

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
SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, September 26, 2011 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager Richard D. Morris
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins
Finance Director Julia Edwards
County Attorney Edward Powell
Economic Development Director Alan Wood

Chairman Ernest Lankford called the meeting to order.

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

- "A man's pride shall bring him low; but honor shall uphold the humble spirit"

Chairman Lankford 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.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion to approve or amend the September 26, 2011

Agenda.

September 26, 2011

[1]

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve the September 26th Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Clerk Darlene Bullins requested the Board add the following items which had been requested after the Agenda had been delivered to Board:

- Proposed Resolution – Recognition of Joseph Martin James for Achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout
- Proposed Resolution – National 4-H Week in Stokes County
- Both items were of a time sensitive nature

Vice Chairman Inman amended his motion to include the items requested by the Clerk. Commissioner Jones amended her second to the motion. The Board unanimously agreed to amend the motion to add the items to tonight's Consent Agenda.

The amended motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Russel Slate

North Stokes School Road
Danbury, NC 27016
Re: **County Assets**

Mr. Slate noted the following:

- Current member of the Economic Development Commission (EDC), which reports directly to the Board of Commissioners
- Appreciate the opportunity to speak
- Speaking tonight not as a member of the EDC, but as a Stokes County citizen
- Believe Stokes County has natural resources that other counties in the state could only dream about
- Stokes County has three main natural assets that make Stokes County unique
 - #1 and most important – people
 - People who ask how you are doing, people who always listen, and people who care how you are doing
 - People who wave when they see you and know they are not just swatting gnats
 - People who are always ready to help
 - People who are proud of their heritage

- People, when asked, can unite for the good of the County
 - #2 - Sauratown Mountains
 - Home of Hanging Rock State Park, a place where a lot of citizens can say that the Park was their first job
 - A mountain range that begins and ends within our borders
 - #3 - Majestic Dan River (dear to my heart)
 - Caught first fish in the Dan River
 - Learn to swim in the Dan River
 - 100,000+ visitors enjoy the Dan River each year
 - More access points are being added for visitors to use
- Hope that you believe that I care for this county and proud to be from Stokes County
- Thousands of people want to visit Stokes County which I believe is like a beautiful castle
- But this beautiful castle was built without bedrooms
- Time to ask what we must do to make sure visitors have somewhere to stay
- Look for the day that people can spend a night in Stokes County

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda:

Minutes

- Minutes of September 12, 2011

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #10

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #10.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.351	Main. \$ Repairs – Auto	<u>\$85,000.00</u>	<u>\$945.00</u>	<u>\$85,945.00</u>
	Totals	\$85,000.00	\$945.00	\$85,945.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds from insurance claim for damage to vehicle caused by hitting a deer.

This will result in a net increase of \$945.00 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.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3839.850	Insurance Claims	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$945.00</u>	<u>\$945.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$945.00	\$945.00

Special Appropriations/Social Services - Budget Amendment #11

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #11.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Special Appropriations			
100.4520.490	YVEDDI	\$191,077.00	\$(35,266.00)	\$155,811.00
	Social Services			
100.5310.316	DOT Travel-Transitional	<u>\$21,503.00</u>	<u>\$(1,137.00)</u>	<u>\$20,366.00</u>
	Totals	\$212,580.00	\$(36,403.00)	\$176,177.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To correct the estimated appropriation for the ROAP funding for the 2011-12 Fiscal Year.

This will result in a net decrease of \$36,403.00 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.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.263	RGP Transportation	\$161,375.00	\$(35,266.00)	\$126,109.00
100.3301.367	DOT-Work First	<u>\$21,503.00</u>	<u>\$(1,137.00)</u>	<u>\$20,366.00</u>
	Totals	\$182,878.00	\$(36,403.00)	\$146,475.00

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #12

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #12.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.260	Department Supplies	<u>\$24,824.00</u>	<u>\$692.00</u>	<u>\$25,516.00</u>
	Totals	\$24,824.00	\$692.00	\$25,516.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds to purchase Halloween Trick or Treat Bags. No county funding.

This will result in a net increase of \$692.00 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.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3839.001	Calendar Fund	<u>\$235.00</u>	<u>\$692.00</u>	<u>\$927.00</u>
	Totals	\$235.00	\$692.00	\$927.00

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #13

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #13.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.260	Department Supplies	<u>\$25,516.00</u>	<u>\$425.00</u>	<u>\$25,941.00</u>
	Totals	\$25,516.00	\$425.00	\$25,941.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds to provide a special medical examination for one (1) Narcotic Officer to be certified with the ability to identify and assist in clean up of Meth Labs. No County Funding.

