

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	)	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
	)	STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
COUNTY OF STOKES	)	DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
	)	OCTOBER 23, 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, October 23, 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  
 Finance Director Julia Edwards  
 DSS Director Jan Spencer

Chairman Leon Inman called the meeting to order.

Chairman Inman 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 - PROPOSED SEWER RATE INCREASE**

Chairman Inman called the Public Hearing for the Proposed Sewer Rate Increase to order.

There was no one signed up to speak.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins submitted correspondence to the Board received from Executive Director of Environmental Services Mike Alley - Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Inc.

Chairman Inman read the correspondence from Mr. Alley which opposed the proposed sewer rate increase for the Regional Sewer System. Mr. Alley noted that the proposed rate increase will reflect a 70% increase for institutions. Mr. Alley also noted that the proposed increase will impact the Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital facility by \$56,686.92 annually and will create a financial burden for the facility. Mr. Alley concluded that the March 2005 24% increase along with the proposed 70% increase will reflect an increase of 94% over a 21-month timeframe.

Chairman Inman closed the Public Hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING -PROPOSED STOKES COUNTY WORK FIRST PLAN**

Chairman Inman called the Public Hearing for the Proposed Stokes County Work First Plan to order.

The following spoke:

**Ms. Fredricka Cecile**  
 1741 Marshall Smith Road  
 King, NC 27021

Ms. Cecile noted the following concerns regarding the Proposed Stokes County Work First Plan:

- Expressed concerns with the County approving the "Electing" Plan instead of the "Standard" Plan
- Electing Plan is a risk for the county
- If the County exceeds the amount of funding allocated from the State with the Electing Plan, the county will have to fund any amount above the allocation which could be \$100, or a \$100,000 or even more
- Standard Plan does not have risks

Ms. Cecile requested that the Commissioners do the right thing and accept the Standard Plan as the DSS Board had recommended. Ms. Cecile commended the DSS staff and the DSS Board for their hard work and dedication.

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

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve or amend the minutes of the October 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 9<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approve the minutes of the October 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 9<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Commissioner John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following spoke during public comments:

**Ms. Linda Hicks**  
 1130 Rock Road  
 Madison, NC 27025  
 Re: **Health Alliance**

Ms. Hicks spoke regarding an observation made during a recent Board meeting which

Commissioner McHugh and Commissioner Walker were appointed to the Stokes Health Alliance. Ms. Hicks noted that there some question as to whether Commissioner McHugh should be allowed to vote since she was being considered for appointment to the Alliance. Ms. Hicks noted the Clerk stated that there was no compensation and Commissioner McHugh did vote for herself for the appointment. Ms. Hicks noted documentation that stated that Commissioner McHugh did receive compensation for this meeting.

Other comments regarding Ms. Hicks' public comments during the meeting:

Commissioner McHugh responded that she was going on the Clerk's recommendation and requested that the Clerk research this issue. Commissioner McHugh noted that if the Clerk did find that the vote was improper that she would move to have her vote stricken from the record.

Commissioner John Turpin responded that if that is true for Commissioner McHugh, it would be true for all Board members as members of this Board serve on various Boards in which they are compensated for.

Commissioner McHugh requested later in the meeting that the Clerk provide any information to the issue questioned during public comments and that if the issue should not also pertain to Commissioner Walker since he was also being considered for appointment to the Health Alliance.

Commissioner Walker noted whatever applied to Commissioner McHugh would probably have to apply to himself.

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins requested permission to respond to the issue.

