-86 to 06-30-1994) as listed in the 04/05 audit to an inactive status.
- This would take the amount off the A/R detail for audit purposes only, but would still allow the County to pursue collection of any unpaid amounts.

EMS Director Monty Stevens noted that these invoices had not been turned over to the Tax Department due to the age of the invoice, but suggested that these accounts be turned over to the Tax Department for any assistance in collection of these unpaid invoices which would be consistent with all unpaid invoices being turned over to the Tax Dept.

The Board discussed the proposal of making these accounts inactive and the age of the invoices in question.

Commissioner Walker expressed concerns with the County trying to collect invoices almost 20 years old.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the request from the Interim County Manager and EMS Director to transfer the EMS Receivables Accounts in the amount of \$711,899 (ranging from 7-01-86 to 6-30-94) to an inactive status and that these accounts be also transferred to the Tax Department. Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Walker voting against the motion.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - ADMINISTRATION - PROPOSED GARAGE UPDATE/DEED APPROVAL**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins presented the following information regarding the proposed garage:

- Meeting with YVEDDI Charlie Walker, Vehicle Maint. Supervisor Elwood Mabe, Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall, Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins on March 2, 2006
- Formal bid from architecture recently sent to NCDOT-Raleigh for approval
- Once the architecture bid is approved, plans can be drawn up for the approval by the County inspection department and NCDOT-Raleigh
- Once plans are approved in Raleigh, bids can be accepted and approved by YVEDDI
- Deed to Transfer of land from Stokes County to YVEDDI must be approved by the Board in order to record and forward to NCDOT Raleigh for final approval

Interim Manager Bullins concluded that Mr. Charlie Walker-YVEDDI anticipates that construction could be started as soon as July 1, 2006.

County Attorney Jonathan Jordan presented a proposed deed for the Board's consideration.

The Board discussed the proposed deed submitted by County Attorney Jonathan Jordan. County Attorney Jordan noted the reversion clause which states, "should the property cease to be used by YVEDDI, title to the property shall revert absolutely to the Grantor, Stokes County".

The Board discussed further language needed to prevent YVEDDI from using the facility for anything other than a transportation office and maintenance facility.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve to the motion to convey the Property to YVEDDI. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. The Board further discussed the reversion clause.

Commissioner McHugh amended her motion to add to the property conveyance clause to read should the property cease to be used by YVEDDI as a transportation office and maintenance facility. Commissioner Walker amended his second to the motion. The motion was unanimous.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - RONALD WILSON REAGAN MEMORIAL BUILDING SIGNAGE - CONTINUATION**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins requested that the agenda item be placed on the March 27<sup>th</sup> agenda due to Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall unable to attend tonight's meeting due to sickness.

Chairman Inman requested the Clerk to place the agenda item on the March 27<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 06/07 BUDGET CALENDAR-CONTINUATION**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins requested information from the Board regarding dates for budget work sessions and for the budget public hearing.

The Board discussed possible dates and requested the Clerk to the Board return a tentatively schedule at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's consideration.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - WALNUT COVE SENIOR CENTER FUND - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #72**

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #72, which is necessary to amend the Walnut Cove Senior Center Fund to appropriate a Grass Roots Grant awarded to the Senior Center for art programs. The appropriations are to be as follows:

(Budget Ordinance was held over from the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting)

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>Increase</b>
	<b>Walnut Cove Senior Center</b>		
204.5861.180	Professional Services		\$354.00
			\$354.00

This will result in a net increase of \$354.00 in the appropriations of the Walnut Cove Senior Center Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased.

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>Increase</b>
204.3586.453	Walnut Cove Senior Center		\$354.00
			\$354.00

Finance Director Edwards noted that the following justification of the budget ordinance amendment for fiscal year 2005-06:

- Walnut Cove Senior Center was awarded a grant from the Grass Roots for art programs

Finance Director Edwards noted the memorandum from Arts Council Director Eddy McGee, which stated that there was no appropriation of county funding.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #72.

Commissioner John Turpin moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #72.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - HEALTH DEPARTMENT - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #78**

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #78, which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate funds from the State for Healthy Carolinians for health programs. The appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	<b>Health Department</b>		
100.5100.180	Professional Services		\$1,000.00
100.5100.261	Office Supplies		\$3,000.00
100.5100.370	Advertising		\$1,000.00
			\$5,000.00

This will result in a net increase of \$5,000.00 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
100.3301.250	Healthy Carolinians		\$5,000.00
			\$5,000.00

Finance Director Edwards noted that the following justification of the budget ordinance amendment for fiscal year 2005-06:

- Health Department was awarded the \$5,000.00 from the State for Healthy Carolinians

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #78.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #78.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - ADMINISTRATION - BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #79**



Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #79, which is necessary to amend the County Helping Neighbors' Fund to appropriate funds from the NC Helping Neighbors Fund for Hurricane Katrina evacuees remaining in our state. The appropriations are to be as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
	<b>County Helping Neighbors Fund</b>		
211.5310.440	Misc. Contractual Services		<u>\$751.00</u>
			<u>\$751.00</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$751.00 in the appropriations of the County Helping Neighbors Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be increased.

