

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

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, September 12, 2011 at 1:30 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Ernest Lankford  
Vice Chairman J. Leon Inman  
Commissioner Ronda Jones  
Commissioner James D. Booth

Commissioner Jimmy Walker - absent

County Personnel in Attendance:  
County Manager Richard D. Morris  
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
Sheriff Mike Marshall  
Tax Administrator Jake Oakley

Chairman Ernest Lankford called the meeting to order.

Chairman Lankford presented the following "Thought for the Day":

- "Let us always remember 09/11/01 and remember faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful"

Vice Chairman Inman delivered the invocation.

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

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

Chairman Lankford noted that Commissioner Walker was unable to attend today's meeting due to being out of town.

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

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion to approve or amend the September 12, 2011 Agenda.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the September 12, 2011 Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed Application for Transportation Operating Assistance Program Funds for Fiscal Year 2011-12 – ROAP Funding**

Chairman Lankford called to order the Public Hearing for Proposed Application for Transportation Operating Assistance Program Funds for Fiscal Year 2011-12 (ROAP Funding).

There were no public comments.

Chairman Lankford closed the Public Hearing.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Minutes**

- Minutes of August 22, 2011

**Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #7**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #7.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	<b>Sheriff's Department</b>			
100.4310.290	Miscellaneous Expense	<u>\$1,165.00</u>	<u>\$600.00</u>	<u>\$1,765.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,165.00</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>	<b>\$1,765.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds from the Calendar Fund for an employee's retirement. No County Funds.

This will result in a net increase of \$600.00 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>
100.3839.001	Mis. Revenue(Calendar Fund)	<u>\$2,235.00</u>	<u>\$600.00</u>	<u>\$2,835.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,235.00</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>	<b>\$2,835.00</b>

**Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #8**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #8.

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>Sheriff's Department</b>			
100.4310.340	Printing	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$235.00</u>	<u>\$1,235.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$235.00</b>	<b>\$1,235.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds for the purchase of sympathy cards – no county funding.

This will result in a net increase of \$235.00 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>
100.3839.001	Calendar Funds	<u>\$2,235.00</u>	<u>\$235.00</u>	<u>\$2,470.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,235.00</b>	<b>\$235.00</b>	<b>\$2,470.00</b>

**Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #9**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #9.

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>Sheriff's Department</b>			
100.4310.511	Equipment – Non –Capital	<u>\$7,645.00</u>	<u>\$2,130.00</u>	<u>\$9,775.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$7,645.00</b>	<b>\$2,130.00</b>	<b>\$9,775.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds to secure weapons and other items in a safe and fireproof container for the Sheriff's Department.

This will result in a net increase of \$2,130.00 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>
100.3301.411	Federal Fines/Forfeitures	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,130.00</u>	<u>\$2,130.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,130.00</b>	<b>\$2,130.00</b>

**Proposed Proclamation - "Stokes County Buy Local Campaign"**

Economic Development Director Alan Wood presented the following proposed

Proclamation – "Stokes County Buy Local Campaign" as directed by the Board of Commissioners at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting for consideration:

**STOKES COUNTY BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN**

**Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, Sales Tax Revenue is a major component of the revenue stream to the General Fund for the County; and

**WHEREAS**, sales tax is apportioned to the county based on the amount of purchases that take place within the borders of the county; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners understands that local business is the lifeblood of the county's economy with these businesses providing employment and financial growth, and acting as anchors for the citizens of the county and as pillars of support for local charities; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these businesses struggle to survive in a global economy that offers little in the way of outside support and continue to operate in the face of significant challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners are committed to the support of businesses located within the borders of the county; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners recognize the importance of the “**Think Stokes First**” “**Buy Local Campaign**” being initiated by the Stokes County Economic Development Commission with support from the King Chamber of Commerce, Mainstreet Merchants of Walnut Cove and others and that this program can have a positive impact upon the businesses in Stokes County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners** fully supports this effort and requests that all departments within Stokes County Government will strive to “**Think Stokes First**” by attempting to increase purchases from Stokes County businesses whenever possible.

**NOW, FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED**, the goal will be to increase purchases from businesses in the county by 5%.

Adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners this 12<sup>th</sup> day September 2011.