Clerk Bullins noted that the amount of compensation was a set rate for outside meetings for all Commissioners that had been approved by the Board of Commissioners. Also, in the past, not only with this Board, members do not usually excuse themselves from voting on being appointed to specific Boards. Clerk Bullins noted that if this advice was incorrect that she apologized. Clerk Bullins noted that Board members normally excuse themselves when and if there was a financial gain from serving on a particular Board. Commissioner McHugh nor Commissioner Walker would not receive any more compensation than any other member could receive for serving on any Board. Clerk Bullins questioned the Board how Board members could vote on the annual fiscal year budget when it includes compensation for attending all regular, special, and recessed Commissioners' meetings if they could not vote for appointments that also paid compensation.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - DANBURY WATER SYSTEM UPDATE**

Mayor Jane Priddy-Charleville - Town of Danbury represented an overview of the the Danbury Water System. Mayor Priddy-Charleville noted the following:

- The most recent reading for combined radium test for the Danbury Water System is currently 1.2 pCi/L above the state's allowable limit for water systems (state allowable limits of 5 pCi/L - Danbury's reading 6.2pCi/L)
- The water is the same water that everyone has been drinking for the past 20 years, the State has dropped their allowable limits
- Radium comes from rock
- Several water systems across the State are dealing with the same issue
- The test for the radium is done directly at the pump
- On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Town raised the pump in the well with the unacceptable combined radium level twenty feet, the Town was advised that this could possibly help with the issue
- On October 6<sup>th</sup>, a retest was performed - there is a 30-day turnaround for the results
- Additional tests were also done on the 6<sup>th</sup> at each end of the town to determine if the level going into the home or facility is as high as when the test is done directly at the pump
- The Town is already working with a water consultant looking into other options such as water softeners
- Water softeners system can range up to \$11,500 which does not include back flushing - research would have to be done to see if the current sewer system would accommodate this back flushing
- Possible water rate increase in the future to cover extra expenditures for the treatment of radium in the water if levels do not decline
- Current water maintenance personnel resigning in November 2006
- Quotes are being received from R&A Laboratories to monitor and service the system
- Water application grant was received by Rural Center

Mayor Priddy-Charleville expressed her appreciation to the County (Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins and Public Works Director Jay Kinney) for the assistance and support received during this issue.

The Board discussed the information received from the State, current situation of the Danbury Water System, proposed grant being applied for, and noted the recent water feasibility study approved by the Board.

Commissioner Walker noted that at some point the possibility of a Regional Water System for the entire County.

The Board expressed their appreciation to the Mayor Priddy-Charleville and the Council for their hard work and dedication to inform the public and taking the necessary steps to try to correct the situation.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED STOKES COUNTY WORK FIRST PLAN**

DSS Director Jan Spencer noted the following regarding the proposed Stokes County Work First Plan:

- This is the County's Proposed Work First Plan
- Work First Planning Committee met three times with an average of 7-8 members per meeting
- Work First Caseworker attended the meeting explaining the day to day operations of the existing plan
- It is a tough plan, but individuals will be explained up front what is expected
- Electing Plan has incentives that the Standard Plan does not have such as a bonus when acquiring employment
- Sanctions are tougher in the Electing Plan
- Last year at the end of the year, there was \$40,000 remaining before any County funding would have been needed
- With the current spending and if the spending remained virtually the same, there would be an estimated \$60,000 remaining before any County funding would be needed

DSS Director Spencer noted that the Electing Plan was a gamble and did not want to be the Department costing the County money, but the Department would execute the Plan chosen by the Board.

Commissioner McHugh noted the Work First Caseworker did an outstanding job to inform the committee, which helped the committee, tailor a plan to assist the caseworker in doing her job and helping to get the client back to work which is the purpose of the Work First Plan.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the Stokes County 2007-2009 Work First Plan.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded the motion.

The Board discussed the proposed Work First Plan -Electing Plan.

Commissioner Walker noted that the DSS Board voted 4-1 for a Standard Plan.

Commissioner Walker noted the risk to the County having to use county funding if the allocation was exhausted. Commissioner Walker also noted a drastic change in unemployment could affect the numbers being served which could effect county funding.

Chairman Inman also noted the risk of an Electing Plan.

Commissioner McHugh noted that the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) is lower with an Electing Plan (\$301,000) than with a Standard Plan (\$331,000).

The motion carried (3-2) with Chairman Inman and Commissioner Walker voting against the motion.

