

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
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COUNTY OF STOKES )  
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FEBRUARY 27, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met in recessed session (recessed from the February 26, 2007 meeting) in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Tuesday, February 27, 2007 at 4:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Leon Inman  
Vice-Chairman Jimmy Walker  
Commissioner Ron Carroll  
Commissioner Ernest Lankford  
Commissioner Stanley Smith

County Personnel in Attendance:  
Clerk to the Board/Interim County Manager Darlene Bullins  
Finance Director Julia Edwards

Others in Attendance:  
CEO Betty Taylor – CenterPoint  
Finance Director Kevin Beauchamp - CenterPoint  
Mr. Keith Merritt – Stokes Mental Health Association  
Ms. Debbie Morton – Stokes Mental Health Association

Chairman Leon Inman called the meeting to order.

Vice Chairman Walker 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.

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – MENTAL HEALTH

CEO Betty Taylor presented information to the Board of Commissioners regarding a special one time allocation of \$200,000 to Stokes County for mental health.

Ms. Taylor presented the following information regarding the one time allocation:

- Up until last year, Medicaid revenues passed through to CenterPoint to Medicaid providers
- This year, the Medicaid revenues go directly to the Medicaid providers
- This change created a 20% fund balance for CenterPoint which is unacceptable by the State - Fund Balance cannot be larger than 15% by December 1, 2007
- Division of Mental Health limits the LME Fund Balance to 15%
- If the fund balance is not decreased by December 1, 2007, funding will be subject to reversion back to the state
- Recommendation was made to the Board of Directors and approved that \$200,000 allocation be made to Stokes, Davie and Forsyth Counties and to allow each individual county to determine the best use of the one time allocation
- This allocation does not have to be spent by the end of fiscal year 06-30-07
- Must be allocated from CenterPoint to Davie, Forsyth, and Stokes before 06-30-07
- Davie County plans to make renovations for a site similar to the Stokes Opportunity Center
- Forsyth County is considering to use allocation to enhance psychiatric services
- Must be used for mental health
- Possible suggestions are to be used for a one time project to have lasting impact and to be able to increase services for some short period that would then have be cut if funding is not available from the County

The Board discussed the one time \$200,000 allocation from CenterPoint.

Ms. Taylor spoke briefly concerning the current fiscal year budget and the following allocation of County Funding:

- Arc of Stanly – Operators of Stokes Opportunity Center = approximately \$172,000 = 43%
- Daymark =\$55,000 = 12%
  - First Opinion Waiver
  - Home visits to clients
  - Psychiatric services in Winston Salem and King
  - Presently in Danbury one day a week
- Triumph =\$80,000 = 20%
  - Presently in Danbury one day a week

- Community Service Support Program
  - Substance Abuse Services
  - Focuses on Medicaid Services
- Partnership for Drug Free of NC = \$23,000
  - Provides Substance Abuse Services
  - Located in Walnut Cove
  - Operates the Majors Program
- Transportation Allocation = \$20,000
- Reserve – \$20,000 for emergencies
- Triumph and Daymark struggle to maintain offices in Danbury due to low volume of clients
- Staffing creates challenges on the northern side of the County for the providers
- Challenge to maintain a clinic in the northern part of the County
- 85% in King, 13% in Danbury, and 2% in Sandy Ridge/Madison area
- Youth respond to the tele-medicine concept
- Adults generally prefer to see an individual instead of the tele-medicine concept
- First quarter in 2007 – 382 consumers served(children-66 and adults 326)
- Second quarter in 2007 – 323 consumers served (children -41 and adults 282)
- Tracking will continue to provide CenterPoint with data information regarding the number of individuals being served
- First Quarter – Pharmaceutical prescriptions with retail value with more than \$75,000 have been brought to Stokes County
- Second Quarter – Pharmaceutical prescriptions with retail value more than \$70,000 have been brought to Stokes County
- Per capita – Stokes County = \$8.68 with \$3.78 going directly to the Stokes Opportunity Center
- CenterPoint Crisis Plan will be submitted on March 1, 2007 to the State
- 15 regions be established for Crisis Services with CenterPoint being elected as one of the LME as a stand alone region
- CenterPoint has been working for 18 months to arrange bed space at local hospitals for crisis assessment and inpatient acute care
- Baptist nor Forsyth Hospital saw its way clear to make any proposal to crisis assessment or inpatient acute care
- Identified Old Vineyard Youth Facility in Forsyth County (formerly Charter Hospital) as a possible site for crisis assessment and inpatient acute care
- Old Vineyard has agreed to partner with CenterPoint to offer 24/7 availability for consumers adults during Phase 1 (10 inpatient acute beds)
- Phase II – Provides face to face counseling as soon as a psychiatric bed is available
- Phase III – can add 10-12 beds additional beds
- This partnership with Old Vineyard would decrease the amount of time that is being spent by deputies

- Training has recently been given to Forsyth County Deputies and an offer has been made to the Stokes County Sheriff's Department for the upcoming training

The Board discussed services being provided by CenterPoint, the need to get information to the citizens, the need for mental health services in Stokes County, and options for the \$200,000 allocation.

The Board discussed the following regarding the \$200,000 one time allocation:

- Possible capital improvements to the Stokes Opportunity Center in order to house mental health services and more warehouse space to be able to provide more training for consumers
- The need to find out what Stokes County really needs for its citizens and what is currently not being met
- Gap Analysis Tool which is being prepared by the State (not released yet) to help determine what is needed
- Need to get all organizations involved and to communicate to each other regarding services in the county and what services are not being met
- Facility needs in the county for mental health services
- T1 line for Teli-Medicine not currently being used by Daymark

President Keith Merritt – Stokes County Mental Health Association presented input regarding Mental Health issues in Stokes County:

- Presented a brief history and update of Stokes Mental Health Association
- Need for public information to inform the citizens where to go for mental health services
- Need for CenterPoint to be more visible
- Currently trying to develop a Trust Fund in the community
- Need for agencies to communicate between each other
- Funding to be spent for more substance abuse services

Ms. Debbie Morton – Stokes Mental Health Association presented input regarding Mental Health issues in Stokes County:

- Need for more substance abuse treatment for adults – currently not available
- Seek information from providers, doctors, etc in the County to see where they feel there is a weakness
- Need for more available counseling
- Need for more information to access assistance and referral sources

- Need for more psychiatric services in Stokes County
- Need for prevention services
- Need to look at all areas associated with mental health
- Access number for mental health services hard to maneuver through the system
- Need to educate doctors in the area about the access number

The Board further discussed the \$200,000 allocation for one-time expenditures, changes by the State and effects to the mental health services, not enough state funding to provide the needed services, too many administrators, and possibly to look at the allocation as a grant to start a desirable and workable mental health program for the people of Stokes County.

Chairman Inman reiterated the Board would look at all options before allocating the \$200,000.

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

Commissioner Lankford moved to adjourn the recessed meeting. Vice Chairman 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**