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**Chairman Ernest Lankford**

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**Vice Chairman J. Leon Inman**

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**Commissioner Jimmy Walker**

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**Commissioner Ronda Jones**

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**Commissioner James D. Booth**

**Attest:**

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

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

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

### **Big Sweep – River and Roadside Cleanup Presentation**

Ms. Sara Jo Durham, volunteer, presented the following information regarding the upcoming “Big Sweep”:

- Big Sweep is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2011
- Will be organized at Moratock Park starting at 9:00 am
- Gloves, bags, data cards and pencils will be provided
- Roadsides, streams and open spaces will be cleaned up
- Cleanups improve and protect our waters
- Big Sweep offers the promise of connecting our youth with the environment they will be inheriting

- Why should we clean up?
  - Every year hundreds of wildlife mistake litter for food or become entangled in carelessly, discarded trash; later to die or become trapped
  - Litter attracts disease carrying mosquitoes and rodents
  - As litter decomposes, it contaminates the water supply and hurts the environment
- Any questions contact Sara Jo Durham or Dale Swanson at 336-593-3722
- Help keep Stokes County beautiful and scenic

Mr. Dale Swanson, Dan River Basin Association, presented a power point presentation showing the trash between Seven Island Bridge and Danbury (in and along the Dan River) which attracts over 10,000 visitors during the three (3) summer months.

Ms. Durham urged community groups to join together to help clean up Stokes County.

Chairman Lankford suggested possibly placing signage along the river regarding dumping trash.

Mr. Swanson noted that discussions regarding signage at the river accesses have already started with Economic Development Director Wood.

The Board discussed the issue with Ms. Durham and Mr. Swanson.

Commissioner Booth commended Ms. Durham for her 17 year dedication to cleaning up Stokes County. Commissioner Booth noted the approximate \$700,000 (319 Grant) that is also being used to clean up Dan River.

#### **Comments - Sheriff Mike Marshall**

Sheriff Mike Marshall presented the following response, as requested by the Board, regarding the Public Comments made by Wandal Marion at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting:

- Sheriff's Department can't control who lives beside each other
- It is not illegal to shoot across an open waterway
- Individuals can shoot on personal property or property leased as long as it is in a safe manner
- The person in question wasn't Hispanic, it was a white male
- When the Deputy arrived at the scene, the white male who was shooting was asked to stop and he did

- The Sergeant who went out on the call later that same day stated that he did not tell Mr. Marion that ICE would not come, the Sergeant stated that he told Mr. Marion that he did not know if ICE would come if he called them
- Sergeant stated that he encouraged Mr. Marion to call ICE if he was having issues with Hispanics
- Sergeant commented that when he patrolled the area, he did not see any Hispanics
- Will not allow anyone who works for the Sheriff's Department to profile any individual
- If there are grounds for the Sheriff's Department to be in a specific area over some type of illegal actions taking place, the Sheriff's Department will act appropriately
- Called Dave Hoskins, Dan River Canoe, to question if there has been issues on the river, Dave stated that there had been a shooting issue about two years ago which was immediately taken care of by the Sheriff's Department and has had no complaints since that time
- Mr. Hoskins stated that he would definitely inform the Sheriff's Department if there were any issues on the river
- As far as Mr. Marion's complaints about the deputies being young and untrained, all deputies are trained by the State before being hired and have met all requirements for certification
- Laws are taught in rookie school which are constantly changing, there are numerous state and federal laws
- It is kind of like the Bible, you can read and study the Bible, but can anyone quote every verse
- Deputies are encouraged if they are unsure about a certain law, tell the individual that they will research the issue and get back to them; deputies have books available at the Sheriff's Office
- As far as an individual getting married, that is no concern of the Sheriff's Department
- Sheriff's Department does encourage the public who feel that there is some type of criminal action going on to contact the Sheriff's Department
- As far as Mr. Marion calling him last year regarding drug issues at Dan River Shores, there was an undercover drug operation done by the Sheriff's Department which produced a huge drug bust that involved several groups of individuals in Stokes, Forsyth, and Davidson Counties that led into a Federal case
- Sheriff's Department has received other complaints regarding drugs at Dan River Shores
- Mr. Marion has not called, left messages or visited Sheriff Marshall
- Will always respond to any call, message, or complaint
- As far as the call which occurred at his business (break in-truck) which he stated took the Sheriff's Department one hour to respond, recorded information reveals the deputy was on the scene within 17 minutes and completed the investigation in less than an hour
- Unsure of the hour indicated by Mr. Marion for the deputy to get on the scene
- Can be sure that if it takes an hour for a deputy to be at the scene of a crime, will definitely be in front of the Board of Commissioners requesting additional staffing
- If any Board member ever encounters a law enforcement issue, I am available 24 hours a day/seven days a week by telephone, page, or voice mail

The Board expressed their appreciation to Sheriff Marshall for his response.