(A copy of the approved Work First Plan will be retained in the Clerk to the Board's office)

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT - TOWN OF WALNUT COVE - PROPOSED WALNUT COVE LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins presented the following proposed InterLocal Agreement with the Town of Walnut Cove for the proposed Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project: (Walnut Cove Library Board Member Tom Grubbs and Walnut Cove Librarian Betty Smith was in attendance for the meeting)

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**INTERLOCAL**

**STOKES COUNTY**

**AGREEMENT**

The Board of Commissioners of Stokes County (hereinafter "County") and the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Walnut Cove (hereinafter "Town") held a joint meeting on Wednesday, May 24, 2006, in Danbury, North Carolina, to discuss the proposed renovations to the Walnut Cove Library (hereinafter "expansion project").

**WHEREAS**, the County is the record owner of the Walnut Cove Library property located at 106 West Fifth Street, Walnut Cove, NC 27052 and acquired such property under deed recorded in Box 364, Page 2278 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Stokes County located in Danbury; and

**WHEREAS**, the County annually contracts with the Northwestern Regional Library Board of Trustees to provide public library service to the residents of the Town and County; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is responsible for all maintenance, insurance, and upkeep of the Walnut Library except for the custodial and lawn services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Walnut Cove Library is in urgent need of an expansion, with said expansion cost estimated at \$863,120.00 excluding interest; and

**WHEREAS**, the County approved on February 14, 2005 to fund \$200,000.00 for the expansion project, and to meet said commitment set aside \$40,000.00 in the 2005-06 approved budget and \$40,000.00 in the 2006-07 approved budget; the County committed to set aside \$40,000.00 in the 2007-08 budget, \$40,000.00 in the 2008-09 budget, and \$40,000.00 in the 2009-2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town approved on November 9, 2004 to fund \$100,000.00 for the expansion project, and to meet said commitment set aside \$25,000.00 in the 2005-06 approved budget and \$25,000.00 in the 2006-07 approved budget; the Town committed to set aside \$25,000.00 in the 2007-08 budget, and \$25,000.00 in the 2008-09 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, as of May 24, 2006, the Walnut Cove Library Board has approximately \$268,000.00 either committed through pledges or on deposit which is allocated for the expansion project; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the foregoing totals, the expansion project has an approximate \$297,000.00 shortfall; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has applied for and received approval for a loan for the expansion project from the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development in the amount of \$675,120.00 with annual payments to USDA-Rural Development estimated at \$36,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and the County each desires for the expansion project for the Walnut Cove Library to take place.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners** and the **Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners** that:

The Stokes County Board of Commissioners approved on May 24, 2006 to commit an additional \$200,000.00 to be use solely for renovations for the Walnut Cove Expansion Project which shall be due and payable to the Town of Walnut Cove on or before July 1, 2016 if said additional funding is not raised by the Walnut Cove Library Board.

The Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners approved on May 24, 2006 to commit an additional \$97,000.00 to be use solely for renovations for the Walnut Cove Expansion Project with said monies being budgeted and available on or before July 1, 2016 if additional said funding is not raised by the Walnut Cove Library Board.

Upon execution of the Interlocal Agreement, the County shall convey the Walnut Cove Library property to the Town, thereby allowing the Town to use the said property as collateral for a loan obtained to finance the expansion project; the County shall continue to be responsible all maintenance, insurance, and upkeep of the Walnut Library except for the custodial and lawn services.

The County shall obtain appropriate approval from the Northwestern Regional Library Board of Trustees allowing the transfer of the subject property to the Town; and the County shall continue to provide public library service to the residents of the Town and the County.

Upon complete repayment of the monies borrowed by the Town from USDA-Rural Development, the Town shall re-convey the subject property to the County.

This Interlocal Agreement shall be approved by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners and the Town of Walnut Board of Commissioners and be recorded in the Stokes County Register of Deeds located in Danbury, North Carolina.

The Town and the County each warrants that it has full power and authority to enter into this agreement and to carry out the stipulations contemplated in this agreement; that each have duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Interlocal Agreement; that the Interlocal Agreement constitutes the legal, valid, and binding obligation of the Town and County and is enforceable in accordance its term.