<u>Account Number</u>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
211.3301.002	NC Helping Neighbors		<u>\$751.00</u>
			<u>\$751.00</u>

Finance Director Edwards noted that the following justification of the budget ordinance amendment for fiscal year 2005-06:

- Contributions of donation to Stokes County for the Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #79.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #79.

Commissioner John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT- BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #80**

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #80, which is necessary to amend the General Fund to appropriate State Fines and Forfeitures Funds and Judgment Fees to purchase cameras for patrol cars from the Kernersville Police Department. The appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
	<b>Sheriff's Department</b>		
100.4310.511	Equipment-Non Capitalized		<u>\$10,000.00</u>
			<u>\$10,000.00</u>

This will result in a net decrease of \$10,000.00 in the appropriations of the General Fund. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will be decreased.

<u>Account Number</u>	<b>REVENUES</b>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
100.3431.415	Judgments		<u>\$2,500.00</u>
100.3301.413	State Fines & Forfeitures		<u>\$7,500.00</u>
			<u>\$10,000.00</u>

Finance Director Edwards noted that the following justification of the budget ordinance amendment for fiscal year 2005-06:

- Sheriff Mike Joyce requested on March 3, 2006 to use State Fines & Forfeitures Funds and Judgment Fees received.

Captain Al Tuttle updated the Board regarding the purchase and need of the cameras.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance

Amendment #80.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #80.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - PUBLIC BUILDINGS- BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #81**

Finance Director Julia Edwards requested the approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment #81, which is necessary to amend the General Fund to transfer funds to purchase cleaning supplies and paper products. The appropriations are to be as follows:

Account Number	EXPENDITURES	Decrease	Increase
	<b>Public Buildings</b>		
100.4190.260	Department Supplies		\$2,700.00
100.4190.353	Maintenance & Repairs-Grounds	\$2,700.00	
		\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00

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

Finance Director Edwards noted that the following justification of the budget ordinance amendment for fiscal year 2005-06:

- Notification on January 13, 2006 of Additional funding.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve Budget Ordinance

Amendment #81.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #81.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - PLANNING BOARD - BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - APPOINTMENT**

Chairman Inman noted that Matthew Robbins who had been appointed at the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting contingent upon residing in Stokes County, currently does not reside in Stokes County.

Chairman Inman requested the Board return nominations at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting and to advertise on the County's web site.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - YVEDDI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS - APPOINTMENT**

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to appoint Commissioner Jimmy Walker

(member) and Ms. Vickie Jessup (alternate) to serve a three-year term on the YVEDDI - Board of Directors. (Nominated at the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting)

Commissioner McHugh moved to appoint Commissioner Jimmy Walker (member) and Ms. Vickie Jessup (alternate) to serve a three-year term on the YVEDDI - Board of Directors. Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - NORTHWEST PIEDMONT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Commissioner John Turpin who currently serves as Chairman NWPCOG requested the appointment of two (2) business representatives for the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board. (Ms. Barbara Stevens no longer wishes to serve)

Chairman Inman requested the Board return nominations at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting and to advertise on the County's web site.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - STOKES COUNTY COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM (CCPT) - APPOINTMENT**

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to appoint Cindy White -Sheriff's Dept. and Angela Grubb - Scan to serve on the Stokes County Community Child Protection Team (CCPT). (Nominated at the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting)

Commissioner McHugh moved to appoint Cindy White -Sheriff's Dept. and Angela Grubb - Scan to serve on the Stokes County Community Child Protection Team. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - STOKES COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION - APPOINTMENT**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins presented the following request from Fire Marshal Brad Cheek for appointments to the Stokes County Fire and Rescue Association:

- Appointment of David Manuel - Civilian position - (two-year term)
- Appointment of L. G. Tilley - Fire service term - (two-year term)

Commissioner McHugh nominated Mr. David Manuel and Mr. L. G. Tilley for consideration to serve on the Stokes County Fire and Rescue Association. (Can be considered at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting)

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - COURTROOM SECURITY**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins informed the Board that the new security system for the upper level of the Government Center Complex is scheduled to be up and running on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - NORTH STOKES MEN'S VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM**

Commissioner Walker commended the North Stokes Men's Varsity Basketball Team

for their successful year and being the State runner-up.

Commissioner Walker suggested that the Board prepare a Resolution honoring this team and any other State team. The Board discussed the possibility of inviting the team to a regular meeting. Chairman Inman directed the Clerk to the Board to return a draft Resolution for the Board's consideration.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - VACANT MANAGER'S POSITION**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins noted that the County had received seven applications for the county manager's vacancy.

The Board discussed the vacancy and requested the Clerk to advertise outside of the State and contact NCACC- Ed Wooters for additional support.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED WALNUT COVE LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT**

Chairman Inman reported to the Board that dialogue had been discussed with the Town of Walnut Cove regarding the proposed Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project and the idea of the Town of Walnut Cove possibly acquiring the financing for the project.