### **Proposed Contract Security for General Public/Businesses in Stokes County**

Sheriff Mike Marshall presented the following comments regarding a proposed policy for contracting security for the General Public/Businesses in the County:

- Over the years, the Sheriff's Department has provided deputies to work "hustles" for businesses in the county at no charge
- Stokes County is about the only county left still providing the services at no charge
- Most of the counties have started providing the security service at a fee
- The fee covers staff and related costs such as retirement, vehicle, equipment, etc.
- Even though in the past the Sheriff's Department required the business to carry worker's compensation, if there had been a claim, it would most likely have come back on the County due to the individual trying to carry out the duties of a deputy
- Do not recall a worker's comp. claim resulting from an off duty hustle
- The business or general public would contract with the Sheriff's Department for a deputy
- Currently, the deputy is receiving \$18 per hour from the business
- With the proposed policy, the business would pay a specific amount to the Sheriff's Department for security services
- Most counties are getting \$25 per hour
- This could be a new revenue source
- Feel this is a win/win situation for everyone and will cover the Sheriff's Department civilly on any liability issues
- If no issues from the Board of Commissioners, will bring a proposed policy back to the Board for consideration
- Would like to have the new policy in place by January 1, 2012
- Feels this type of policy would clarify who the deputy is working for – the Sheriff and this would eliminate someone who has hired the deputy under the current arrangement trying to influence the deputy from arresting someone who was violating the law due to the employee being paid by the business and not the County

The Board discussed the proposed policy, commended Sheriff Marshall for bringing the idea to the Board for consideration, and had no issues with comments provided by Sheriff Marshall.

### **Comments – County Manager Rick Morris**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following update:

- Finance Director Julia Edwards has provided the Board with updated sales tax information along with power point charts for quick references; these new reports will be provided monthly to the Board
- All information regarding the school loans has been sent to LGC for the agenda on September 13<sup>th</sup>



- Loan closing is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### **Early College – POD Update:**

- Still on schedule for having everything completed by early December which will give Forsyth Tech plenty of time to get furniture in and be ready for classes by January 2012
- Could be done early if weather permits
- Eight (8) of the ten sections are already on site with the two remaining to be delivered there within the next couple of days
- Feel everything is in place to have the project completed by early December

#### **E911 Communications Grant for Mandatory Radio Upgrade – Update**

- Committee is diligently working on the grants for the radio upgrade – 80%-90% completed
- Meeting with EMS Director Stevens and Station #36 personnel, who are working on the grant, tomorrow to review and complete the grant
- Should have the grant ready for submission by Thursday – due Friday

#### **Personnel Evaluation System – Update**

- Have been working on a personnel evaluation system, as per the Stokes County Personnel Policy, with Department Heads
- Will go through the forms with the Board at a later date
- Evaluations will keep employees aware of what is expected and how they are doing
- Should have the system up and running within the next few months

#### **Jail Inmate Meal Program – Update**

- Have comprised a panel to improve the efficiency and hopefully reduce costs associated with the jail inmate meal program
- First meeting is scheduled for tomorrow
- Will keep the Board updated

#### **Comments – Board of Commissioners**

Chairman Lankford noted the following:

- At the last Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) meeting, it was brought to the attention of PTRC's members, that there is some interest in the PART Transportation System to join PTRC
- A committee has been formed to study the request and make a recommendation to the PTRC

Commissioner Booth, Board of Health member, noted the following:

- Home Health is on the right track
- 2009-10 Revenue = (\$110,000 in the red)
- 2010-11 Revenue = \$150,000 in the black
- 2011-12 Revenue = in just two months already \$60,000 in the black
- Billing and coding have been prior issues, but have been corrected
- Wanted the Board of Commissioners to know that Home Health is back on track

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

**Tax Administration Report – August 2011**

Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following informational data for the August report:

Fiscal Year 2011-12	Budget Amt	Collected Amt	Over Budget	Under Budget
<b>County Regular &amp; Motor Vehicles</b>	\$(20,825,493.00)	\$9,697,020.84		\$11,128,472.16
<b>New Schools F-Tech Fund</b>	\$479,154.00	\$630,229.32	\$151,075.32	

**Prior Taxes**

**1993-2010 Tax Years**

County Regular & Motor Vehicles	\$600,000.00	\$222,429.42	\$377,570.58
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**EMS Collections**

Total Collected (08-01-11/08-31-11)	\$8,923.87
Total Collected (07-01-11/06-30-12)	\$18,650.62
Delinquent accounts received from EMS (203 accounts= \$106,902.20 – 08-11-11)	

Personal Property Discovery Report Audit Dates	# of Accts	Total Value	Taxes Due
08-01-11/08-31-11	80	\$679,148.00	\$6,214.69
07-01-11/06-30-12	110	\$963,055.00	\$8,565.85

**Business Personal Property Discovery Report**

Audit Dates	# of Accts	Total Value	Taxes Due
08-01-11/08-31-11	0	\$00.00	\$00.00
07-01-11/06-30-12	0	\$00.00	\$00.00

Motor Vehicle Release Report Audit Dates	Accounts	Total Value
08-01-11/08-31-11	44	\$1,491.97

**Motor Vehicle Refund Report**

Audit Dates	Accounts	Total Value
08-01-11/08-31-11	7	\$277.24
<b>Number billed for August 2011</b>	<b>5079</b>	

**Garnishment Totals**

Month	Total Accounts	Original Levy Amt	Collected Amt
08-01-11/08-31-11	149	\$58,904.17	\$35,981.49
<b>F/Year 2011-12</b> (July 1 – June 30)	<b>311</b>	<b>\$107,014.14</b>	<b>\$69,506.12</b>

**Interstate Collection Report**

Total Collected for August 2011	Collection	Total Collected
Cumulative Total Collected	NC Debt Setoff	<b>\$73,543.84</b>
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Motor Vehicles	\$64,533.77
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Property Taxes	\$15,563.88
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	EMS	<u>\$63,498.85</u>
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	All Categories	<b>\$143,596.50</b>

Tax Administrator Oakley noted the following:

- 2% discount was given to those paying in August
- Approximately \$300,000 more collected than in August 2010

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Real and Personal Property Releases

(August 2011) which are less than \$100 for the Board's consideration:

**Releases (Real and Personal Property)  
Less than \$100–August 2011-Per NCGS 105-381 (b)**

HPS Developers, Inc	11A599304909556	\$43.01
	10A599304909556	\$40.57
	09A599304909556	\$40.57
	08A599304909556	\$36.03
Hearst-Argyle Television	11A890500273797	\$19.04
Davis Gift Shop	11A156024729.01	\$2.75
	10A156024729.01	\$3.27
Dominador Mendoza, Jr	11A11896.03	\$20.15
Brandon Burgess	11A156016632.04	\$22.70
Jesus Ruiz	11A155896209.02	\$65.74
Donna Cox	11A34535.09	\$18.00
Hal Stultz	11A20471.09	\$41.83
	10A20471.09	\$43.41

Alan Hayes	11A44573.07	\$6.00
Charles Stevens	11A155919493.09	\$21.33
Virginia Jones	11A7660.03	\$59.39
Erich Weikle	11A24539.09	\$4.65
Roger Bryant	11A156004842.01	\$16.98
John Hanes	11A155911307.04	\$24.82
	10A155911307.04	<u>\$1.46</u>
	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$531.70</b>

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Real and Personal Property Releases

(August 2011) which are more than \$100 for the Board's consideration:

**Releases (Real and Personal Property)  
More than \$100–August 2011–Per NCGS 105-381 (b)**

Amerigas Propane LP	11A73895.10	\$3,929.57	Error in entering value
Kathleen Brown	11A21530.09	\$144.50	Elderly Exemption
Lillian S Johnson	11A690213031372	\$504.92	BD Approval-Elderly Exempt
Timothy Joe Williams	11A691500675807	\$286.58	BD Approval-Elderly Exempt
Shirley/Peggy Wall	11A695503043131	\$346.16	BD Approval-Elderly Exempt
Robert/Elizabeth. Lovill	11A598700501181	\$112.10	SWMH owned by someone else
Daryl Craddock	11A155920986.04.1	<u>\$478.93</u>	Value Adjusted per appeal
	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$5,802.76</b>	

