

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 8, 2013

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, April 8, 2013 at 1:30 pm with the following members present:

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

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

Chairman Ernest Lankford called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

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

- "God will give to each person according to what he has done"

Commissioner 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.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion to approve or amend the April 8, 2013 Agenda.

County Manager Rick Morris requested to add the following item to the Consent or
April 8, 2013

Discussion Agenda:

- Staff was notified on Friday, April 5th by Health Director Scott Lenhart that his Nurse Practitioner, who is currently on Family Medical Leave, resigned
- This position, which generates revenue for the Health Department, is a very critical position
- Request approval for Director Lenhart to advertise externally in order to fill the position as soon as possible

County Manager Rick Morris also requested the Board delete the Closed Session for today, items scheduled for discussion were not ready.

The Board had no issues adding Manager Morris' request to today's Consent Agenda and deleting the Closed Session from today's Agenda.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the April 8th Agenda as amended.

Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for comments from the Board and the County Manager.

Manager Rick Morris presented the following comments:

- No comments

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Enjoyed speaking at the Lawsonville Dare Graduation today
- Stokes Future will start their farmer's market on May 3rd on the front lawn at Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes (2:00 pm to 6:00 pm)

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Attended the NCACC's District Meeting in Asheboro on Wednesday, April 3rd with Chairman Lankford, Vice Chairman Booth, and Commissioner Jones
- Very informative meeting
- Very pleased that Representative Bryan Holloway has introduced a bill to try to restore Article 44 (Hold Harmless Revenue) for Stokes County and others
- Is looking favorable in the House with possible opposition in the Senate

Chairman Lankford commented:

- A representative from Congressman Howard Coble's office will start the following schedule in Stokes County beginning April 2013

- Second Wednesday of each month – King City Hall (April 10, 2013)
- Fourth Wednesday of each month – Ronald W. Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building) (April 24, 2013)
- This will be a time that citizens can speak one on one to a representative from Congressman Coble's office
- Congressman Coble sent a letter to the US Department of Commerce in support of the County's application for grant funding for the Water and Sewer Project

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Attended the Lawsonville Dare Graduation today
- Commissioner Jones did a very good job speaking to the graduates

Commissioner Walker commented:

- No comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

Jay Young and Kate Dixon, Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail, who had signed up to speak, deferred speaking until the discussion of the Seven Island Bridge.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Minutes

- Minutes of March 25, 2013 – Regular Meeting

Emergency Management - Budget Amendment #76

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #76.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Emergency Management			
100.4330.510	Equipment	<u>\$44,257.00</u>	<u>\$37,778.00</u>	<u>\$82,035.00</u>
	Totals	\$44,257.00	\$37,778.00	\$82,035.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds from Emergency Management Grant to purchase two (2) message signs.

April 8, 2013

This will result in a net increase of \$37,778.00 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
100.3301.262	Emergency Management	<u>\$77,006.00</u>	<u>\$37,778.00</u>	<u>\$114,784.00</u>
	Totals	\$77,006.00	\$37,778.00	\$114,784.00

Economic Development - Budget Amendment #77

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #77.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Economic Development			
100.4920.184	Professional Services-Grant	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$96,000.00</u>	<u>\$96,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$96,000.00	\$96,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds from a Rural Center Grant for DM Squared Building Reuse Grant.

This will result in a net increase of \$96,000.00 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
100.3301.264	Rural Economic Dev. Grant	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$96,000.00</u>	<u>\$96,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$96,000.00	\$96,000.00

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #78

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #78.

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				
100.4310.510	Equipment	<u>\$223,606.00</u>	<u>\$13,814.00</u>	<u>\$237,420.00</u>
	Totals	\$223,606.00	\$13,814.00	\$237,420.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate insurance claim funds for total loss of vehicle.

This will result in a net increase of \$13,814.00 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>\$22,855.00</u>	<u>\$13,814.00</u>	<u>\$36,669.00</u>
	Totals	\$22,855.00	\$13,814.00	\$36,669.00

Environmental Health Department - Budget Amendment #79

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #79.

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				
100.5192.260	Departmental Supplies	<u>\$5,400.00</u>	<u>\$3,252.00</u>	<u>\$8,652.00</u>
	Totals	\$5,400.00	\$3,252.00	\$8,652.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

Food and Lodging Program is receiving additional funding in the amount of \$3,252.00 for completing required inspections. These funds will be used to purchase needed supplies for the Food and Lodging Program. Environmental Health will also be collaborating with Cooperative Extension to help purchase Serve Safe supplies for required training classes on food handling procedures for local establishments.

This will result in a net increase of \$3,252.00 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2013.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.234	Food & Lodging	<u>\$750.00</u>	<u>\$3,252.00</u>	<u>\$4,002.00</u>
	Totals	\$750.00	\$3,252.00	\$4,002.00

Health Department - Budget Amendment #80

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #80.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Health Department			
100.5100.180	Professional Services	\$61,224.00	\$4,200.00	\$65,424.00
100.5100.260	Departmental Supplies	\$5,875.00	\$3,980.00	\$9,855.00
100.5100.511	Non Capital Equipment	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$4,300.00</u>	<u>\$4,300.00</u>
	Totals	\$67,099.00	\$12,480.00	\$79,579.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The Health Promotion Program is receiving additional funding in the amount of \$12,480.00. This funding can be used in three different areas. Health Department would like to purchase two computers (one for Health Education and one for the Diabetes Program). Funds will also be used for Professional Services in the Diabetic Program and the WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program along with purchasing supplies for the Breastfeeding and Health Education Programs for educational purposes.

This will result in a net increase of \$12,480.00 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2013.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.237	Health Promotion	<u>\$9,199.00</u>	<u>\$12,480.00</u>	<u>\$21,679.00</u>
	Totals	\$9,199.00	\$12,480.00	\$21,679.00

Environmental Health Department- Budget Amendment #81

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #81.

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			
100.5192.000	Salaries and Wages	\$170,138.00	\$1,500.00	\$171,638.00
100.5192.260	Departmental Supplies	\$5,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$7,400.00
100.5192.311	Employee Training	<u>\$1,200.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$1,700.00</u>
	Totals	\$176,738.00	\$4,000.00	\$180,738.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The Environmental Health Program was originally told by the State of NC that they would not be receiving any state funding; however, funds were provided by NCDENR again this year. These funds will be used for salaries, purchasing of well test kits needed due to fracking, and for a training class for the Environmental Health Staff to complete required CEU's.

This will result in a net increase of \$4,000.00 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2013.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.246	Environmental Health	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00

Health Department - Budget Amendment #82

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #82.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Health Department			
100.5100.180	Professional Services	<u>\$61,224.00</u>	<u>\$4,400.00</u>	<u>\$65,624.00</u>
	Totals	\$61,224.00	\$4,400.00	\$65,624.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Program is receiving an additional funding of \$4,400.00 for assisting qualified residents of the county who are in the need of mammographic screening services and are unable to pay for these services.

This will result in a net increase of \$4,400.00 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2013.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.240	Breast & Cervical Cancer	<u>\$15,460.00</u>	<u>\$4,400.00</u>	<u>\$19,860.00</u>
	Totals	\$15,460.00	\$4,400.00	\$19,860.00

Emergency Medical Services - Budget Amendment #83

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #83.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Emergency Medical Services			
100.4370.510	Equipment	\$190,995.00	\$(5,594.00)	\$185,401.00
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.510	Equipment	<u>\$223,606.00</u>	<u>\$5,594.00</u>	<u>\$229,200.00</u>
	Totals	\$414,601.00	\$00.00	\$414,601.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from loan proceeds for equipment purchases for EMS and Sheriff's Departments. This adjustment is necessary to accurately account for the equipment purchases in each department.

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.

Proposed Proclamation – National Public Safety Telecommunication Week

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunication Week (April 14-20, 2013) for the Board's consideration:

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK

April 14-20, 2013

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at anytime that require police, fire or emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our police officers and firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Stokes County Emergency Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our police officers, firefighters, and paramedics by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators of the Stokes County Emergency Communications Center have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients; and

WHEREAS, each dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina declares the week of April 14th through the 20th, 2013 to be **National Public Safety Telecommunications Week** in the County of Stokes, North Carolina in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our County citizens safe.

Adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners this 8th day April, 2013.

Ernest Lankford – Chairman

James D. Booth – Vice Chairman

J. Leon Inman – Commissioner

Jimmy Walker – Commissioner

Ronda Jones – Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene M. Bullins – Clerk of the Board

Health Department – External Posting

County Manager Rick Morris added the following request from Health Director Scott Lenhart to today's Consent Agenda for approval by the Board of Commissioners:

- External Posting for Physician Extender – Nurse Practitioner resigned on Friday, April 5th

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended at today's meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Economic Development Commission Update

Chairman Sam Hill presented the following Economic Development Commission (EDC) update:

- Economic Development Commission (EDC) has continued with a four-prong approach towards economic development in Stokes County:
 - Business Retention/Expansion
 - Business Industry Recruitment
 - Support of Entrepreneurial Activities
 - Tourism Development
- These priorities are examined each year by the Commission to determine the results of each category and what the emphasis should be for the upcoming year
- 2013 Highlights
 - Successful planning and completion of the annual Business Extravaganza held at YMCA Camp Hanes on January 18, 2013
 - 57 booths manned by local businesses and non profits
 - Approximately 260+ attendees
 - Event grew 30% over the previous year
 - Continuation of building websites for local businesses and hold training seminars during the past two and a half years
 - Approximately 100+ local businesses have been impacted by these efforts
 - Many have continued to develop their sites and refine their efforts to improve their web base marketing
 - These efforts will be further enhanced with two seminars in June that will focus on social networking and why it is important for rural business
 - Two counties have requested information regarding this program – Wilkes and Alleghany Counties with Google picking up on the idea
 - Increasing contact with local realtors to identify sites for commercial and retail growth along with working with realtors to promote Stokes County

- Working to develop better partnerships with Forsyth Tech and enhance efforts to assist entrepreneurs which has led to two workshops scheduled for May 6th and 7th; workshops should help identify local entrepreneurs and create a better pathway to assist them in their efforts to establish new businesses in Stokes County
- Establishment of a team of local tourism businesses and have implemented the first concerned effort to promote Stokes County as a tourism designation; multiple prong marketing plan that covers print, radio, and web base marketing, as well as, attendance at selective festivals across western and central North Carolina
 - Campaign is leveraging marketing funds from the EDC budget and developing a much larger impact than could be accomplished by any of individuals acting on their own
 - Estimated impact of the campaign is over \$150,000 of publicity for a total cost of only \$40,000
- Next review of the EDC's priorities is scheduled for April 17th which will be facilitated by Mark Wells, Director of the Business/Technology Center in Rockingham County
 - Director Wells will lead an explanation of the EDC's stated goals with the intent of fine tuning the efforts of the EDC both short and long term
- Read the following from the International Economic Development Commission which supports the EDC's efforts especially with Entrepreneurial Activities:
 - "Small businesses don't only generate new jobs; they also add to the diversity and stability of local economies and circulate more wealth within their communities. The recession shifted many Economic Development Offices' efforts from business attraction to nurturing small businesses and the focus of many individuals from finding a job to working for themselves. These efforts have the potential to reinvigorate local economies hungry for a new source of prosperity, but someone must lead. New business failure rates are high even in the best of times, entrepreneurs need to be connected with resources and networking opportunities that can help them succeed which makes it more important than ever to develop an entrepreneurial support system that can foster the success of local businesses."
 - My synopsis to that statement is "don't put all your eggs in one basket"
- Thanked the Board for their time and support

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Seven Island Bridge - Ownership

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for further discussion regarding the Seven Island Bridge.

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the Seven Island Bridge which was on the March 25th Information Agenda:

- The County can insure the bridge if ownership is taken by the County
- Premiums would not increase unless there were claims involving the bridge

- Discussed the bridge being placed over the Dan River at Moratock Park with NCDOT representatives who provided the following comments:
 - Would be a substantial project with a minimum cost of \$500,000 with probably a lot more
 - Sealed drawings would have to be obtained from a certified engineer for both bridge design (converting the vehicle bridge to a pedestrian bridge) and how it would be placed across the river
 - Bridge has no floor
 - Would require pilings in order to place the bridge over the river
 - Would have to hire someone to set the bridge across the river
 - Very extensive permitting from the Core of Engineers, DEHNR and Office of Water Quality
- If the County takes ownership, there would have to be a firm agreement with details of the timeframe, what happens at the end of the timeframe if there is no project, who takes over the bridge at the end of the timeframe, etc.
- Would not leave the agreement opened ended
- One legal issue to be looked into further is the following from County Attorney Ed Powell regarding:
 - Is this a governmental function?
 - Waiving government immunity?
- Manager Morris provided Board members with information from Attorney Powell regarding government immunity for their review
- Would need to make sure this is a governmental function
- Will research governmental function
- Provided the agreements from Town of Danbury regarding the ownership of the Seven Island Bridge and the Mabes for their review

Mr. Jay Young, Board member for the Friends to Mountain Sea Trail, presented the following comments:

- Since the March 25th Board meeting, a structural engineer reviewed the bridge and a potential site at Moratock Park
- The structural engineer's initial assessment was that the bridge was in excellent structural condition and would be more than adequate for a pedestrian bridge
- The bridge's side railings are stored in another location which could be reattached
- There is no decking, but would be relatively easy, per the structural engineer, to attach a wood decking for a pedestrian bridge
- Continuing to talk with other folks who are very interested in this project
- Several feel this project will be very positive for tourism in Stokes County and very beneficial for the Stokes Stomp
- Stokes County has become a recreational designation for folks interested in paddling/tubing on the river, Hanging Rock State Park, hiking, biking trails, etc.
- This bridge, being a link in the Mountain to Sea Trail, is just one more component for tourism
- Feels it will bring visitors and revenue to Stokes County

- Continue to talk to organizations who are also interested in this project

Ms. Kate Dixon, Executive Director for the Friends to Mountain Sea Trail, presented the following comments:

- Would like to thank the Board for their interest in this project
- One of the main functions of the Mountain to Sea Trail Organization is to provide volunteers who help create, build, and maintain trails
- Mountain to Sea Trail Organization also provides information about the trails
- Mountain to Sea Trail starts in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park and ends in Jockey's Ridge State Park, 950 miles across North Carolina with 550 miles being trails
- Mountain to Sea Trail continues to work very hard to develop more trails
- Feels if the bridge were placed across the Dan River at Moratock Park, this area would start seeing a lot more traffic
- Very excited about this project
- Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail has started helping to manage bridge projects across the state
- Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail is not a land managing organization, it does not own land, does not own bridges, etc.
- Similar project was recently done in Durham County, Falls Lake, 110ft bridge was placed over a creek
- This project at Falls Lake was similar, but the bridge had to be purchased and the entire project cost was approximately \$200,000
- Coordinated raising the funding for the project with $\frac{3}{4}$ coming from State Parks and $\frac{1}{4}$ coming from Durham County
- Would be very interested in helping to raise the funding

Commissioner Jones commented:

- No questions, just very excited about the project
- Very glad the Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail are involved
- Appreciate any assistance the Friends to the Mountain to Sea Trail could provide to the County
- Would like to see the bridge up now

Commissioners Inman commented:

- No questions
- Very glad to see the Mountain to Sea Trail Organization stepping up to the plate, without them, do not think the bridge would have a chance
- Feels there might be a chance to see the project completed

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Questioned if the Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail would be coordinating all the needed fundraising to complete the project?

Ms. Dixon responded:

- Definitely see the organization helping to take a look at the fundraising

Mr. Young responded:

- Have already started talking with individuals about fundraising along with in-kind services being provided to help with relocating the bridge and placing the bridge across the river

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Questioned Manager Morris what would happen at the end of two years if there was no project?

Manager Morris responded:

- The agreement would have to be detailed with what would happen at the end of the two-year period

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Questioned why the Town of Danbury, who currently has ownership of the bridge, does not want to continue for the additional two years?
- Questioned if the structural engineer gave any estimates regarding cost?

