

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
 )

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MAY 24, 2010

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 (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, May 24, 2010 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:  
County Manager K. Bryan Steen  
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
Economic Development Director Alan Wood  
Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall

Chairman Jimmy Walker called the meeting to order.

Vice Chairman Ernest Lankford delivered the invocation.

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

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

**Presentation of Proposed Fiscal Year 2010-11 County Budget**

County Manager Bryan Steen presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2010-11 County Budget. Manager Steen noted the following:

- In accordance with the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act (G.S. 159-8), I hereby present and submit for your review and adoption a balanced proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11
- Revenues are being anticipated lower than last year due to a decrease in sales tax projections
- Proposed budget reflects the increase in retirement contributions for employees
- Proposed budget reflects the increase in health and dental premiums for employees
- Proposed budget maintains the same tax rate as last year
- Board of Education's requested budget is included with the proposed budget

Manager Steen concluded that he looked forward to working with the Board on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

Chairman Walker noted the Public Hearing is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup> with budget work sessions starting on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to approve or amend the May 24, 2010 Agenda.

Chairman Walker noted the need to schedule an E&R final meeting.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the scheduling of an E&R final meeting on today's Action Agenda.

Vice Chairman Lankford moved to approve the May 24, 2010 Agenda as amended. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to approve or amend the following items on the Consent Agenda:

#### **Minutes**

- Minutes of May 10, 2010

May 24, 2010

**Social Services - Budget Amendment #92**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #92.

To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
<b>Social Services</b>				
100.5410.001	TANF-County Initiated	\$135,000.00	\$(40,000.00)	\$95,000.00
100.5410.002	TANF-Emergency Assistance	<u>\$185,000.00</u>	<u>\$40,000.00</u>	<u>\$225,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$320,000.00	\$00.00	\$320,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds for increase in TANF Emergency Assistance.

This will result in a net increase of \$00.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

**Social Services - Budget Amendment #93**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #93.

To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
<b>Social Services</b>				
100.5310.180	Professional Services	<u>\$88,747.00</u>	<u>\$65,206.00</u>	<u>\$153,953.00</u>
	Totals	\$88,747.00	\$65,206.00	\$153,953.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

Administrative Funding for Food and Nutrition services is paid for through the US Department of Defense Appropriations Act 2010. Unspent funds from State fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 will roll forward to SFY 2010-11.

This will result in a net increase of \$65,206.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
100.3301.202	SS County Federal	<u>\$1,944,376.00</u>	<u>\$65,206.00</u>	<u>\$2,009,582.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,944,376.00	\$65,206.00	\$2,009,582.00

**Tax Administration Report – April 2010**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Present-Use Value Late Applications (April 2010) at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting with a request for approval at the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting: (Tax Administrator Oakley recommended approval of the Present-Use Value Late Applications)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Parcel Number</b>	<b>Acreage</b>
E. Wayne Gordon	598304842833	2.37 Agricultural- Already have 22 acres under Agricultural Present Use Value
Lois Gordon		
Michael Stewart	693203133327	69.29 Forestry- Owned this land for many years, but have never applied for the Tax Deferment
Teresa Stewart		

**NCACC – Interlocal Agreement for Insurance Pools  
Proposed Resolution – To Adopt the Interlocal Agreement**

Administrative Assistant/Personnel Officer Darlene Bullins submitted a proposed Interlocal Agreement and Resolution from NCACC for the Board’s consideration. NCACC has implemented a new procedure requiring the Board of Commissioners to approve the Interlocal Agreement and Resolution regarding the County’s participation in the insurance pools.

Ms. Bullins noted that the Interlocal Agreement and Resolution will include the following

Insurances:

- Liability and Property
- Workers’ Compensation
- Health and Dental

Ms. Bullins requested the Board’s approval of the Interlocal Agreement and Resolution.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted.

Vice Chairman Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA**

### **Update – Manager and Board of Commissioners**

County Manager Bryan Steen noted the following:

- Paramedic Scott Brown, who has faithfully served Stokes County since 1988, received the “Honoring Dedication to the Community” Award for Excellence in EMS from Forsyth Medical Center
- Jail Captain Kenny Norman received a commendable letter from North Carolina Department of Labor regarding a recent inspection on April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Currently, staff from Register of Deeds and Mapping are working in the EMS Department helping with billing while an EMS employee is on leave

Chairman Walker, on behalf of the Board, commended Paramedic Brown on his recent Award and Captain Norman on the recent jail inspection by the Department of Labor.