**Further**, the Chairman of the Stokes County Board of Commissioners and the Chairman of the Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners are hereby authorized and directed on behalf of their respective governing bodies to execute this Interlocal Agreement.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman J. Leon Inman**  
**Stokes County Board of Commissioners**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Darlene M. Bullins**  
**Clerk to the Board of Commissioners**

Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Ken Starnes**  
**Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Leslie Falstreau**  
**Clerk to the Board of Commissioners**

This Instrument has been preaudited in the Manner as required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (for Stokes County).

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Finance Director Julia Edwards**

This Instrument has been preaudited in the Manner as required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (for Town of Walnut Cove).

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Town Manager Jack Gardner**

Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Edward L. Powell, Stokes County Attorney**

Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phillip Berger, Town of Walnut Cove Attorney**

Interim Manager Bullins noted the following:

- Proposed Interlocal Agreement details the funding commitments from both Governing Bodies
- Proposed Interlocal Agreement details the arrangement agreed upon by both Governing Bodies
- Proposed Interlocal Agreement has been approved by both Governing Bodies' attorneys
- Proposed Interlocal agreement has the approval from Town Manager Jack Gardin -Town of Walnut Cove
- Manager Gardin will be taking the proposed Interlocal Agreement to the Walnut Cove Board in November after approval has been given by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners

Interim Manager Bullins concluded that no further action would be taken by the County until financing was secured by the Town of Walnut Cove.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approved the Interlocal Agreement Between Stokes County and the Town of Walnut Cove for the proposed Walnut Cove Library Expansion Project.

Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion.

The Board commended the Walnut Cove Library Board for the hard work and dedication to the project and looked forward to the completion of the project.

Walnut Cove Library Board Member Tom Grubbs noted that brick pavers were still available for sell.

The motion was unanimous.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING-NORTHWEST NC/SOUTHWEST VA REGIONAL TOURISM INITIATIVE**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins submitted the following proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) for the Northwest North Carolina/Southwest Virginia Regional Tourism Initiative:

### **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

#### **THE NORTHWEST NORTH CAROLINA / SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA REGIONAL TOURISM INITIATIVE**

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By action of its (Board of Commissioners or Board of Supervisors), on October 23, 2006, Stokes County, (North Carolina or Virginia), hereby joins with other counties in North Carolina and Virginia to establish and empower the Northwest North Carolina / Southwest Virginia Regional Tourism Initiative (hereinafter called the Regional Tourism Initiative). The Regional Tourism Initiative is composed of county governments that desire to engage in joint efforts to develop and improve their local tourism economies, and the tourism economy of the region.

#### **ARTICLE I: THE REGION DEFINED**

The counties in northwest North Carolina and southwest Virginia that join the Regional Tourism Initiative through adoption of this Memorandum of Agreement constitute and define the region.

#### **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose (*the mission*) of the Regional Tourism Initiative is to support and market the tourism sector of the region and the member counties in order to accomplish the following:

1. Provide the region's citizens with new and improved employment opportunities in the tourism industry and in the many businesses that provide goods and services to this sector of the economy.
2. Assist tourist-oriented businesses in advertising to national and international tourist markets.
3. Increase the tourism cash flows into the regional economy and the local economies.
4. Increase the tax revenues of the member counties in order to lower the overall tax burden for the citizens of the member governments.
5. To build national and international awareness of the natural beauty of the region, and its opportunities for wholesome, family-oriented tourism.

#### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Regional Tourism Initiative is open to county governments in northwestern North Carolina and southwestern Virginia that desire to work as partners to achieve the purposes of the Regional Tourism Initiative. Counties may join or leave the Regional Tourism Initiative by majority vote of their governing bodies. There are two categories of membership:

1. Voting Members. County governments that have budgeted their share of the Regional Tourism Initiative's annual budget are voting members. Each county has one vote.
2. Non-voting Members. County governments that have adopted this Memorandum of Agreement, but have not budgeted their share of the Regional Tourism Initiative's annual budget are non-voting members. If at any time during the fiscal year a county government budgets its share of the annual budget, it automatically becomes a voting member.