Mr. Young responded:

- To my knowledge, there has always been a large response to saving the bridge
- I have had no involvement until I was recently contacted by Jane Priddy-Charleville
- Feels if an organization like Friends of the Mountain Sea Trail had been involved from the beginning, there probably would be a different story right now and the bridge may even be across the Dan River
- Structural engineer was primarily looking only at the structural standpoint
- Structural engineer has not submitted a final written report

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Agree with Commissioner Jones, want to see the bridge up now
- Wonderful idea and nice investment in the future
- Believe it will add to tourism and add to recreational activities
- The project would preserve history
- Not many places left where there is still that kind of old style bridge left
- Hearing from the Mountain to Sea Trail representatives that they believe this project can be done
- Not hearing any negative information that indicates this is not a doable project

Ms. Dixon responded:

- The structural engineer, who looked over the bridge, has worked with the Mountain to Sea Trail Organization many times
- A hydrologist has been asked to provide preliminary information regarding what would be required to make this project work

- All preliminary information indicates no issues, but there is additional information that needs to be done to see if the project is feasible
- There still many questions that need to be answered, for example: FEMA Flood Plan
- Initial advice is go ahead with the preliminary work to see if the project is feasible, it is worth the effort

Mr. Young responded:

- One of the Mountain to Sea Trail Board members works for DEHNR in Winston Salem (Water Quality) who is very familiar with the permitting project
- With the people I have spoken to, all feel it is a doable project
- Will not happen overnight, permitting will take time
- Feels the two-year period will provide ample time to do the preliminary work to see if it is a worthwhile project

Commissioner Walker continued:

- What are the next steps and when will they happen?

Ms. Dixon responded:

- Next step would need to hire a hydrologist and engineer to do a feasible assessment to see if it is a viable project along with starting with some of the permitting
- Will be happy to find out a dollar amount for the preliminary costs
- At the end of the feasible study, you will then know if the project is feasible
- Would have to find the funding to do the feasibility study
- The Board would need to decide if they would take ownership
- Would be happy to get a quote, estimate possibly being \$20,000

County Manager Morris questioned if there was a firm date that the bridge could stay at the current location?

Ms. Priddy-Charleville responded:

- Ms. Mabe has indicated that the bridge can remain on the property for two additional years to look into a project
- Don't think it is firm, feels it could be extended as long as there is progress being made

Chairman Lankford commented:

- Questioned if the next step should be getting a committee formed regarding the Seven Island Bridge?

Mr. Young responded:

- For the most part, the committee is loosely organized
- Have spoken to Jane Priddy-Charleville about organizing the committee once the decision about the ownership is made
- Reluctant to form a committee until a decision was made about the ownership
- The Town must receive a written proposal about the bridge from the committee at their April 24th meeting

- Need to know what the county's position is before going forward
- If the county does take ownership, one of the next steps would be to formally form a committee pulling all the players together

Chairman Lankford continued:

- Feels like other Board members, it would be a good thing for Stokes County
- Just want to make sure there is a clear understand that once this task is taken on, that a committee will be in charge of the entire project, from start to finish, and raising all the needed funding

Mr. Young responded:

- Feels this could be accomplished with Mountain to Sea Trail becoming the project manager as they have done across the state
- Mountain to Sea Trail has experience from several projects across the state being their project manager

Ms. Dixon responded:

- Suggest the first step be finding the cost of the preliminary work because it is very hard to estimate the project when there are no cost to associate with the project
- Preliminary work will answer the question "Can it be done?" and then the group can go forward
- Will contact engineers tomorrow to get a cost estimate

Chairman Lankford continued:

- Do not think there is any resistance and that it would be a good thing to tie the trail and park together
- But we know that funding must be done through a voluntary basis, grants, etc. anything other than county tax dollars

Ms. Dixon responded:

- Would like to provide the Board with a cost estimate for the preliminary work
- State parks used funding from Recreational Trails Program and Parks/Recreation Trust Fund
- In all the other projects which the Mountain to Sea Trail was involved, at least 75% came from state funding along with local funding and/or private contributions
- The Board will need to decide if local funding is an option
- Would like to get the cost estimate and then discuss funding based on the cost estimate

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Just an observation, feels that everyone here has an interest in seeing this project happen, but based on the comments heard along with the manager's comments, would recommend having it back on the Discussion Agenda at the next meeting
- Would like for the manager to get legal questions answered from the county attorney
- Would like for the Mountain to Sea Trail to have estimates for the April 22nd meeting
- This would allow the Board to make a decision before the Town of Danbury's deadline of April 24th

Vice Chairman Booth requested the manager find out if the current landowners would allow the bridge to remain on the property more than two years if needed. Vice Chairman Booth noted the need to know if there could be an extension to the two years in case the project is underway and not finished.

Manager Morris questioned if there was an easement on the other side of the river (non county property) where the bridge is being considered to be placed.

Mr. Young responded:

- Thought the county owned both sides

Ms. Priddy-Charleville responded:

- There is still a road down to where there was an old bridge
- Not sure if there is a piece of property that may be owned by Lenora Smith
- Town of Danbury could still own road easement to the river
- Will have to verify this information

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the April 22nd Discussion Agenda.

Chairman Lankford express the Board's appreciation to those in attendance today for the Agenda item.

Tax Administration Report – March 2013

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following informational data for the March Report:

Fiscal Year 2012-13	Budget Amt	Collected Amt	Over Budget	Under Budget
County Regular & Motor Vehicles	\$20,861,260.00	\$20,153,080.57		\$708,179.43
New Schools F-Tech Fund	\$1,390,751.00	\$1,345,477.36		\$45,273.64
Prior Taxes				
1994-2011 Tax Years				
County Regular & Motor Vehicles	\$675,000.00	\$716,777.86	\$41,777.86	
EMS Current Collections				
Total Collected				
(03-01-13/03-31-13)	\$209,322.31			

Total Collected	
(07-01-12/06-30-13)	\$904,310.47

Delinquent EMS Collection

Report

Total Collected

(03-01-13/03-31-13) \$21,519.27

(07-01-12/06-30-13) \$131,178.49

Personal Property Discovery Report

Audit Dates	# of Accts	Total	Taxes Due
03-01-13/03-31-13	12	\$30,488.00	\$266.33
07-01-12/06-30-13	1,515	\$10,977,906.00	\$95,906.25

**Business Personal Property Discovery
Report**

Audit Dates	# of Accts	Total Value	Taxes Due
03-01-13/03-31-13	0	\$00.00	\$00.00
07-01-12/06-30-13	0	\$00.00	\$00.00

**Motor Vehicle Release
Report**

Audit Dates	Accounts	Total Value
03-01-13/03-31-13	29	\$1,176.29

**Motor Vehicle Refund
Report**

Audit Dates	Accounts	Total Value
03-01-13/03-31-13	0	\$00.00
Number billed for March 2013	3344	

Garnishment Totals

Month	Total Accounts	Original Levy Amt	Collected Amt
03-01-13/03-31-13	150	\$30,374.75	\$25,288.91
F/Year 2012-13			
(07-1-12/6-30-13)	1,101	\$300,095.19	\$258,787.28

Interstate Collection Report

March 2013	Collection	Total Collected
Cumulative Total Collected to Date	NC Debt Setoff	\$142,071.50
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Motor Vehicles	\$90,700.97
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Property Taxes	\$23,693.53
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	EMS	<u>\$144,341.96</u>
Collected (to date)	All Categories	\$258,736.46

Monthly Delinquent Tax Collection Report

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Monthly Delinquent Tax Collection Report for March 2013:

<u>County</u>	<u>Real/Personal</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>2013</u>			
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Writeoffs	Payments	Ending Balance
2011	\$ 301,044.31	\$(37.30)	\$37.30	\$158.29	\$ (0.82)	\$(17,157.82)	\$ 284,043.96
2010	\$ 144,721.42	\$(37.30)	\$37.30			\$ (6,307.34)	\$ 138,414.08
2009	\$ 89,378.02	\$(37.06)	\$37.06			\$ (3,074.89)	\$ 86,303.13
2008	\$ 47,761.24	\$(33.51)	\$33.51			\$ (2,016.50)	\$ 45,744.74
2007	\$ 27,496.57					\$ (604.31)	\$ 26,892.43
2006	\$ 18,623.02					\$ (375.80)	\$ 18,247.22
2005	\$ 13,972.21					\$ (713.44)	\$ 13,258.77
2004	\$ 13,516.33					\$ (28.50)	\$ 13,487.83
2003	\$ 9,885.52						\$ 9,885.52
2002	\$ 8,104.76						\$ 8,104.76
2001	\$ 5,808.66						\$ 5,808.66
2000	\$ 7,570.11						\$ 7,570.11
1999	\$ 7,962.76						\$ 7,962.76
1998	\$ 585.50						\$ 585.50

<u>County</u>	<u>Motor</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>2013</u>			
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Writeoffs	Payments	Ending Balance
2011	\$ 59,248.22				\$ (1.22)	\$(12,575.36)	\$ 46,671.64
2010	\$ 33,529.00					\$ (794.10)	\$ 32,734.90
2009	\$ 24,005.63				\$ (0.13)	\$ (66.30)	\$ 23,939.20
2008	\$ 22,015.98		\$120.68	\$(120.68)		\$ (182.51)	\$ 21,833.47
2007	\$ 18,660.55					\$ (49.56)	\$ 18,610.99
2006	\$ 13,280.49					\$ (95.73)	\$ 13,184.76
2005	\$ 16,108.01					\$ (136.37)	\$ 15,971.64
2004	\$ 14,365.07					\$ (107.53)	\$ 14,257.54
2003	\$ 14,424.88					\$ (135.06)	\$ 14,289.82
2002	\$ 17,100.42					\$ (60.52)	\$ 17,039.90
2001	\$ 14,810.66					\$ (139.25)	\$ 14,671.41
2000	\$ 18,592.98						\$ 18,592.98
1999	\$ 16,483.15					\$ (24.80)	\$ 16,458.35
1998	\$ 16,540.23						\$ 16,540.23

<u>New</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Forsyth</u>	<u>Tech</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>2013</u>	
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Writeoffs	Payments	Ending Balance
2011	\$ 22,333.38	\$ (2.49)	\$ 2.49	\$10.55	\$ (0.10)	\$(1,903.33)	\$ 20,440.50

Releases less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (March 2013) for the Board’s review:

**Releases less than
\$100 - Real/Personal
Property**

March 2013

Name	Bill Number	Amount
Ronald Yates	13A155904870.09.1	\$2.54
Gloria Hairston	12A33817.01	<u>\$44.96</u>
	Total Amount	\$47.50

Refund Less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refund less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (March 2013) for the Board’s review:

**Refund more than
\$100 - Real/Personal
Property**

March 2013

Name	Bill Number	Amount
Gloria Hairston	11A33817.01	\$43.83
	10A33817.01	\$41.34
	09A33817.01	\$41.08
	08A33817.01	<u>\$37.14</u>
	Total Amount	\$163.39*

*Refund for Gloria Hairston will be applied to account #33817

Tax Administrator Oakley noted there were no items that needed to be placed on the April 22nd Consent Agenda.

New State Motor Vehicle Taxing System – House Bill #1779

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following information regarding the New State Motor Vehicle Taxing System – House Bill #1779:

- Wanted the Board to fully understand House Bill #1779 due to the fact that the July billing is ready to be processed; it is actually now being processed
- House Bill #1779 was approved two years ago that changed the way county motor vehicle taxes would be billed and collected
- House Bill #1779 will be effective July 1, 2013
- Since the adoption of House Bill #1779, the State has been collecting and processing each county's applicable data including verifying physical addresses and taxing jurisdictions to be sure that taxpayer notices are correct
- Approximately 90 days prior to the license plate renewal date, individual taxpayers will receive an "Invitation to Renew/Tax Bill"
- Upon purchasing the renewal sticker, a "county tax" is created for the individual judicial body that levies the tax
- Any tax proceeds relating to a specific jurisdictional entity must be remitted to the individual county and cannot be captured and permanently retained by the State
- Stokes County is ready for the conversion to the new North Carolina Vehicle Tax System (NCVTS)
- Stokes County's data base has been validated, accepted, and approved for the processing of motor vehicle tax bills relating to the July 2013 license plate renewals
- As of November 2012, Tax Office employees were in the initial phase of training on the new NCVTS
- Stokes County staff has participated in "hands-on" instructional workshops, covering all phases of the new system in Forsyth County along with participating in several webinar training opportunities
- Consultant to the State on the NCVTS, Pete Rodda, met with staff for additional detailed individual instruction on the new system
- Local license plate agencies will begin their collections training on NCVTS in May
- There will be a short term non-recurring one-time increase in Motor Vehicle Tax Revenues during Fiscal Year 2013-14
 - Current Keystone Motor Vehicle Tax System creates a tax bill approximately four (4) months after an individual plate renewal, based upon information received from the NC Department of Motor Vehicles
 - The New Motor Vehicle Tax System will revolve around payment of "real time billings"
 - The four month payment lag time under the current system following tag renewal will cease to exist
 - The NCDMV will send a two-fold renewal notice that encompasses both a license plate renewal sticker as well as the motor vehicle tax bill
 - Positive result in the change is a one-time period non-recurring increase in revenue for each county tax code and each municipality during fiscal year 2013-14

- The reason for this one-time increase is that during approximately four months (July –October 2013), the County will be receiving payments through both systems (NCVTS and the current tax billing system)
- The increase collection percentage from 85.5% to 97% is projected by the State with no influence given to the estimated increased revenues during that period of time
- Following the fiscal year 2013-14, based on the State projections, there should be an increased collection rate and motor vehicle revenues should exhibit a consistent annual increase from previous levels
- There will be billing costs passed on to the County from the State
- County will receive two reports from the State relating to collections through the NCVTS; these reports will be included in the monthly tax report to the Board of Commissioners
- Tax staff has been training and providing necessary information to the State
- Stokes County is ready for the new system and Stokes County's data is already at the State
- State has confirmed that the State will bill the data monthly
- Currently working July's renewal which will be mailed out the first of May
- These individuals will have 90 days to renew their tags which includes a 15-day grace period
- Vehicle taxes will be paid when the tag is renewed
- Once the tag is renewed and taxes are paid, there is a levy on the vehicle which is a tax that belongs only to the tax jurisdiction by state law; the state can't take those taxes
- Motor vehicles taxes are approximately \$2 million of the county budget
- The County's current billing system bills four months in the rear which will now be caught up by the state
- Reports were provided that estimate the amount of taxes that will be coming from the 4 months with both systems running (July, August, September and October 2013)
- State is also projecting a 97% collection rate using the new motor vehicle system; the county's collection rate is 85.5% using the old motor vehicle system
- There will be a cost associated with the collection of the taxes which will be billed to the County by the State
- The 2013-14 Tax Department budget will include the new cost
- Estimated allocated billing cost for new motor vehicle system @\$1.67 per bill = \$87,005 - this fee will be applied to all bills paying at the DMV office by cash or check
- Estimated allocated billing cost for new motor vehicle system @\$2.00 per bill = \$104,198 – this fee will be applied to all bills paying at the DMV office by debit or credit cards
- Estimated allocated billing cost for new motor vehicle system @\$2.97 per bill = \$154,734 – this will be applied to all bills paying on line by a debit or credit card
- Provided the Board with a copy of a renewal and property tax notice provided by the State
- County will still be doing everything in the tax system as before, only thing that the State will be doing is collecting the tax
- There will no longer be blocks on vehicles if the taxes are not paid; taxes will be paid before the tag will be renewed

- Taxes will be sent to the Counties once a month, probably around the 15th of each month
- The prorated billing cost will be applied to each taxing jurisdiction such as the county, service district, Town of Danbury, City of King, New School/F. Tech etc. based on the percentage amount paid of the total bill
- It will take a year to see the results of the new system

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for discussion.