This will result in a net increase of \$425.00 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.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.413	State Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$3,927.00</u>	<u>\$425.00</u>	<u>\$4,352.00</u>
	Totals	\$3,927.00	\$425.00	\$4,352.00

Contingency - Budget Amendment #14

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #14.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Contingency			
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$143,272.00</u>	<u>\$6,728.00</u>	<u>\$150,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$143,272.00	\$6,728.00	\$150,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds from sale of equipment to Contingency for the expansion of the Impoundment Lot. Budget Amendment #3 appropriated funds from Contingency for this project.

This will result in a net increase of \$6,728.00 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.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3836.820	Sale of Equipment & Buildings	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$6,728.00</u>	<u>\$11,728.00</u>
	Totals	\$5,000.00	\$6,728.00	\$11,728.00

Environmental Health - Budget Amendment #15

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #15.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Environmental Health			
100.5192.180	Professional Services	\$00.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
	Contingency			
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$143,272.00</u>	<u>\$(20,000.00)</u>	<u>\$123,272.00</u>
	Totals	\$143,272.00	\$20,000.00	\$163,272.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds for an Environmental Health Project partially funded by the State.

This will result in a net increase of \$20,000.00 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.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3833.453	Environmental Health	\$00.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
	Totals	\$00.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00

Tax Administration Report – August 2011

Real and Personal Releases more than \$100

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Real and Personal Property Releases (August 2011) which are more than \$100 at the September 12th meeting with a request for approval at the September 26th meeting:

**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
	Total Amount	\$5,802.76	

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley submitted the following Late Applications for Elderly and Disabled Exemption for 2011 at the September 12th meeting with a request for approval at the September 26th meeting:

Tax Payer	Parcel #	Tax Value
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 Jake Oakley submitted the following Motor Vehicle Appeal from Ms. Rawlings regarding a 1997 Toyota vehicle at the September 12th meeting with a request for denial at the September 26th meeting:

- Bill #00V2000529744 in the amount of \$90.48
- Tax year 2000 billing covers a 1997 Toyota vehicle

Proposed Resolution – “Big Sweep”

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Resolution –
“Big Sweep 2011 Month” at the September 12th meeting with a request for approval at the
September 26th meeting:

**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 **26th** day of **September, 2011**.

Ernest Lankford – Chairman

J. Leon Inman – Vice Chairman

Jimmy Walker – Commissioner

Ronda Jones – Commissioner

James D. Booth – Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene M. Bullins – Clerk of the Board

September 26, 2011

Proposed Resolution – National 4-H Week in Stokes County

Clerk Darlene Bullins requested approval from the Board for the following proposed Resolution – National 4-H Week in Stokes County, which was approved to be added to tonight’s Consent Agenda:

WHEREAS, 4-H youth across the nation are leading efforts to solve problems in their communities and make a difference for their futures; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is the largest youth development organization in North Carolina and the largest in the nation with over six million participants; and

WHEREAS, 4-H in North Carolina claims 218,669 youth members and 21,413 volunteers, while Stokes County’s 4-H program numbers more than 300 members and more than 30 volunteers, reaching over 3,000 youth annually; and

WHEREAS, 4-H as part of the NC Cooperative Extension System of NC State University and NCA&T State University is a program where youth learn through opportunities that provide them hands-on experiences in 4-H’s mission mandates of science, engineering and technology; healthy living; and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, 4-H has connected youth and their communities with the innovative research and resources from our nation’s 106 land-grant universities and colleges for more than 101 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners,** does hereby proclaim October 2-8, 2011, as **National 4-H Week in Stokes County** and urges the people of this community to take advantage of the opportunity to become more aware of this special program that enhances our young people’s interests in their futures as part of Stokes County 4-H Youth Development and to join us in recognizing the unique partnership between our county and our state University System.

Adopted this 26th day of September, 2011.