Finance Director Julia Edwards informed the Board the County had received notification from Standard and Poore that the County’s bond rating has been upgraded from “A” to “A+”.

Commissioner Carroll noted that the Southwestern Service Center (King Clinic) is scheduled to open Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Inman presented the Board with information from Legislative Assembly Day in Raleigh regarding upcoming fiscal year projections. Commissioner Inman spoke briefly on the following:

- Counties are facing severe budget reduction measures to manage declining revenues
- Some counties are contemplating employee layoffs, furloughs, and benefit reductions
- Faced with unprecedented revenue declines and rising Medicaid costs, the General Assembly must reduce the 2010-11 state spending by roughly \$800 million from the approved \$19.6 billion budget, with next year anticipating to be much worse
- 2009-10 Legislative Goals:
  - E-911 Funds
  - ABC System
  - Annexation
  - Broadband Access
  - Collective Bargaining
  - Commercial Dog Breeding
  - Comparative Fault
  - Electronics Recycling
  - Inmate Medical Costs

- Inmate Shift to Counties
- Open Government
- Safe Artificial Slope Construction
- Water/Wastewater
- Transportation
- Snapshot of Specific County Budget Reductions
  - Human Services: reducing school nurses, school social workers, adult health programs, child care, non-profits
  - Public Safety: reducing deputy staff, reducing school resource officers, delaying jails, courthouses, forgoing EMS vehicles
  - Cultural Resources: reducing library hours, closing libraries, reducing park operations and hours
  - Education: cut schools and community colleges, delaying school facilities
  - Personnel: reduce county workforce by 10%, increase employee health care and eliminate family coverage, eliminate 401(k) employer contribution, mandatory furloughs up to 10 days
  - Reaction to state cuts: county reductions to mirror state actions
- Will keep the Board updated with information from Raleigh

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **Request to Purchase Property – Stokes County Board of Education**

County Manager Bryan Steen presented the following information regarding a request from Executive Director of Operations David Burge, Stokes County Schools:

- Requesting approval to purchase a small parcel of land that joins Pinnacle Elementary School
- Property is owned by Mark Badgett and is a .35 acre lot on Surry Line Road in Pinnacle with a tax value of \$7,100
- Board of Education has offered to pay and Mr. Badgett has agreed to accept a purchase price of \$6,500 for the property
- Intended use for the property is for a second entrance to the soccer field area where one of the PODS is currently located
- County has received a letter from Dr. Stewart Hobbs, Superintendent, which noted that the Board of Education at one of their regular scheduled meetings directed Director Burge to present the request to the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Carroll noted the following point of clarification:

- The Board of Commissioners does not have the authority to approve or disapprove the purchase of land, the Board only has the authority to approve the purchase price

The Board discussed the request with Director Burge.

Executive Director of Operations David Burge requested the item be moved to today's Action Agenda in order to expedite the land transfer.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Communities Program**

Economic Development Director Alan Wood presented the following information regarding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communities Program:

- Program started in 2001
- Designed for communities that are facing economic development challenges
- Open for tier 1 and 2 counties
- The program identifies communities that are experiencing economic sustainability challenges and helps them advance in today's global economy with the following premises in mind:
  - Economic Development success comes from investing in education and a skilled workforce, attractive and prepared communities and an exceptional business climate
  - Targeting counties that are economically challenged, but have local leaders committed to making progress yields the greatest results
  - Building upon the specific strengths of each county is essential in the formation of economic development strategies
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communities Program is comprised of 31 counties, Rockingham is one of the 31 counties
- While employed in Caldwell County, worked to get Caldwell County in the program
- Program Details:
  - Conduct a complete assessment of the local economy
  - Meet with local leaders to identify areas of greatest concern
  - Assess economic development assets such as available building sites, natural and heritage resources
  - Identify infrastructure needs
  - Develop a comprehensive economic development plan
  - Coordinate available resources to maximize impact
- Application was submitted on May 19<sup>th</sup>
- Participation in the program is for two years
- Could help with acquiring grants
- Good chance to raise the profile of the community
- Tremendous opportunity
- Letters of support have been received from City of King, Town of Walnut Cove, and Town of Danbury
- Participants will be notified in late fall, with the program starting in February 2011
- No county funding

The Board discussed the proposed program with Director Wood.

The Board had no problems with the program application submitted by Director Wood.