Chairman Lankford confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that all citizens will now pay their motor vehicles tax when the tag is renewed.

Finance Director Julia Edwards noted the following:

- At this time, the county does not charge fire districts a fee for the collection of taxes
- DMV will be breaking out the collection fee by county, town, city, fire district, etc.
- The Board will have to decide who will be paying the collection fee for the fire districts, the fire district or the county which can be discussed during the budget process

Chairman Lankford confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the State is actually projecting a collection rate of 97%; the county's collection rate currently is 85.5% and using a 95.5% collection rate as approved by the Board of Commissioners for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Going to be a very interesting year
- No questions

Commissioner Inman commented:

- No questions
- Hope the state's collection rate of 97% holds true which would be a real plus for additional revenue for the County
- Hope the new system will cut down on the number of individuals being able to run a tag that is not valid

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the state set the collection fee per vehicle with additional fees for debit and credit card transactions.

Tax Administrator Oakley reiterated that each taxing entity (Town of Danbury, City of King, Town of Walnut Cove, King Fire, Rural Hall Fire, Walnut Cove Fire, Service District Fire, General County, and New Schools/F Tech Fund) will be applied to the percentage of the amount of

the bill per entity and the county will receive all interest that is paid on late payments.

Finance Director Edwards noted that the county will no longer bill the towns/city the 1% collection fee.

Tax Administrator Oakley stated that he hopes all this will “balance out” with the County being charged a collection fee by the state, all interest on late payments being paid to the county, and an increase in the collection rate.

Tax Administrator Oakley also noted that anything billed out for July and August each year will reflect the tax rate of the previous budget year as stated by the State.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Would request the Board be updated on the process as it goes along

Tax Administrator Oakley noted that the Tax Office will be reviewing what is billed by State for accuracy and to inform the Board of any issues.

Chairman Lankford confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the State will be able to track someone when they move to another county.

Tax Administrator Oakley responded:

- When someone moves during the year, it reverts to where you were living on January 1st of that year
- The new system will catch mistakes that have been missed in the past
- If a county picks up a bill that doesn't belong to them, it will be forwarded to the correct county
- New system seems easier to use

Chairman Lankford expressed the Board's appreciation for the detailed information regarding the new motor vehicle tax system.

Proposed Contract – Telecommunication Cost Analysis

County Manager Rick Morris noted that a representative will be at the April 22nd meeting to answer any questions that the Board may have regarding the proposed contract for a telecommunication cost analysis which was presented to the Board at the March 25th meeting.

The Board had no questions.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the April 22nd Discussion Agenda.

Project Agreement Between Pilot View RC&D and the County of Stokes – Phase II

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following update regarding Phase II of the Project Agreement between Pilot View RC&D and the County of Stokes:

- Placed a copy of the original Project Agreement between Pilot View RC&D and the County of Stokes in the Agenda packet for the Board's review for the Water/Sewer Project
- Not asking the Board to make any changes, just wanted the Board to be aware that the County is ready to start some of the Phase II activities:
 - Placement of water tank
 - Six month environmental requirement for the grant process with some of the Golden Leaf Funding being used
- Phase I of the Project Agreement was paid by the county
- All of Phase II of the Project Agreement will be paid by grant funding
- Charles Anderson, Pilot View, will be at the April 22nd meeting to answer any questions the Board may have
- Just wanted to make sure the Board understands Phase II
- Will be moving quickly once the Phase II activities start, just want to make sure the County stays on schedule

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for any questions.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the April 22nd Discussion Agenda.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) – Application for Funding

Chief Court Counselor Rusty Slate presented the following 2013-14 JCPC Recommendation for the JCPC allocation for Stokes County which is \$136,010:

Organization	JCPC Allocation Request	County Match Request
Stokes Friends of Youths	\$ 77,615.00	\$ 23,904.00
Stokes Scan	\$ 21,737.00	\$ 6,521.00

Children's Center	\$	11,084.00	\$	3,326.00
Insight	\$	25,549.00	\$	7,801.00

Court Counselor Slate noted the following:

- Presenting the information on behalf of Chairperson Kim Palmer
- RFP was released on January 18, 2013 with 30 days for response
- JCPC heard RFPS on March 12, 2013
- There could be a possible 2% cut from the State
- Allocation recommendation leaves a \$24.00 surplus that can be voted on at a later date
- Stokes Friends of Youth provides county restitution and counseling
- Stokes SCAN provides in-home counseling for parents and teens as well as parenting classes
- Children's Center provides emergency bed days which is a valuable service when detention costs for a youth are \$244 per day (county pays 50%)
 - Finding that the longer a youth is detained in a detention center, the more likely the youth will commit another crime
 - Very valuable resource
 - First time several years that there has been a rate increase
 - Have no other funding sources
- Insight provides substance abuse education and treatment
- There was one new grant proposal to provide a strengthening family curriculum which is evidence based, very effective program; there was no funding to add another program
- Applications must be in Raleigh in May
- Approval is being requested for application submission only, county matches will be approved during the budget process

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Counselor Slate that all the cuts were made to the all agencies except for Children's Center for emergency bed days
- Confirmed with Counselor Slate that the needs for services has not decreased, only increased, funding was just not there
- Feel that sometimes you must spend money to save money which fits into these programs
- Feel these programs save funding on the front end
- No issues with the JCPC recommendation

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Reiterated there could a 2% cut by the State

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Four great organizations that have a positive impact on the youth in Stokes County
- Fully support the request

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Concur with Commissioner Inman's comments
- Confirmed with Counselor Slate that the bed days at the Children's Center increased from \$95 to \$110 per day
- Confirmed with Counselor Slate that youth in detention centers do not get any treatment

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins, JCPC Board member, noted the following:

- While a youth is at the Children's Center, they are connected with their school in order to keep up with their classes
- Are able to attend counseling sessions
- Receive benefits not available in a detention center

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Counselor Slate that funding cuts are normally not known until after July 1st.

Counselor Slate expressed the JCPC's appreciation for the Board's continued support.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the clerk to place the item on the April 22nd Action Agenda.

Proposed Resolution – Acquisition of Real and Personal Property

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Resolution regarding the Acquisition of Real and Personal Property located at 3169 NC HWY S, Walnut Cove for the Board's review and consideration:

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, was duly held on April 8, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Administration Building located at 1014 Main Street, Danbury, North Carolina. Chairman Ernest Lankford presiding.

The following members were present:

The following members were absent:

* * * * *

Commissioner _____ moved that the following resolution, copies of which having been made available to the Board of Commissioners, be adopted:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES,
NORTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INSTALLMENT
FINANCING CONTRACT AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER RELATED MATTERS
THERE TO**

WHEREAS, the County of Stokes, North Carolina (the "*County*") is a validly existing political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, existing as such under and by virtue of the Constitution, statutes and laws of the State of North Carolina (the "*State*");

WHEREAS, the County has the power, pursuant to the General Statutes of North Carolina to (1) purchase real and personal property, (2) enter into installment financing contracts in order to finance the purchase of real and personal property used, or to be used, for public purposes, and (3) grant a security interest in some or all of the property purchased to secure repayment of the purchase price;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County (the "*Board of Commissioners*") determines that it is in the best interest of the County to enter into an installment financing contract (the "*Contract*") with the current owner of a building located in Walnut Cove, North Carolina for use as a County garage and office building (the "*Facility*") for the acquisition thereof and create a security interest in the real property on which the Facility is located and all the improvements thereon through a Deed of Trust and Security Agreement (the "*Deed of Trust*") from the County to the current owner;

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that the acquisition of the Facility is essential to the County's proper, efficient and economic operation and to the general health and welfare of its inhabitants; that the Facility will provide an essential use and will permit the County to carry out public functions that it is authorized by law to perform; and that entering into the Contract and Deed of Trust is necessary and expedient for the County by virtue of the findings presented herein;

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that the Contract allows the County to purchase the Facility and finance the acquisition of title thereto at a favorable interest rate currently available in the financial marketplace and on terms advantageous to the County;