Ernest Lankford - Chairman

J. Leon Inman - Vice Chairman

Jimmy Walker - Commissioner

Ronda Jones - Commissioner

James D. Booth - Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene M. Bullins - Clerk to the Board

Proposed Resolution – Recognition of Joseph Martin James for Achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout

Clerk Darlene Bullins requested approval from the Board for the following proposed Resolution – Recognition of Joseph Martin James for Achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout, which was approved to be added to tonight’s Consent Agenda:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH MARTIN JAMES
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT**

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America was founded on February 8, 1910, and has been at the forefront of instilling timeless values in our youth; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America is committed to helping millions of youth succeed by providing the support, friendship, and mentoring necessary for character building, citizenship training, and personal fitness; and

WHEREAS, one of the major objectives in the Scouting Program is to develop citizenship through community involvement, and in addition to working for citizenship merit badges, Scouts are encouraged to participate in community service projects; and

WHEREAS, the highest advancement rank in Scouting is the coveted rank of Eagle Scout, in which a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service and outdoor skills; and

WHEREAS, only approximately five percent of all Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout rank; and

WHEREAS, **JOSEPH MARTIN JAMES** has distinguished himself by achieving the rank of Eagle Scout by forming a team to build an outdoor display board at Hanging Rock State Park; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor and congratulate **JOSEPH MARTIN JAMES** on his successful completion of Eagle Scout Rank.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners commends **JOSEPH MARTIN JAMES** for obtaining this level of achievement and encourages him to continue his dedicated service to the community.

Adopted this 26th day of September, 2011.

Ernest Lankford - Chairman

J. Leon Inman - Vice Chairman

Jimmy Walker - Commissioner

Ronda Jones - Commissioner

Attest:

James D. Booth - Commissioner

Darlene M. Bullins - Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Commissioner Walker noted the following:

- Concerned why Budget Amendments #10, #12 #13, were not done as Budget Memorandums by the County Manager (small amounts)
- Questioned the Environmental Health Project on Budget Amendment #15

Finance Director Julia Edwards noted that Budget Amendments #10, #12, #13 contained revenues that were being appropriated and must be approved by the Board of Commissioners.

County Manager Rick Morris noted that the Environmental Health Project will be discussed later in Closed Session and will be fully disclosed at a later date.

Commissioner Walker expressed concerns regarding approving an item before all information is known.

The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Economic Development Commission (EDC) - Update

EDC Chairman Bruce Younts presented the following EDC Quarterly Update:

- EDC continues to work with the 4 items identified by the EDC:
 - Business Retention
 - Business Recruitment
 - Entrepreneurial Activities
 - Tourism
- Business Retention
 - Internet Website development for businesses in the County
 - 80 businesses have had sites built
 - Continue to meet with businesses to provide additional training to maintain and enhance their websites
 - “Buy Local” Campaign
 - First revealed in September 2011

- Ads and editorials are being placed monthly in Stokes News
 - “Buy Local” Campaign designed to capture some of the estimated \$400 million being spent outside of Stokes County which would increase sales tax revenue for the County
 - Campaign is designed to educate the public
 - 2012 Business Extravaganza which is scheduled for January 19, 2012
- Business Recruitment
 - Director Wood continues to list industrial sites
 - Director Wood continues to network with the Economic Development Community including the Piedmont Triad Partnership and is taking a leadership role assisting the marketing of the counties in the Partnership
 - Continues to market Stokes County
- Entrepreneurial Activities
 - Recent meeting with CenturyLink who have committed to spending \$1.6 million for broadband to the unserved and underserved areas in Stokes County this fiscal year (mainly Walnut Cove and Sandy Ridge areas)
 - Looking for locations in the unserved areas to set up “hot spots”, a place where citizens can go and log on to high speed internet and possibly use a computer placed at the location
 - Continue to support Piedmont Local Foods who predicts estimated sales of \$85,000 this year
- Tourism
 - New Tourism website received 73,000 hits in July 2011 and 88,000 hits in August 2011
 - People are interested in Stokes County
 - EDC continues to support the increased usage of Dan River, looking to increase signage and access points along the river
 - EDC continues to support the renovation efforts of the former Art Market in Danbury, which will house a Visitor’s Center
 - Currently working on lodging for Stokes County
 - Looking at the ability to put small cabins around the county with a central booking system
 - Have met with county departments to look at streamlining the permit process
 - Meeting has been scheduled with property owners who currently rent cabins, rooms, etc. to discuss the pros and cons along with receiving input from those who might be interested in starting a rental business
- Appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Board of Commissioners
- EDC continues to support Economic Development in Stokes County

Chairman Lankford expressed the Board’s appreciation for the update.

Commissioner Walker questioned if there were any interested parties in the vacant facility in the Westfield area.