**Insurance Proposals – Personal & Liability/Worker’s Compensation**

Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall presented the following information regarding proposed costs for Worker’s Compensation, General Liability, and Automotive Insurance coverage from the NCACC Joint Risk Management Agency for the upcoming fiscal year 2010-11:

<b>Insurance</b>	<b>F/Y 2010-11</b>	<b>F/Y 2009-10</b>
Worker's Compensation	\$312,692.00	\$ 250,000.00
Liability, Property, Auto's	\$249,299.00	\$ 292,212.00
Multi Pool Discounts	\$(15,794.00)	\$ (16,165.00)
	\$546,197.00	\$ 526,047.00
<b>Deductible Amounts</b>		
Property Loss Claims	\$ 1,000.00	
Auto Liability	\$ -	
Crime	\$ 1,000.00	
Law Enforcement	\$ 5,000.00	
Boiler/Machinery	\$ 1,000.00	
General Liability	\$ -	
Auto Physical Damage	\$ 1,000.00	
Public Officials	\$ 5,000.00	
Employment Purchase	\$ 5,000.00	

- Could be a 1 to 2.5% decrease in the Spring when the County is reviewed

Vice Chairman Lankford confirmed with Manager Steen that the increased figures have been incorporated into the proposed budget for fiscal year 2010-11.

The Board discussed the agenda item with Mr. Stovall.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item

on the June 14<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda.

### **Early College - Utilities**

Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall presented the following regarding the proposed Right of Way Agreement with Duke Energy Carolinians:

- Need approval in order to get utilities on the property
- Right of Way Agreement has been reviewed and approved by County Attorney Edward Powell
- Utilities will be underground
- Need approval today in order to expedite the process

The Board discussed the agenda item with Mr. Stovall.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

### **County Office Space Needs and Day Care Building**

County Manager Bryan Steen presented additional information which was requested by the Board at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- If a private non-profit or for-profit organization obtains financial assistance from USDA, USDA will be looking for the owner to be responsible for repayment of the loan
- The type of financial assistance available depends on how the current business is organized
- Community facility loans and grants are available to non-profit organizations
- Loan Guarantees, Rural Business Enterprise Grants, ARC Grants and other assistance can also be made available to for-profit businesses
- Loans, grants, child care facilities will be heavily scrutinized and recommend that any business owner interested contact USDA in Jefferson for further information
- Small business loans could also be available
- County could help facilitate the process and submit a letter of support
- County would not have any financial obligations

Vice Chairman Lankford confirmed with Manager Steen that interested parties should contact USDA directly regarding available loans and grants and that the County could submit a letter of support documenting the potential need for day care in the county.

Manager Steen reiterated the need for space at DSS presented at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and

moving Home Health to the former day care facility would eliminate that issue.

Manager Steen requested approval to proceed with the relocation of Home Health to the former day care facility located at Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital and to allocate offices currently occupied by Home Health to the Department of Social Services.

Commissioner Carroll requested information regarding costs that could incur in relocating Home Health.

Manager Steen responded the following:

- Funds have been allocated in the proposed fiscal year 2010-11 budget to repair the roof and install new windows
- Interior painting and installing additional electrical outlets could be funded by the Public Buildings' budget
- Stokes Reynolds would like to use 3 office spaces and the laundry room located in the facility
- Do not anticipate any major ADA facility renovations

Manager Steen also noted the proposed relocations have been presented to the DSS Board and the Health Board and he is not aware of any objections from either Board.

Commissioner Carroll noted the Board of Health had discussed the issue and the only concern was Home Health being in a different location from the Health Department.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the June 14<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Vice Chairman Lankford requested Manager Steen contact the private business that was interested in locating a day care center at the facility and provide the business owner with the USDA information and to find out if there is still interest in locating a day care in the facility.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Manager to proceed with Vice Chairman Lankford's request.

## **Request for Budget Information from the Stokes County Board of Education**

Chairman Walker noted the following additional information has already been requested by County Manager Steen from the Stokes County Board of Education:

- Most recent State and Federal Allotment Revisions for 2009-10
- State and Federal Planning Allotments for 2010-11, including any possible adjustments based on proposed state budgets
- Use of Low Wealth Funds in 2009-10
- Proposed use of Low Wealth Funds in 2010-11
- Summary of Current Expense and Capital Outlay Fund Balances (start with amounts at June 30, 2009 per audit, then list any adjustments)

Chairman Walker asked if there was any further information needed by the Board.