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that the estimated cost of the acquisition of the Facility is an amount not to exceed \$725,000, and that such cost of the acquisition of the Facility exceeds the amount that can be prudently raised from currently available appropriations, unappropriated fund balances and non-voted bonds that could be issued by the County in the current fiscal year pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State;

WHEREAS, although the cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to the Contract is expected to exceed the cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to a bond financing for the same undertaking, the County hereby determines that the cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to the Contract and Deed of Trust and the obligations of the County thereunder are preferable to a general obligation bond financing or revenue bond financing for several reasons,

including but not limited to the following: (1) the cost of a special election necessary to approve a general obligation bond financing, as required by the laws of the State, would result in the expenditure of significant funds; and (2) the time required for a general obligation bond election would cause an unnecessary delay which would thereby decrease the financial benefits of acquiring the Facility and (3) insufficient revenues are produced by the Facility so as to permit a revenue bond financing;

WHEREAS, the County has determined and hereby determines that the estimated cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to the Contract reasonably compares with an estimate of similar costs under a bond financing for the same undertaking as a result of the findings delineated in the above preambles;

WHEREAS, the County does not anticipate a property tax increase to pay installment payments falling due under the Contract;

WHEREAS, a portion of the Facility will be leased to private third parties and the County anticipates that lease payments received from such tenants will be used to offset some portion of the installment payments falling due under the Contract and subject to annual appropriations;

WHEREAS, the sums to fall due under the Contract will be adequate but not excessive for its proposed purpose;

WHEREAS, Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, as special counsel ("*Special Counsel*"), will render an opinion to the effect that entering into the Contract and the transactions contemplated thereby are authorized by law;

WHEREAS, no deficiency judgment may be rendered against the County in any action for its breach of the Contract, and the taxing power of the County is not and may not be pledged in any way directly or indirectly or contingently to secure any moneys due under the Contract;

WHEREAS, the County is not in default under any of its debt service obligations;

WHEREAS, the County's budget process and Annual Budget Ordinance are in compliance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, and external auditors have determined that the County has conformed with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental units in preparing its Annual Budget ordinance;

WHEREAS, past audit reports of the County indicate that its debt management and contract obligation payment policies have been carried out in strict compliance with the law, and the County has not been censured by the North Carolina Local Government Commission (the "*LGC*"), external auditors or any other regulatory agencies in connection with such debt management and contract obligation payment policies;

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the Contract after publication of a notice with respect to such public hearing must be held and approval of the LGC with respect to entering the Contract must be received; and

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that all findings, conclusions and determinations of the County in this Resolution are subject to modification or affirmation after all interested parties have been afforded the opportunity to present their comments at a public hearing regarding the execution and delivery of the Contract and the acquisition of the Facility to be financed thereby.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. ***Application to LGC.*** That the Finance Director or her designee is hereby directed to file with the LGC an application for its approval of the Contract and all relevant transactions contemplated thereby on a form prescribed by the LGC and to state in such application such facts and to attach thereto such exhibits regarding the County and its financial condition as may be required by the LGC.

Section 2. ***Professionals.*** That the retention of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, Charlotte, North Carolina, as Special Counsel, is approved.

Section 3. ***Public Hearing.*** That a public hearing (the “*Public Hearing*”) will be conducted by the Board of Commissioners on April 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners’ Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Administration Building located at 1014 Main Street, Danbury, North Carolina, concerning the Contract, the Deed of Trust, the proposed acquisition of the Facility and any other transactions contemplated therein and associated therewith.

Section 4. ***Notice of Public Hearing.*** That the Clerk to the Board is hereby directed to cause a notice of the Public Hearing, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, to be published once in a qualified newspaper of general circulation within the County no fewer than 10 days prior to the Public Hearing.

Section 5. ***Repealer.*** That all motions, orders, resolutions and parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 6. ***Effective Date.*** That this Resolution is effective on the date of its adoption.

On motion of Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____, the foregoing resolution entitled “**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER RELATED MATTERS THERETO**” was duly adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
) ss:
COUNTY OF STOKES)

I, DARLENE BULLINS, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, ***DO HEREBY CERTIFY*** that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a resolution entitled "**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER RELATED MATTERS THERETO**" adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina at a meeting held on the 8th day of April, 2013.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, this the 8th day of April, 2013.

DARLENE BULLINS
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes, North Carolina

EXHIBIT A NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

At its April 8, 2013 meeting, the Board of Commissioners (the "*Board of Commissioners*") of the County of Stokes, North Carolina (the "*County*") adopted a resolution which:

1. Authorized the County to proceed to pay the capital costs of the acquisition of a building located in Walnut Cove, NC for use as a County garage and office building (the "*Facility*"), pursuant to an installment financing contract with the current owner of the Facility (the "*Contract*"), in a principal amount not to exceed \$725,000.00 under which the County will make certain installment payments, in order to make the Facility available to the County;
2. Authorized the County to proceed to provide, in connection with the Contract, as grantor, a deed of trust and security agreement (the "*Deed of Trust*") under which the Facility is located as set forth below (the "*Mortgaged Property*") will be mortgaged by the County to create a lien thereon for the benefit of the current owner of the Facility or its assigns.

The Facility is located at 3169 NC 8 Hwy S, Walnut Cove, North Carolina 27052 and will be owned by the County. The Mortgaged Property will be subject to the mortgage provided in the Deed of Trust. On payment by the County of all installment payments due under the Contract, any lien created by the Deed of Trust will terminate and the County's title to the Facility will be unencumbered.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Sections 160A-20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, that on April 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Administration Building located at 1014 Main Street, Danbury, North Carolina, a public hearing will be conducted concerning the approval of the execution and delivery of the

Contract and the County's acquisition of the Facility. All interested parties are invited to present comments at the public hearing regarding the execution and delivery of the Contract and the Facility to be financed thereby.

/s/ Darlene Bullins

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes, North Carolina

Published: _____

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Proposed Resolution was prepared by the County's Bond Attorney Don Ubell for the acquisition of the property and facility located at 3169 NC 8 HWY S, Walnut Cove, NC from Ronnie Venable
- Proposed Resolution needs to be moved to today's Action Agenda in order to schedule the mandatory Public Hearing for Monday, April 22nd and to stay on schedule for submission to the Local Government Commission for purchase approval
- Have reviewed the proposed Resolution with Mr. Venable who has no issues
- Seller will be financing the property for the county
- Exhibit A provides the Public Hearing information that will be placed in the Stokes News
- Concept, which you are familiar, is to use the building for minimal use by the County and to lease out the majority and use the lease proceeds to pay the debt service
- Will need the Board at the April 22nd meeting, following the Public Hearing, to approve a purchase contract with Mr. Venable for the building and approval for application submission to the LGC for purchase approval

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Property will be very beneficial to the county
- Leasing should be able to pay the debt service with no cost to the county taxpayers
- Facility has a five bay garage that could possibly be used for a Vehicle Maintenance Facility which is needed by the County
- Very good investment for the County
- Support moving the item to today's Action Agenda

Chairman Lankford commented:

- Primary purpose for the Board's consideration is the garage facility which has been discussed several times by the Board
- Win/win situation for the County
- County will be purchasing the facility through an agreement with the landowner, not having to upfront a large amount of funding
- Existing garage facility only has one bay and one lift for all the county vehicles, ambulances, patrol cars, etc.

- Concur with Vice Chairman Booth that this is a very good investment for the County

Commissioner Inman commented:

- The opportunity to lease space to make the debt service payment is truly a win/win situation for the county
- Ditto to the comments from Chairman Lankford and Vice Chairman Booth

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Cost comparisons proved that the County could not build a facility of this magnitude near the price being paid for the facility
- Location is perfect
- Very good investment and benefit for the County
- Will service the County for many years

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Fortunate to have this opportunity
- Support moving to today's Action Agenda

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

Health and Dental Insurance for Fiscal Year 2013-14

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the bids for health and dental insurance for Fiscal Year 2013-14:

- Staff issued an Invitation for Proposal (IFP) for Health and Dental Insurance
- Have had discussions with United Health Care
- Have meetings scheduled this week with two other providers who responded to the IFP
- Will provide the Board with a recommendation at the April 22nd meeting
- Will need Action on April 22nd in order to provide employees with any changes
- Staff is currently doing due diligence to compare plans and cost

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that it was a very good idea to send out IFPs this year.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the April 22nd Discussion Agenda with a request to move the item to the Action Agenda.