#### **ARTICLE IV: STANDING COMMITTEES**

This Memorandum of Agreement creates two standing committees to guide the work of the Regional Tourism Initiative. These are a Steering Committee and a Tourism Advisory Committee.

#### **ARTICLE V: STEERING COMMITTEE**

The Steering Committee shall be the governing body of the Regional Tourism Initiative, and shall be composed of the following officials:

- Two officials from each member county. The Governing Boards of the member county governments shall appoint their representatives. The appointees may include an elected member of the Governing Board, the Chief Administrator or Manager of the member government, other local government staff member, or other appointee of the Governing Board. Appointments shall be ongoing until replaced by the Governing Board.
- Two members from the Tourism Advisory Committee, one from Virginia and one from North Carolina. The members shall be appointed by the Tourism Advisory Committee for one-year terms ending June 30, or until a successor is appointed.

The Steering Committee shall have policy-making and administrative powers necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Regional Tourism Initiative. Such powers shall include holding meetings, adopting bylaws, electing officers, making staff assignments, appointing committees, developing and carrying out work programs and budgets, applying for and administering grants, and other essential duties.

The Steering Committee for FY 2006-07 shall be composed of the two officials from each county who previously were appointed by the participating counties; two members of the Tourism Advisory Committee; and two members that may be appointed by their Governing Boards as additional county governments execute this Memorandum of Agreement.

## ARTICLE VI: TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Tourism Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Steering Committee, in such numbers and for such terms of office as decided by the Steering Committee. It is anticipated that the Tourism Advisory Committee will be comprised of professionals in tourism and economic development from the several member county governments, as well as from governmental agencies and educational institutions of Virginia and North Carolina, and from the private sector of the tourism industry.

The purpose of the Tourism Advisory Committee is to give professional advice to the Steering Committee to help define and advance the mission of the Regional Tourism Initiative, and to carry out special projects.

## ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

Officers of the Regional Tourism Initiative shall be a Chairman and a Vice Chairman, elected by and exercising the powers granted by the Steering Committee. Since this is a two-State program, it is anticipated, but not required, that one officer will be from the State of North Carolina and one officer shall be from the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Steering Committee shall determine matters such as equitable rotation of officer positions among the member governments, length of term, and scope of official duties. Other offices may be created, based upon determination of need by the Steering Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII: REPORTING

The Steering Committee of the Regional Tourism Initiative shall report to the member county governments on a periodic basis, including an annual report, and at other times as may be requested by the Governing Boards of the member governments.

## ARTICLE IX: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The Steering Committee shall appoint a Program Manager. The Program Manager can be a member government, a non-profit organization, or other agency deemed suitable to carry out the daily management of programs of the Regional Tourism Initiative. The Program Manager shall be the Fiscal Agent of the Regional Tourism Initiative. It shall carry out administrative duties such as developing and retaining official records, applying for and managing grants, overseeing and supporting the activities of working committees of the Regional Tourism Initiative, developing reports, and other duties that may be assigned by the Steering Committee. The Program Manager shall be entitled to recover costs of operation, subject to approval by the Steering Committee.

## ARTICLE X: STAFFING

It is intended that the Regional Tourism Initiative will rely heavily upon the services of its Steering Committee, its Tourism Advisory Committee, and its member governments. Opportunities will be sought to use the services of academic institutions, tourism agencies, and private citizens who may be appointed to special studies and committees. Consulting services may be acquired as needed. It is not the intent of the Regional Tourism Initiative to duplicate, supplant, or compete with the work of the Tourism Divisions of the State of North Carolina and Commonwealth of Virginia, and the tourism programs that are already underway in the region.

## ARTICLE XI: ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM AND FUNDING

The Steering Committee shall develop an annual work program and budget. If deemed necessary, annual appropriations and special appropriations may be requested from the member governments. The Steering Committee, through its Program Manager, may also seek supplementary funding from sources such as governmental and non-profit agency grants and private donor subscriptions to supplement the annual budget.