Commissioner Carroll requested the following additional information be requested from the Stokes County Board of Education before the joint meeting scheduled for June 22, 2010:

- An itemized list that basically describes the impact in the current year of State budget reductions and reversions on actual school programs and operations. (What didn't you have this year that you had last year because of State budget reductions?)
- What do you anticipate the effect being on school programs and operations next year based on what the budget looks like? (What do you anticipate not having next year that you do have this year because of the State budget reductions?)
- List of capital outlay needs that have been or are being addressed in the current year's budget based on the capital outlay appropriations for the current year.
- An updated prioritized list of school construction needs and cost estimates for each.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed staff to request the information indicated by Commissioner Carroll.

## **Future Organization of Stokes County Health Services Alliance – Update**

Chairman Walker presented the following information that was discussed and voted on the last Health Services Alliance meeting held on May 11<sup>th</sup>:

- Alliance approved the following (7) seven voting members:
  - One member from Stokes County – (Board of Commissioners)
  - One member from Forsyth Medical Center (Novant)
  - One member from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center
  - One member from Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital
  - Two at large members (Stokes County Citizens)

- The Stokes County Health Director
- 501c(3) status would remain the same until further discussion
- Officers would be elected by the voting members
- Current mission statement has been revised

Commissioner Carroll noted that the Health Services Alliance is an independent 501c(3) organization that this Board doesn't control, but this Board could instruct the County's voting member how the Board would like to vote.

The Board discussed the item.

Commissioner Carroll also noted a committee recommendation was made that the voting member from the County be the Commissioner who serves on the Board of Health, but was not officially voted on. Commissioner Carroll noted that the voting member would be left up to the Board of Commissioners and not the Alliance.

Vice Chairman Lankford noted that he would like to review the Alliance minutes before any further discussion.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to have the minutes available before the next meeting and if a Board member wishes to discuss any issue regarding the Alliance, the item could be placed on the June 14<sup>th</sup> Agenda during the approval of the agenda.

### **Appointments**

#### **DSS Board**

Chairman Walker submitted a vacancy (Linda Hicks) on the DSS Board and noted that Ms. Hicks is willing to continue to serve.

Vice Chairman Lankford nominated Linda Hicks for re-appointment.

Chairman Walker directed the Clerk to place the appointment on the June 14<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

## **Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board**

Chairman Walker submitted a vacancy (Barbara Stevens) on the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board and noted that Ms. Stevens is willing to continue to serve.

Commissioner Inman nominated Barbara Stevens for re-appointment.

Chairman Walker directed the Clerk to place the appointment on the June 14<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

## **Job Vacancies**

County Manager Bryan Steen recommended the following permanent positions be filled:

- Home Health – PHN II - position is supported by revenues generated by Home Health patients and filling this position would result in increased revenue
- Parks – Part time maintenance worker – position is usually hired for the months of April – October and allows Moratock Park to be staffed seven days a week during the summer months when traffic necessitates daily supervision in order to keep the park clean and reduce the potential for vandalism

Manager Steen requested the item be moved to today's Action Agenda due to the fast approaching of summer and to be able to continue to provide Home Health services to the citizens of Stokes County.

The Board discussed the Agenda item.

Commissioner Smith requested both vacancies (that were in the current budget) be moved to today's Action Agenda.

Vice Chairman Lankford expressed concerns with job vacancies being placed on the Discussion Agenda and being requested to be moved to the Action Agenda at the same meeting. Vice Chairman Lankford, who had no objection to moving the items to today's Action Agenda, requested the Board try to return to the original intent of the Agenda by having the item on the Discussion Agenda at one meeting and then the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

Manager Steen noted when vacancies occur from employees resigning, it doesn't allow time for the normal two meeting process.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Manager to fine tune this procedure if possible.

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA**

### **Proposed Resolution – Request to Abandon a Portion of SR#1213 Leo Smith Road – NCDOT and to Abandon a Portion of the Right of Way of SR#1213-Leo Smith Road**

Manager Steen presented the following proposed Resolution required to close a portion of SR# 1213-Leo Smith Road:

#### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STOKES COUNTY PROPOSING THE CLOSING OF A PORTION OF SR#1213-LEO SMITH ROAD**

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Stokes County Board of Commissioner to close a portion of SR#1213-Leo Smith 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#1213 –Leo Smith Road on Monday, June 14, 2010 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 – May 27<sup>th</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and and June 10, 2010: 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 317' along their property only from the Secondary Road System prior to this Resolution on April 5, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, a portion of the SR#1213-Leo Smith Road has already been petitioned by the North Carolina Department of Transportation and approved by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners on May 24, 2010 to be removed from the Secondary Road System; and

**WHEREAS**, the closing SR#1213-Leo Smith 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 portion of SR #1213-Leo Smith Road and the closing of the said portion of the road does not affect any other property owner, the portion of SR #1213-Leo Smith Road will be considered by the Board of Commissioners to be closed pursuant to N.C.G.S. 153A-241.