DSS/Health Departments – House Bill #438

Chairman Lankford opened the floor for discussion regarding House Bill #438:

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following comments:

- House Bill #438 gives flexibility on how the Board of Commissioners wish to handle Social Services and Health Departments
- Board has several options:
 - Can leave the department as is
 - Look at placing the departments under the direction of the county manager with employees staying under State Personnel Act and forming a Health Advisory Council
 - Establishment of a Health Services Board with a Health Services Director and taking employees out from under State Personnel Act
- It is the Board's decision on which option to proceed with

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Ready for a change
- Want to do this procedure right
- Feel strongly about keeping employees under the State Personnel Act
- Do not want employees to suffer any consequences if a future board were to reverse action taken by this Board (career status)
- Do not want to put anyone at a disadvantage

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Agree with Commissioner Jones, would not consider any option that did not leave employees under the State Personnel Act
- Certainly do not want any employee to receive any negative implication if the two boards were consolidated, a big issue that would need to be resolved before moving forward

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Would consider Option #2 with departments under the direction of county with directors reporting to the county manager and the employees remaining under the State Personnel Act
- Would like some of the members from the DSS Board to be on the required Health Advisory Council
- Would like for the manager to bring Option #2 back to the next meeting for further discussion and consideration

Commissioner Walker commented:

- My position is very simple, "if it is not broken, why try to fix it?"
- Health Department seems to be running well
- DSS seems to be running well
- Why mess with it?
- Not getting complaints on either department

- By having Social Services and Health Department Boards, people are much closer to the actual operation of each department and a way of getting the public more involved in the governmental process, which I am all for
- I am not for lessening the roles of boards and the public in the operations of our government
- Right now, would prefer to keep this as an option for the future
- If there is needs in the future that requires the Board to take action, then I would consider the action based on that situation at that time
- Right now, very pleased with Kristy Preston as the DSS Director and Scott Lenhart as the Health Director
- Very pleased with the caliber of people on the Board of Health and DSS Board
- Very pleased with the operations of both departments with no complaints in several months

Chairman Lankford commented:

- House Bill #437 was passed last June 2012
- Passed due to larger counties who were already approved to place the responsibility under the Board of Commissioners
- Three options are available
- Most of the commissioners are not in favor of making any changes unless employees remain under the State Personnel Act
- Only way I can support any change will have to include two directors (DSS and Health) reporting directly to the county manager
- Have had some issues in the past with citizens calling commissioners regarding not being able to obtain the services they needed
- Only thing a commissioner could say was the governing body is not over those departments
- Not saying that is a merit for any changes
- With the departments under the direction of the governing body, a commissioner could possibly be able to inform the citizen why they are not getting the services they need
- Having two directors reporting to the manager and an advisory council is the only option I would consider
- Do not see much change with that option

Commissioner Walker questioned if anyone had met with Health or DSS to entertain any questions or to get any input regarding this process, talking about 80-90 employees in both departments?

Chairman Lankford responded:

- I have

Commissioner Jones responded:

- We know that any option can be reverted

- Would like to have a timeframe to make sure the option chosen is working well and is the right option for the county

County Manager Rick Morris responded:

- Have had minor discussions with both directors and both have offered to provide any information needed to make a decision

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Know that there is a neighboring county that took this step and have received some feedback that there are some issues going on
- Commissioner Jones noted that any option could be reverted
- Could lose employees who are dissatisfied
- Losing employees loses momentum
- Needs to be studied very carefully
- Don't think it needs to be a matter of how quickly it is done, but if it is done, it needs to be well thought out
- Reiterated the need for the issue to be done very carefully

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Commissioner Walker brings out an excellent point about meeting with employees or department heads prior to any action
- No rush to do anything by the next meeting or the meeting after
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that he had not met with employees and only had general discussion with the department heads
- Would suggest the manager meet with all employees in DSS and Health to provide the employees a chance to ask questions
- This is not a heavy handed attempt by the Board of Commissioners to take control
- This is an option that can consolidate departments
- Have not heard any negative comments from the counties that have change
- Key item, employees who are under the State Personnel Act have a tremendous advantage over those employees not under the State Personnel Act, such as an appeal process to the State
- Feel most employees will say that as long as they stay under the State Personnel Act, the fear will be taken away
- Changes will only be streamlining the organizations
- There will still be boards with designated members
- All other departments do not have boards
- Would want to make sure all employees have had an opportunity to express their point of view without any repercussions and most important, get their questions answered

County Manager Morris stated that he would schedule "all hands" with each department and director to get direct feedback.

Commissioner Jones stated that she was all for having meetings with departments to give

each employee a change to express their views and get questions answered.

Chairman Lankford, with full consensus of the Board, directed Manager Morris to meet with each department and return feedback to the Board for further discussion and consideration.

Chairman Lankford noted the item would be placed on hold until Manager Morris has had an opportunity to meet with each department.

Chairman Lankford confirmed with Director Preston and Director Lenhart that this approach satisfied their concerns.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Animal Control Advisory Council – Long Term Strategy

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the initial concept presented by Dr. Debbie Cowan, Chairman of the Animal Control Advisory Council, for the new proposed additional animal shelter facility that was presented at the March 25th meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Resolution – “Stokes County Work Release Program”

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the following proposed Resolution “Stokes County Work Release Program” which was presented at the March 25th meeting:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE STOKES COUNTY WORK RELEASE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 162-58 (Counties may work prisoners) states that the Board of Commissioners of the several counties may enact by resolution all necessary rules and regulations for work projects to benefit local units of State or local government by persons convicted of misdemeanors or felonies and imprisoned in the local confinement facility or satellite jail/work release units of their respective counties; and

WHEREAS, prisoners working under this law shall be supervised only by county employees or by the Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, this program will be known as the “Stokes County Work Release Program”; and

WHEREAS, the rules for the Stokes County Work Release Program must be approved by the Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, a prisoner who has faithfully performed the duties assigned to the prisoner under General Statute 162-60 is entitled to a reduction in the prisoner's sentence of four days for each 30 days of work performed; and

WHEREAS, gainful employment of prisoners is a means of saving tax dollars and of training prisoners to be productive members of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Stokes County adopt the following rules regarding the Stokes County Work Release Program which have been approved by the Sheriff of Stokes County:

1. Categories of prisoners eligible to work:

- a. Only prisoners that are serving sentences for non-violent misdemeanor offenses may participate in the program. (No prisoner shall be allowed to work who is serving a current sentence for crimes of violence.)
- b. The Sheriff shall evaluate each prisoner who may be assigned work duties to assure himself that the prisoner is sufficiently trustworthy for work release and is physically able to carry out the assigned duties.

2. Supervision of prisoners:

- a. Prisoners who are allowed to work under the provisions of N.C.G.S. 162-58 shall be supervised only by Stokes County employees or by the Sheriff.
- b. County employees supervising Work Release participants must complete a training course provided by the Sheriff's Office.
- c. The Sheriff shall advise the employee of any restrictions to be placed on the prisoner and of a procedure to follow if the prisoner escapes or in other ways fails to carry out his/her duty assignment.
- d. The Sheriff has full authority to dismiss a county employee performing supervisory duties in the Work Release Program and remove any prisoner from the program.
- e. If a prisoner refuses a work assignment or is in any other way insubordinate; the supervisor shall return the prisoner to the custody of the Sheriff without delay.

3. Type of Work:

- a. The prisoners performing work pursuant to these regulations shall be limited to general maintenance and light construction work. The prisoners shall not use self-propelled equipment, chain saws or other dangerous power equipment while working, unless approved by the Sheriff. Participants may use a walk behind lawn mower and a weed eater.
- b. County employees supervising prisoners shall make reasonable efforts to protect the health and safety of the prisoner and shall not subject them to working conditions which expose them to hazards which would exceed those to which a paid employee would be exposed.