## ARTICLE XII: AUTHORITY TO ACT

This Memorandum of Agreement has been reviewed by the Attorney of Stokes County, who has given assurance that the Board of (Commissioners or Supervisors), is acting within the scope of its powers in adopting the Agreement.

Adopted this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

**Stokes County, North Carolina**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**J. Leon Inman**  
**Chairman**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board

Interim Manager Bullins noted the following regarding the proposed MOU:

- The proposed MOU acknowledges the stated mission and primary objectives of the localities in working together on tourism development
- The proposed MOU was drafted under the supervision of the Steering Committee for the Regional Tourism Initiative
- The proposed MOU approved by the Steering Committee on October 13<sup>th</sup>
- Stokes County Attorney Edward Powell has approved the proposed MOU to form and legal sufficiency
- Surry County Attorney Ed Woltz has also approved the proposed MOU to form and legal sufficiency

Commissioner John Turpin noted that the County had not rendered its committed funding waiting for such an agreement to be presented and approved by the Board.

The Board discussed the proposed Memorandum of Agreement and the purpose of the Regional Initiative, which is to pool resources together in order to receive more funding and recognition as a group.

Commissioner Walker noted that the need for the County to make the County more tourism ready and putting more emphasis on tourism in the County possibly creating tourism sites that individuals would want to visit in Stokes County such as Sheppard's Mills.

The Board commended Commissioner John Turpin for his hard work in helping to form this committee and expressed that the proposed Memorandum of Agreement would give Stokes County an equal voice on the committee.

Commissioner John Turpin expressed his approval regarding the proposed Memorandum of Agreement.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approved the Memorandum of Agreement for the Northwest North Carolina/Southwest Virginia Regional Tourism Initiative.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - REGIONAL TOURISM UPDATE**

Commissioner John Turpin noted that the Regional Tourism Initiative has requested to meet on January 19, 2007 in Stokes County.

Chairman Inman requested Commissioner John Turpin to obtain further information regarding a possible site for the meeting.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - SEWER FUND - PROPOSED RATE INCREASE**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins reiterated that the following Option 4 was advertised as directed by the Board for a Public Hearing which was held at the beginning of tonight's meeting:

##### **Proposed Sewer Rate Increase**

	<b>Old Rate</b>	<b>Proposed Rate</b>
<b>Residential Minimum Rate</b>		
Up to 3,000 gallons	\$10.00	\$13.00
<b>Rate per 1,000 gallons</b>		
Over 3,000 gallons	\$3.00	\$5.00

##### **Institutional Minimum Rate**

Up to 3,000 gallons	\$10.00	\$13.00
<b>Rate per 1,000 gallons</b>		
Over 3,000 gallons	\$25.25	\$43.00

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the proposed Rate Increase for the Regional Sewer System.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approve Option #4 Rate Increase for the Regional Sewer System. Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion.

The Board continued discussion regarding the proposed rate increase.

Finance Director Julia Edwards noted the current operating expenses of \$65,000 with repairs being an unknown each year.

The motion carried (4-1) Commissioner John Turpin voting against the motion.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to approve the effective date for implementation of the rate increase for the Regional Sewer System as January 1, 2007.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner John Turpin voting against the motion.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT-ADMINISTRATION - JUDICIAL COMMITTEE REVIEW -UPDATE**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins updated the Board from the recent Judicial Committee on October 4<sup>th</sup> regarding renovations to Courtroom "C".

Interim Manager Bullins noted the following attended the meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>:

- Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins
- Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall
- Public Works Director Jay Kinney
- Building Maintenance Supervisor Bill Tesh
- Joan Schultz - Designee of Clerk of the Court Dean Hartgrove
- Major James Joyce - Designee of Sheriff Mike Joyce
- Attorney Brandon West - Representative for Stokes County Attorneys
- Honorable Judge Moses Massey
- Honorable Judge Mark Badgett - Designee for Judge Otis Oliver

The Committee discussed the proposed plans for renovations to Courtroom "C".

The Committee unanimously agreed to inquire with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) regarding the proposed plans for renovations, possibly visiting Stokes County to see the existing courtroom and offer any suggestions.