Adopted this, the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 2010.

**WITNESS**, my hand and official seal this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jimmy Walker- Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ernest Lankford –Vice Chairman**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ron Carroll - Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Stanley Smith – Commissioner**

Attest:

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

Chairman Walker entertained a motion.

Commissioner Carroll moved to abandon a portion of SR #1213-Leo Smith Road from the North Carolina Secondary Road System and to approve the proposed Resolution to close a portion of SR#1213 – Leo Smith Road. Vice Chairman Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing – Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Inc. – Further Discussion**

Chairman Walker noted the following options regarding Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital that have been discussed at prior meetings:

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- **Option** - Go back to the original concept – county owns and operates all components as a government agency
- **Option** - Lease the hospital to a private agency (no public involvement or subsidy)
- **Option** - Lease to private agency and provide some level of public subsidy
- **Option** – Lease to private agency to operate and the county assumes responsibility for the operating losses if any
- **Option** – Continue to own the hospital and employ a private management agency to operate the facilities for the County
- **Option** – Spin the entire operation as a independent, self governing, non-profit corporation
- **Option** – Sell the operation to a private agency
- **Option** – Close the doors and get out of the hospital business
- **Option** – To maintain the hospital as a separate corporation controlled by the County

Chairman Walker requested feedback from the Board regarding whether all of the listed options should be read by the Chairman at the beginning of the Public Hearing scheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup> regarding Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital:

Vice Chairman Lankford requested to remove the following option:

**Option** – Close the doors and get out of the hospital business

The Board discussed what options should be read before the Public Hearing by the Chairman.

Vice Chairman Lankford moved to include the statement that “Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Inc. consists of the hospital, long term care unit, JRJones Outpatient/Urgent Care Facility and the rented space at Stokes Medical Park and to eliminate the option that states “Close the doors and get out of the hospital business” from the options proposed to be read by the Chairman.

Commissioner Inman seconded the motion.

The Board discussed the item.

Commissioner Carroll suggested the following three other possible options and noted that in the opening statement, it should be pointed out the options are possibilities and that some of the options maybe viable and some may not be, there could be legal issues that the Board is not aware

of and if a third party is involved, there might not be a willing third party.

- Convert to a for profit corporation
- Create a “holding company” with private share holders who would own and operate the hospital
- Sell part of the ownership of the hospital corporation

The Board discussed amending the motion to include Commissioner Carroll’s other three options.

Vice Chairman Lankford moved to amend his motion to include the following three options:

- Convert to a for profit corporation
- Create a “holding company” with private share holders who would own and operate the hospital
- Sell part of the ownership of the hospital corporation

Commissioner Inman seconded and the amendment to the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Walker stated the following amended motion which would be read by the Chairman before the Public Hearing:

- Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Inc. consists of the hospital, long term care unit, JRJones Outpatient/Urgent Care Facility and the rented space at Stokes Medical Park
- Eliminate the option that states “Close the doors and get out of the hospital business” from the options submitted to be read by the Chairman
- Add option: Convert to a for profit corporation
- Add option: Create a “holding company” with private share holders who would own and operate the corporation
- Add: Sell part of the ownership of the hospital corporation

Commissioner Carroll stated that even though he had no intention of voting to close the hospital, the fact remains that as far as the public is concerned and the input being received from the citizens, “closing the doors” is an option and all the options listed are just options.

Commissioner Inman noted that closing the doors is an option but is concerned that putting that option out there could have public perception that this Board is considering a

particular option before we hear from the citizens.

The motion carried (3-2) with Commissioner Carroll and Commissioner Smith voting against the motion.

Chairman Walker confirmed with the Board members that each speaker would be allowed 3 minutes and anyone speaking for a group would be allowed up to 10 minutes.

### **Appointments – Region Aging Advisory Council**

Chairman Walker noted the vacancy on the Region I Advisory Aging Council which was announced at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Vice Chairman Lankford nominated Carolyn Manuel.