ED Director Wood noted the following:

- Facility has been put in the Duke Energy Readiness Program
- Have been contacting brokers about the facility
- Very good facility but has challenges such as the location and low ceiling heights, most companies now require at least 25 ft ceiling heights for storage
- No current leads at this time
- The company previously looking at the facility landed in Pilot Mountain

EDC Chairman Younts noted that by the number of hits on the website, people are wanting to come to Stokes County, but Stokes County needs the beds for visitors to stay.

Update – Manager and Board of Commissioners

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for comments.

County Manager

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following:

- School construction loans closed on September 22nd with no issues
- EMS Paramedic competition will be held on Sunday, October 2nd in Greensboro, Stokes County has a team participating in the event

Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that the interest rate for the school loans closed at 0.59% along with the interest rate for the land for the new elementary school dropping to 3.94%. Finance Director Edwards also confirmed the county's financial model had been calculated using a 1% interest rate for the school construction loans.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that the financial model had been calculated using 14 years for repayment, the loan closed with 17 years repayment.

Commissioner Walker noted the following:

- Had listened to the tape of the previous meeting (absent from the 9-12 meeting)
- Heard and read the comments from Sheriff Marshall and felt he responded very well to the public comments
- Would like to commend those involved in the Big Sweep

- Recently attended a Forsyth Tech Advisory meeting along with Vice Chairman Inman and County Manager Morris which had discussion regarding what will be needed at the new proposed facility
- Manager Morris confirmed at the Forsyth Tech Advisory meeting that there would be funds available for the new facility

Vice Chairman Inman noted the following:

- Referred to a recent article in the Winston Journal regarding the financial status of CenterPoint Human Services
- CenterPoint Human Services was turned down for the waiver, CenterPoint has hired a consultation and will be reapplying for the waiver
- The CenterPoint Board of Directors approved a salary increase along with a bonus for the director, with Inman being the only Board member that voted against the increase
- Appears that PART will run out of funding before the end of the fiscal year without some sort of financial boost, some fares have been increased along with elimination of some routes but auditors confirmed that the only way for PART to survive is to have a \$5 car tax increase from the counties involved
- As a PART Board member will not support a car tax increase unless directed by the Board of Commissioners, would suggest that the county withdraw from PART if a car tax is imposed
- PART has approached the Piedmont Triad Regional Council regarding a possible merger
- PART will be meeting again in two weeks for further discussion

Commissioner Jones noted the following:

- Very busy month
- Helped at the Stomp supporting “Buy Local” Campaign
- Name for the new elementary school – “Popular Springs Elementary School” has been approved by the Board of Education
- Assisted the EDC at the Stokes Fair
- Went to the Utilities Pipeline Lunch –very educational
- Very good initiatives continuing with the Tourism Initiative

Chairman Lankford noted the following:

- At the last meeting of the NCACC Insurance Pool, it was estimated the cost of property damages for Hurricane Irene will be approximately \$2.5 million for the Pool, reinsurance will take over after that
- Currently have 60 counties in worker’s compensation and liability insurance

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Proposed Lease Renewal – ATM Location – Government Center Complex

Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a request from the State Employees' Credit Union:

- State Employees' Credit Union wishes to exercise the next one-year renewal option on the ATM located in the upper parking lot of the Government Center Complex
- In accordance with the terms of the original lease agreement, monthly rental payments will remain rent free for the lease term beginning 01-01-12 and ending 12/31/2012
- ATM serves county and state employees along with court system customers

The Board had no issues with the Agenda item.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 10th Action Agenda.

Proposed Sewer Project – Pilot View Resource, Conservation & Development

Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed Sewer Project from Danbury to the Early College/Meadows area:

- Currently working to extend sewer to the Early College/Meadows area
- Estimated \$2 million dollar project
- Recently attended a meeting at the Rural System presenting the proposed project, received feedback that in order to obtain grants, jobs must be guaranteed
- Commissioner Booth and I met with a representative from Pilot View RC&D to discuss the proposed sewer project to see if the project meets their criteria
- Pilot View RC&D seems to have a unique approach in obtaining grants and a lot of expertise in leveraging grants to receive maximum funding
- Would request approval to proceed with submitting an application to Pilot View which is due by October 1st, the application would allow the County to present the proposed sewer project to the Pilot View Board of Directors on October 25th for acceptance
- Pilot View would act as a third party contractor such as the Scattered Site Housing Grant
- If not selected, this would not limit the County from continuing to seek individual grants for the proposed sewer project
- Would request the item be moved to tonight's Action Agenda

Vice Chairman Inman noted the following:

- Fully supports proceeding with Pilot View
- Reiterated the need for the stand alone Forsyth Tech facility in Stokes County
- Extending sewer would offer a wonderful economic development opportunity in the area
- Very disappointed with the Gold Leaf Foundation which has not provided any funding for the county

Commissioner Jones concurred with the comments presented by Vice Chairman Inman.