AOC has agreed to visit Stokes County and meet with the committee to discuss the proposed plans. Judge Massey is not available until the end of November. A meeting will be scheduled with AOC and with both Judge Massey and Judge Badgett if possible.

Interim County Manager Bullins noted an estimated figure for modeling Courtroom "C" to the existing Courtrooms being \$80,000 to \$90,000. Including a bathroom in the proposed jury room could be between \$30,000 to \$40,000 in addition to the \$80,000 or

\$90,000.

Commissioner Walker requested information regarding the number of courtrooms in other counties similar to Stokes County.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - STOKES COUNTY PLANNING BOARD-APPOINTMENT**

Chairman Inman informed the Board of the following vacancies on the Stokes County Planning Board:

- Quaker Gap - L. G. Tilley nominated at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Interim Manager Darlene Bullins informed the Board that Mr. Tilley who was nominated at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting has accepted the nomination and it was confirmed by Planning Director David Sudderth that Mr. Tilley does live in the Quaker Gap Township.

Commissioner McHugh moved to appoint Mr. L. G. Tilley to the Stokes County Planning Board.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - STOKES AGING PLANNING COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Inman presented the following recommendations from the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee to serve a one-year term beginning, October 2006 which was nominated at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting:

1. Margaret Arey, Hospice of Stokes County
2. Lou Charland
3. Rebecca Warren- Stokes Family Health Department
4. Vicky East - Walnut Cove Senior Center
5. Louise Flynt
6. Bill Greenwood
7. James Joyce - Stokes County Sheriff's Department
8. Janelle Kent - NC Cooperative Extension
9. Helen Mallard
10. Lynn Martens - Stokes County Senior Services
11. Clinard Merritt
12. Jacque Nuckols
13. Rachel Richardson
14. Jan Spencer - Stokes County Social Services
15. Barbara Watkins - YVEDDI
16. Madeline Watkins
17. Dean Burgess, Area Agency on Aging

Commissioner McHugh moved to appoint the following to serve on the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee:

1. Margaret Arey, Hospice of Stokes County
2. Lou Charland
3. Rebecca Warren- Stokes Family Health Department
4. Vicky East - Walnut Cove Senior Center
5. Louise Flynt
6. Bill Greenwood
7. James Joyce - Stokes County Sheriff's Department
8. Janelle Kent - NC Cooperative Extension
9. Helen Mallard
10. Lynn Martens - Stokes County Senior Services
11. Clinard Merritt
12. Jacque Nuckols
13. Rachel Richardson
14. Jan Spencer - Stokes County Social Services
15. Barbara Watkins - YVEDDI
16. Madeline Watkins
17. Dean Burgess, Area Agency on Aging

Commissioner John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - NCDOT- REQUEST TO ABANDON A PORTION OF SR#1437 LUM HALL ROAD FROM THE SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins submitted the following request from NCDOT to abandon a portion of SR#1437 - Lum Hall Road Secondary Road System.

Interim Manager Darlene Bullins noted the following regarding the request for abandonment:

- Portion of the road to be abandoned from the Secondary Road System is owned by one single property owner
- Mr. Don Aaron, Mr. Rick Marsh's property manager, had requested that this portion of the road along with 200ft abandoned from the Secondary Road System in January 2003 be permanently closed (abandoning the right of way)
- GIS/Mapping Administrator Jake Oakley documented that the requested portion along with 200ft abandoned in January 2003 lies within the boundaries of the property owned by Marsh Investment

Mr. Don Aaron, on behalf of Mr. Rick Marsh, requested that both portions of the SR#1437 Lum Hall Road be permanently closed. Mr. Marsh stated that individuals use the road for a dumping ground.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the motion to abandon the requested Portion of SR#1437 Lum Hall Road from the Secondary Road System and a Public Hearing be scheduled to abandon the right of way of that portion of the road along with the 200ft at the



end of the road.