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley submitted the following Late Applications for Elderly and Disabled Exemption for 2011 for the Board's consideration:

<b>Tax Payer</b>	<b>Parcel #</b>	<b>Tax Value</b>
Minnie C. Westmoreland	6952-03-41-7168	\$95,100
Roy D. Robertson	6934-00-38-1529	\$152,600
Norma G. Campbell	6901-02-58-1127	\$99,600
Herbert/Era Jean Bohannon	6952-20-91-5443	\$119,500

Tax Administrator Oakley noted the Tax Office recommends approval for the following Late Applications for Elderly and Disabled Exemptions for 2011:

- Minnie C. Westmoreland
- Roy D. Robertson
- Norma G. Campbell
- Herbert D. Bohannon and Era Jean Bohannon

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley submitted information regarding a motor vehicle tax appeal from Ms. Rawlings:

- Bill #00V2000529744 in the amount of \$90.48
- Tax year 2000 billing covers a 1997 Toyota vehicle
- Ms. Rawlings requested Tax Administration bring her appeal before the Board to release the vehicle tax bill in the amount of \$90.48
- Her request is based upon the fact that a short time following the renewal of the tag on her car she moved to another state
- Following the renewal of the tag on the Toyota vehicle and subsequent relocation to another state, Ms. Rawlings did not contact the Tax Office to request a proration during the allowable one year period
- Tax Office is recommending the Board of Commissioners deny Ms. Rawlings's request to release Bill #00V2000529744 in the amount of \$90.48

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the following on the September 26, 2011 Consent Agenda:

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100.00
- Late Applications for Elderly and Disabled Exemption for 2011
- Motor Vehicle Appeal

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following update regarding the reduction in assessed value for the Belews Creek Generating Station for Fiscal Year 2011-12:

- Received the following information from Government/Community Relations Director Jimmy Flythe
  - Determination of each year's assessment is based upon the previous year's values
  - The reason for the large upward spike in the value for the year 2010 was the abnormal surplus stockpile of coal at the end of 2009
  - Duke Power had the same situation in 2006 which attributed to the 2007 increase in value
  - Very hard to predict what these values are going to be at the end of any given year if coal is stockpiled
- Provided the Board with a graph that showed the actual total assessed values established as the basis for Duke Energy's bills for the years 2006-2011;
  - 2006 - \$341,514,222
  - 2007 - \$352,992,878
  - 2008 - \$343,658,893
  - 2009 - \$344,912,929
  - 2010 - \$400,080,094
  - 2011 - \$384,218,175

- Provided the Board with a graph that showed an estimated 2010 and 2007 Assessed Value, assuming a normal inventory of coal. Removing the excess coal value from the years 2010 and 2007 reveals a steady true value growth for the Belews Creek Steam Station for the years 2006-2010 and a large value increase for the year 2011 attributable to the company improvements, not a coal inventory increase:
  - 2006 - \$341,514,222
  - 2007 - \$342,500,000
  - 2008 - \$343,658,893
  - 2009 - \$344,912,929
  - 2010 - \$347,000,000
  - 2011 - \$384,218,175
- The revenue budgeted from Duke Energy for the 2011-12 budget will be approximately \$120,000 less, this type of circumstance makes it difficult to budget from year to year not knowing how much coal Duke Energy has on hand
- Will possibly try to contact Duke Energy prior to budget adoption to determine if prior year's assessment had a large inventory of coal
- Actual assessment figures from the Department of Revenue are not available until after July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year
- Will continue to follow up with the Department of Revenue

Chairman Lankford expressed the Board's appreciation to County Manager Morris and Tax Administrator Jake Oakley for researching the issue. The Board expressed the importance of knowing as exact as possible revenue estimates before the adoption of the fiscal year budget.