Interim Manager Darlene Bullins spoke with Town Manager Jack Gardin and Manager Gardin requested that the County extend a formal request regarding the Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the following motion:

- To extend a formal request to partner with the Town of Walnut Cove on the Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project
- That the Walnut Cove Library be transferred to the Town of Walnut Cove contingent upon an inter-local agreement approved by both Boards
- That the Town Manager put this item on their agenda for the next Town meeting

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - AUDIT INFORMATION**

Chairman Inman requested Board members review the information received from Mr. Randy Brodd - Dixon Hughes and be prepared for discussion at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED DAY CARE RESOLUTION**

Chairman Inman presented a proposed Day Care Resolution received by the County from Northampton County Board of Commissioners which supports a Legislative Study Commission on Day Care and Related Programs to be sent to Legislative Delegates in advocating for additional day care funds.

Chairman Inman requested Board members review the proposed Day Care for

consideration.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION AUDIT REVIEW**

Chairman Inman presented the recent letter received by the County regarding the analysis of the 04/05 audit by the Department of State Treasurer-Local Government Commission.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins presented a letter from Mr. Randy Brodd-Dixon Hughes regarding the first finding-(LGC did not received the 04/05 Audit until January 26, 2006). Mr. Brodd noted that this was the first year the finance department staff had taken full responsibility for preparing the financial statement and it took extra time to complete the audit and finalize the statements. Mr. Brodd noted that with the knowledge gained this year, it would appear that the staff should be able to complete the financial statements more timely. Clerk Bullins also presented a draft letter with suggestions from Budget Director Dennis Thompson regarding the Fund Balance issue of below 8% .

The Board discussed the lateness of the 04/05 audit, the current fund balance, and the urgency to increase the fund balance. Finance Director Julia Edwards noted that the RFP's recently sent out for audit services included a strict audit performance calendar in order for the audit to be done by the due date of October 31, 2006.

The Board directed Clerk Bullins to use the suggestions from Mr. Thompson and goals from budget retreat and return a draft letter to LGC for the Board to review.

Finance Director Julia Edwards also suggested the possibility of an Audit Committee, which reviews the Audit RFP's, makes a recommendation for audit services to the Board of Commissioners, and can also meet to ensure that the audit performance calendar is being followed and met. The Board discussed the use of an audit committee.

Chairman Inman directed the Interim County Manager return to the Board a possible list of candidates for consideration. Commissioner Walker also requested the opinion of Budget Director Dennis Thompson.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED SCHOOL CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

Chairman Inman presented a proposal from Budget Director Dennis Thompson who suggested that the Board establish a School Capital Reserve Fund as a fund separate from the General Fund. A School Capital Reserve Fund would serve the following purposes:

- Receives revenues that are dedicated to school facilities purposes
- Expenditures from the Fund would be used for school capital purposes, including school bond debt (current and future debt), pay-as-you-go building projects, and current capital needs (roofs, furniture, vehicles, renovations)

- Funds can be reserved and carried forward from year to year to prepare for large budget projects without using the County's regular capital reserve fund which typically has many other projects on reserve
- Fund has a control mechanism that is lacking in the General Fund

The Board discussed the possibility of creating such a fund.

Commissioner McHugh moved to request Budget Director Dennis Thompson prepare the necessary Resolution to create such a fund for consideration at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - SCHOOL TOUR**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins reminded the Board of the scheduled School Tour- Thursday, March 16, 2006.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - SERVICE CORPS**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins informed the Board that the County was currently working with the Service Corps to place temporary workers with the County at no charge. All expenses including workmen's compensation insurance would be paid by Service Corps.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - FINANCE DEPARTMENT - REPORT FROM FINANCE CONFERENCE**

Finance Director Julia Edwards noted the following information received at the recent finance conference:

- Sales tax can't be refunded to school system any longer effective July 1, 2005
- Budget Ordinance Amendment will have to be completed regarding the grant that purchased the voting equipment in order for fixed assets purposes
- Possible exemption of taxes for developers that have unsold lots or homes-would effect county valuation
- Medicaid relief for counties - Medicaid could double in next 10 years
- Telecommunication companies are lobbying for a statewide franchise fee
- Duke Power expansion project - sales tax on items received during the project are not subject to review due to not being a non profit organization

The Board discussed the Medicaid relief currently being considered by the State.

Chairman Inman directed Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins to seek any additional information regarding the Medicaid Relief from Representative Bryan Holloway.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - APRIL SCHEDULE**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins reminded Board members of the following April Schedule:

- Planning - Tuesday, April 4, 2006
- April 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting - Rock House Ruritan Club- Highway #268

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - AGENDA COMMENTS**

Commissioner McHugh requested that the Board of Commissioners be prepared for

each Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner McHugh urged members to contact the Clerk, Department Heads, County Attorney, etc for any information prior to the meeting. Commissioner McHugh concluded that the Board owes it to the Citizens of Stokes County to study and be prepared for the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Inman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner John Turpin moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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**Darlene M. Bullins**  
Clerk to the Board

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**J. Leon Inman**  
Chairman