Commissioner John Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins requested the approval of the following proposed Resolution as required by G.S. 153A-241 which requires a Public Hearing to be scheduled:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STOKES COUNTY PROPOSING THE CLOSING OF A PORTION OF SR#1437-LUM HALL ROAD**

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Stokes County Board of Commissioner to close a portion of SR#1437-Lum Hall Road; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-241, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing regarding the closing of a portion of SR#1437 -Lum Hall Road on Monday, November 27, 2006 at its regular scheduled meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-241, the notice of the Public Hearing will be advertised in the Stokes News for three successive weeks - November 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup>, and November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006: and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-241, the notice of closing and public hearing will be prominently posted in at least two places along the road; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-241, a copy of the Resolution will be sent by certified mail to each owner (if applicable) as shown on the county tax records of property adjoining the public road; and

**WHEREAS**, the sole property owner petitioned to abandon approximately 0.49 of a mile, along his property only, from the Secondary Road System prior to this Resolution on October 23, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, the sole property owner petitioned to abandon approximately 200 ft, along his property only, from the Secondary Road System on January 23, 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, both portions of SR#1437-Lum Hall Road has already been petitioned by the North Carolina Department of Transportation and approved by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners to be removed from the Secondary Road System; and

**WHEREAS**, the closing of both portions of SR#1437-Lum Hall Road does not affect any other property owner.

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Stokes that since the State will not maintain the abandoned portions of SR #1437-Lum Hall Road and the closing of both portions of the said road does not effect any other property owner, the abandoned portions of SR #1437-Lum Hall Road will be considered by the Board of Commissioners to be closed pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-241.

Adopted this, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of **October 2006**.

**WITNESS**, my hand and official seal this the \_\_\_\_ **October 2006**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**J. Leon Inman- Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Joe Turpin - Vice Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sandy McHugh - Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**John Turpin - Commissioner**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jimmy Walker - Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Darlene M. Bullins - Clerk to the Board**

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Stokes County Proposing the Closing of a Portion of SR#1437-Lum Hall Road.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - PROPOSED LOCATION AGREEMENT - OLD PRISON**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins presented a proposed Location Agreement with Key Man Productions, LLC to film a scene requiring a 1970's era prison facility and parole office and the former Stokes Correctional Center is a potential site.

County Attorney Edward Powell had approved the proposed agreement with the additions in the first paragraph of: Stokes County being the owner; temporary before the word use of both real and personal property; and a description of the property - Old Prison Camp Site (Dept. of Corrections) located at 1075 Dodgetown Road, Walnut Cove, NC 27052.

Commissioner McHugh moved to approve the Location Agreement for the Old Prison Camp Site (Dept. of Corrections) located at 1075 Dodgetown Road, Walnut Cove, NC 27052 with Key Man Productions, LLC.

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin seconded the motion.

The Board discussed the proposed agreement and the type of movie possibly being filmed at the County location.

Interim County Manager Bullins also noted that Economic Director Ron Morgan had spoken with the Piedmont Triad Film Office in Greensboro to determine the validity of the project. Key Man Productions, LLC is currently working with the Piedmont Triad Film Office and has a very good relationship with the same. The movie is being filmed in the region currently and is considered to be a good project to be associated with. Director Morgan also spoke with the Director of the movie and had no concerns with the type filming being proposed to be filmed on the property. Arts Council Director Eddy McGee also had no issues with the type of film.

The motion was unanimous.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - GRADY HUNTER AWARD**

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin informed the Board that Commissioner John Turpin had been appointed Chairman of the Northwest Piedmont of Governments and had also received the Grady Hunter Award.

The Board congratulated Commissioner John Turpin for being the recipient of the Grady Hunter Award.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - FIRST QUARTER REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REVIEW**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins noted the scheduled First Quarter Revenue and Expenditure Review on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> pm.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - LEAGUE OF GOVERNMENTS**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins informed the Board that the County would be hosting the League of Government meeting on Th October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY - COLLINSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER - NOVEMBER MEETING**

Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins noted the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is scheduled at Collinstown Community Building.

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

Vice Chairman Joe Turpin moved to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner McHugh seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**J. Leon Inman**  
Chairman