**Proposed Resolution – Big Sweep 2011**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Resolution for the Board's consideration:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECLARING OCTOBER 2011  
AS STOKES COUNTY BIG SWEEP 2011 MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, Stokes County is rich in natural resources and beauty; and

**WHEREAS**, water is a basic and essential need for all life; and,

**WHEREAS**, trash fouls our waterways as well as our landscapes, and,

**WHEREAS**, every citizen should contribute to keeping our environment clean and healthy by working together to preserve clean water and the natural beauty of our surroundings; and,

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina Big Sweep is a statewide and global community effort to retrieve trash from North Carolina's waterways and landscapes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners**, does hereby declare **OCTOBER 2011** as **STOKES COUNTY BIG SWEEP 2011 MONTH**, and does further hereby urge every citizen to do his or her part to restore the beauty and function of our streams by volunteering to participate in the N.C. BIG SWEEP event.

Adopted this day of **September, 2011**.

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

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**J. Leon Inman – Vice Chairman**

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**Jimmy Walker – Commissioner**

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**Ronda Jones – Commissioner**

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**James D. Booth – Commissioner**

Attest:

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

The Board had no issues with the proposed resolution.

Chairman Lankford, with consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the September 26<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda.

**Request for Space – Walnut Cove EMS Station**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a request from Director Ann Watts, Forsyth Tech. (on behalf of Goodwill Industries) for space at the EMS Station in Walnut Cove:

- Current space at 904 N. Main Street in Walnut Cove provides areas for the Forsyth Small Business Resource Center/Job Link in the front of the building and EMS in the back of the building
- Available services and staff have expanded at Job Link with the recent addition of Goodwill Industries for at-risk youth
- Additional office space is needed for these services
- Goodwill would like to expand services into Stokes County and as a start, the plan is to place two (2) employees and five (5) additional computers at the Job Link
- Services will be offered to residents of Stokes who are unemployed or underemployed
- There is additional space between the Job Link and EMS, the space is currently unused by EMS on a regular basis
- Goodwill has offered to pay for the cost of renovations for the office space

- Size of the area requested by Goodwill is approximately 10 x10
- EMS Director Monty Stevens is aware of the request and has no issues with allowing Goodwill to use the space as long as they don't want any more than the original request
- The additional office space is needed to conduct confidential interviews with clients

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for discussion.

Chairman Lankford questioned if there was any funding for rent, possibly from JobLink.

Commissioner Booth stated that he wanted to make sure that the County maintains ample space for the EMS Station, questioned if the County could get the space back if needed, and if there would be a contract.

Commissioner Jones questioned if the program leans toward the disabled population.

Manager Morris noted that he would check on the rent, the targeted area for services, and renewal annual lease as long as the county doesn't need the space.

Chairman Lankford, with consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the September 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

**Proposed Easement Agreement - Duke Energy – Early College – Phase II**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed easement (Right of Way) with Duke Energy for Phase II of the Early College project:

- In order to keep the project moving, request the Board of Commissioners approve the Duke Energy Right of Way Agreement
- Proposed agreement has been approved by County Attorney Edward Powell

The Board discussed the proposed Easement Agreement and had no issues with the Agenda item.

Commissioner Booth moved to place the proposed Right of Way Agreement on today's Action Agenda. Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

Chairman Lankford directed the Clerk to place the item on today's Action Agenda.



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

### **Proposed Application – Transportation Operating Assistance Program Funds for F/Y 2011-12**

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion regarding the proposed application for the Transportation Operating Assistance Program Funds for Fiscal Year 2011-12 which was presented at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve the following:

- Allocation to YVEDDI for RGP and E&D Funding
- Allocation to DSS for Employment Funding
- Certified Statement
- Contract with YVEDDI

Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

### **Scattered Site Housing Grant – CDBG – Required Documentation Approval**

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion regarding the CDBG (Scattered Site Housing Grant) documentation presented at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve the following:

- Resolution – Stokes County Community Development Block Grant
- Attachment A – Policies, Procedures Plans, etc. for the Stokes County CDBG Program
- Analysis of Impediments
- Environmental Review

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

### **Proposed Easement Agreement –Duke Energy – Early College – Phase II**

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion regarding the proposed Easement (Right of Way) Agreement with Duke Energy for the Early College – Phase II Project which was presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Right of Way Agreement with Duke Energy at the Early College location. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

**Closed Session**

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

- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the price or other material terms of an agreement for the acquisition of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)

Commissioner Jones moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the price or other material terms of an agreement for the acquisition of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)

Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

The Board returned to the open session of the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Adjournment**

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

Vice Chairman Inman moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

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

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**Ernest Lankford**  
**Chairman**