Commissioner Walker noted the following:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the County's sewer packaging plant is currently operating at 15% capacity and has plenty of capacity for the proposed community college facility and the Meadows area
- Have had discussions with members of the Pilot View Board on occasion and have the feeling that Pilot View is ready to assist in the County if possible
- Questioned if the County has had any contact with the Gold Leaf Foundation regarding the current proposed sewer project
- Confirmed with Vice Chairman Inman that the County had not received any funding from Gold Leaf Foundation
- Suggested possibly looking at private support, Forsyth Tech., area businesses, etc. for possible funding for the proposed sewer project

Manager Morris responded that Gold Leaf representatives were at the Rural Center presentation.

Commissioner Booth noted the following:

- Pilot View RC&D will look at all available sources for funding
- Pilot View RC&D has successfully completed projects in surrounding counties
- Didn't realize until a recent Southeastern meeting that Pilot View RC&D did sewer, currently doing a sewer project in Surry County
- Feels there is no disadvantage in pursuing the grant application with Pilot View RC&D
- Supports moving forward with the grant application and moving the item to tonight's Action Agenda
- Background information – 10 RC&Ds in the state and approximately 360 in the nation, nonprofit with no federal funding, Pilot RC&D is the strongest in the state representing seven counties

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that there were no issues with completing an application by October 1st.

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion regarding moving the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to add the item to tonight's Action Agenda. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Job Vacancy

Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a request from DSS Director Kristy Preston:

- Community Case Manager's vacancy was posted internally for one week per county guidelines
- Only one applicant applied and did not meet requirements
- Would request to post externally

The Board had no issues with the item.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 10th Action Agenda.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Request for Space at the Walnut Cove EMS Station – Goodwill Industries

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for any further information.

Vice Chairman Inman moved to approve the request from Goodwill Industries for space at the Walnut Cove EMS.

Manager Morris noted that he had additional information that he would like to provide to the Board.

Vice Chairman Inman withdrew his motion.

Manager Rick Morris presented the following additional information:

- Have been working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Forsyth Tech and Goodwill Industries regarding the issues presented at the September 12th meeting

- Would like to present a draft MOU for the Board's discussion and consideration at the October 10th meeting – Discussion Agenda with an option to move the item to the Action Agenda
- Confirmed with Director Ann Watts, Forsyth Tech – program is aimed at seeking employment for anyone, there would be an issue in paying rent according to the grant, can put annual renewals in the MOU
- There will be no impact to the Forsyth Tech facility in Walnut Cove once the new facility is built at Meadows
- Reiterated that any improvements made to the County's facility will be left if Goodwill vacates the facility

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 10th Action Agenda.

Proposed Sewer Project – Pilot View Resource, Conservation & Development

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion.

Commissioner Walker moved to approve the manager proceed with making an application to the Pilot View RC&D regarding sewer extension to the Early College and Meadows area.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Booth noted that the Soil and Water Board of Supervisors has approved to provide the County with a letter of support to be included with the application.

Closed Session

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

- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6)
- 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)

- 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 pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3)

Commissioner Jones moved to enter into Closed Session for the following:

- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6)
- 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)
- 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 pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3)

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reentered the regular session of the September 26th meeting.

Health Department – Salary Request

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Health Director's recommendation to hire a Public Health Supervisor at a starting salary of \$52,493.

Vice Chairman Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Land Acquisition – Southwestern Service Center

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion.

Commissioner Booth moved to purchase adjoining land at the Southwestern Service Center from HPS Developers for the amount of \$1560.

Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Other Meetings:

Clerk Darlene Bullins noted the following:

- BOCC Planning meeting scheduled for October 2nd has been cancelled due to a request for additional information from the Stokes County Planning Board
- A recommendation will be presented at the BOCC December Planning Meeting
- League of Government Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6th at 6:30 pm – Third Floor Conference Room – Stokes County Host

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 unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Ernest Lankford
Chairman