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Vice Chairman Lankford moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Walker polled the Board regarding the nomination of Carolyn Manuel:

- Commissioner Carroll - yes
- Vice Chairman Lankford - yes
- Chairman Walker - yes
- Commissioner Inman - yes
- Commissioner Smith - yes

Chairman Walker stated that Carolyn Manuel was unanimously appointed to serve on the Region I Advisory Aging Council.

### **Proposed Amendments – Stokes County Animal Control Ordinance**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion regarding the following proposed amendments to the Stokes County Animal Control Ordinance presented at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting:

**Adequate Shelter for Dogs:** A structure intended for the animal's protection from inclement weather or sun, which consists of at least three sides, a floor and a roof. The structure must be constructed of durable fiber, wood, plastic or other non-metal material

**Restraint of a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog:** Restraint of a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog is where the dog must be confined in a securely enclosed pen or other structure designed to restrain the dog and having a roof, cement floor and secured by a padlock. When this type of dog is outside this pen or structure, it must be restrained and held by the owner, or one who is in direct control, by an adequate leash, chain or other like device and the dog must be muzzled at all times. At no time shall restraint of this type of dog be accomplished by chaining it outside the pen or structure.

### **Section 6.1. Adequate Shelter for Dogs.**

Owners of dogs shall provide a structure intended for the animal's protection from inclement weather or sun, which consists of at least three sides, a floor and a roof. The structure must be constructed of durable fiber, wood, plastic or other non-metal material.

### **Section 8. Confinement, muzzling and control of vicious or dangerous dogs or animals.**

It shall be unlawful for any owner to keep any vicious, fierce, dangerous or potentially dangerous dog or animal within the county, unless it is confined within a secure building, pen or enclosure as defined in this Ordinance, or unless it is securely muzzled and under restraint by a competent person who, by means of a leash, chain or rope, has such animal firmly under control at all times.

### **Section 31. Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall become effective on May 1, 1975 as adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners on April 7, 1975 and readopted on September 12, 1977, and amended on December 16, 1985; December 21, 1987; February 7, 1994; June 21, 2001; July 1, 2004 and May 2010.

Duly Amended and added Definitions – Adequate Shelter for Dogs and Restraint of a Dangerous or Potentially Dangerous Dog – and amended Section 8. Confinement, muzzling and control of vicious or dangerous dogs or animals and added new Section 6.1 Adequate Shelter for Dogs and made other technical corrections on May 2010.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the amendments to the Stokes County Animal Control Ordinance presented at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Vice Chairman Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **E&R Schedule**

Chairman Walker noted the need to reschedule the E&R meeting scheduled for June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Bullins noted that Tax Administrator Oakley stated the meeting would need to be held before the end of June in order for correct billing which is scheduled to go out in July.

Clerk Bullins noted the following possible dates:

- June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm before the Public Hearing
- June 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm (before the budget work session scheduled for 4:00pm)
- June 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm (before the Board of Trustees meeting scheduled at 6:00pm)

The Board unanimously agreed to schedule the E&R Meeting for Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm.

### **Request to Purchase Property – Stokes County Board of Education**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion regarding the Stokes County Board of Education's request presented at today's meeting regarding the purchase price of \$6,500 for a parcel of land located in Pinnacle that joins the Pinnacle Elementary School property.

Commissioner Smith moved to approve the purchase price of \$6,500 for a parcel of land located in Pinnacle that joins the Pinnacle Elementary School property. Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Early College - Utilities**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion regarding the approval of the Right of Way Agreement with Duke Energy Carolinas submitted at today's meeting.

Vice Chairman Lankford moved to approve the Right of Way Agreement with Duke Energy Carolinas at the Early College location. Commissioner Carroll seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Job Vacancies**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion regarding the Home Health PHNII and the Parks part Time Maintenance Worker vacancies discussed at today's meeting.

Commissioner Smith moved to approve the request from Manager Steen to fill the vacant Home Health PHNII and Parks part time Maintenance Worker positions. Commissioner Carroll seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Closed Session**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To consult with an Attorney employed or retained by the Public Body in Order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the Attorney and the Public Body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged, and to consider and give instructions to an

attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure G.S. 143-318.11(3).

- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the County pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)

Commissioner Inman moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To consult with an Attorney employed or retained by the Public Body in Order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the Attorney and the Public Body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged, and to consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure G.S. 143-318.11(3).
- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the County pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)

Commissioner Carroll seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board re-entered the regular session of the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Adjournment**

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

Commissioner Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

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**Jimmy Walker**  
**Chairman**