4. Feeding of Prisoners While Working:

- a. The county employee supervising prisoners participating in the "Stokes County Work Release Program" pursuant to these regulations shall ensure that the prisoner is fed either by a meal prepared by jail staff or returning the prisoner to the jail. Any food provided to the prisoner shall be provided only by jail staff.

5. Medical Care:

- a. Any prisoner injured while performing work pursuant to these regulations shall be given immediate basic first aid treatment for his injury. If the injury is of a nature which requires more than basic first aid treatment, the person who is supervising the prisoner shall immediately notify Stokes County Emergency Communications who shall dispatch the nearest medic truck or ambulance. If a medic truck or ambulance is dispatched, Emergency Communications shall notify the Sheriff immediately. Based on the examination of the paramedics at the scene, the prisoner shall immediately be transported to the nearest hospital. If the prisoner is transported to a hospital, then a deputy shall be dispatched to meet the ambulance at the hospital. All first aid treatment shall be documented on an incident report form.
- b. Any prisoner who becomes ill while performing work pursuant to these regulations shall be returned to the jail immediately without delay unless the illness is of a nature that requires immediate emergency attention; then the guidelines in Section A will be followed when calling Emergency Communications.

6. Transportation:

- a. Prisoners shall be transported from the jail to the work site by the county employee supervising the prisoner. The trip from the jail to the worksite shall be made without delay and without interruption.
- b. No prisoner shall be allowed to operate any motor vehicle while participating in the Work Release Program.

7. Compensation:

- a. The prisoners working pursuant to the work release regulations shall not be entitled to any pay, compensation, or other benefits for their work, other than the reduction in sentence as provided by law.

8. Female Prisoners:

- a. Female prisoners working pursuant to these regulations shall be supervised only by a female County employee.

9. Work Days:

- a. Prisoners shall be eligible to work Monday through Sunday with no more than eight hours per day.

10. Identification of County Employees:

- a. The Sheriff shall approve the list of County employees who may supervise the working of prisoners. The Sheriff's Office shall not surrender a prisoner to a County employee for work until the County employee exhibits an official County identification card and a driver's license to the deputy or jailer and Sheriff Department staff has verified the County employee is on the Sheriff's approved list.

11. Escape:

- a. Should the whereabouts of a prisoner working under the supervision of a County employee become unknown, the County employee supervising the prisoner shall immediately notify the Sheriff's Office and the County Manager.

Adopted this the _____ day of _____ 2013

Ernest Lankford - Chairman

James D. Booth - Vice Chairman

J. Leon Inman - Commissioner

Jimmy Walker - Commissioner

Ronda Jones - Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene Bullins – Clerk to the Board

**Approved as to form and legal sufficiency
Edward Powell- Stokes County Attorney**

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Bids – Emergency Management Grant – Prime Mover Vehicle

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the bid received from Modern Chevrolet in the amount of \$35,241.90 for a 2012 “demo” Chevy Truck which was presented at the March 25th meeting with funding being allocated from the Homeland Security Grant. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Appointment – Stokes County Board of Health

Chairman Lankford noted the following was nominated at the March 25th meeting for reappointment to the Stokes County Board of Health:

- Cheryl Ferguson (optometrist position)

There were no other nominations.

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Jones moved to close the nomination. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Lankford polled the Board:

Commissioner Jones: Cheryl Ferguson
Commissioner Inman: Cheryl Ferguson
Chairman Lankford: Cheryl Ferguson
Vice Chairman Booth: Cheryl Ferguson
Commissioner Walker: Cheryl Ferguson

Chairman Lankford noted Cheryl Ferguson was unanimously reappointed to serve on the Stokes County Board of Health.

Proposed Resolution – Acquisition of Real and Personal Property

Chairman Lankford entertained a motion regarding the following proposed Resolution presented at today’s meeting:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES,
NORTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INSTALLMENT
FINANCING CONTRACT AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER RELATED MATTERS
THERETO**

WHEREAS, the County of Stokes, North Carolina (the "*County*") is a validly existing political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, existing as such under and by virtue of the Constitution, statutes and laws of the State of North Carolina (the "*State*");

WHEREAS, the County has the power, pursuant to the General Statutes of North Carolina to (1) purchase real and personal property, (2) enter into installment financing contracts in order to finance the purchase of real and personal property used, or to be used, for public purposes, and (3) grant a security interest in some or all of the property purchased to secure repayment of the purchase price;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County (the "*Board of Commissioners*") determines that it is in the best interest of the County to enter into an installment financing contract (the "*Contract*") with the current owner of a building located in Walnut Cove, North Carolina for use as a County garage and office building (the "*Facility*") for the acquisition thereof and create a security interest in the real property on which the Facility is located and all the improvements thereon through a Deed of Trust and Security Agreement (the "*Deed of Trust*") from the County to the current owner;

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that the acquisition of the Facility is essential to the County's proper, efficient and economic operation and to the general health and welfare of its inhabitants; that the Facility will provide an essential use and will permit the County to carry out public functions that it is authorized by law to perform; and that entering into the Contract and Deed of Trust is necessary and expedient for the County by virtue of the findings presented herein;

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that the Contract allows the County to purchase the Facility and finance the acquisition of title thereto at a favorable interest rate currently available in the financial marketplace and on terms advantageous to the County;

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that the estimated cost of the acquisition of the Facility is an amount not to exceed \$725,000.00 and that such cost of the acquisition of the Facility exceeds the amount that can be prudently raised from currently available appropriations, unappropriated fund balances and non-voted bonds that could be issued by the County in the current fiscal year pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State;

WHEREAS, although the cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to the Contract is expected to exceed the cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to a bond financing for the same undertaking, the County hereby determines that the cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to the Contract and Deed of Trust and the obligations of the County thereunder are preferable to a general obligation bond financing or revenue bond financing for several reasons, including but not limited to the following: (1) the cost of a special election necessary to approve a general obligation bond financing, as required by the laws of the State, would result in the expenditure of significant funds; and (2) the time required for a general obligation bond election

would cause an unnecessary delay which would thereby decrease the financial benefits of acquiring the Facility and (3) insufficient revenues are produced by the Facility so as to permit a revenue bond financing;

WHEREAS, the County has determined and hereby determines that the estimated cost of the acquisition of the Facility pursuant to the Contract reasonably compares with an estimate of similar costs under a bond financing for the same undertaking as a result of the findings delineated in the above preambles;

WHEREAS, the County does not anticipate a property tax increase to pay installment payments falling due under the Contract;

WHEREAS, a portion of the Facility will be leased to private third parties and the County anticipates that lease payments received from such tenants will be used to offset some portion of the installment payments falling due under the Contract and subject to annual appropriations;

WHEREAS, the sums to fall due under the Contract will be adequate but not excessive for its proposed purpose;

WHEREAS, Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, as special counsel ("*Special Counsel*"), will render an opinion to the effect that entering into the Contract and the transactions contemplated thereby are authorized by law;

WHEREAS, no deficiency judgment may be rendered against the County in any action for its breach of the Contract, and the taxing power of the County is not and may not be pledged in any way directly or indirectly or contingently to secure any moneys due under the Contract;

WHEREAS, the County is not in default under any of its debt service obligations;

WHEREAS, the County's budget process and Annual Budget Ordinance are in compliance with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, and external auditors have determined that the County has conformed with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental units in preparing its Annual Budget ordinance;

WHEREAS, past audit reports of the County indicate that its debt management and contract obligation payment policies have been carried out in strict compliance with the law, and the County has not been censured by the North Carolina Local Government Commission (the "*LGC*"), external auditors or any other regulatory agencies in connection with such debt management and contract obligation payment policies;

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the Contract after publication of a notice with respect to such public hearing must be held and approval of the LGC with respect to entering the Contract must be received; and

WHEREAS, the County hereby determines that all findings, conclusions and determinations of the County in this Resolution are subject to modification or affirmation after all interested parties

I, DARLENE BULLINS, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, ***DO HEREBY CERTIFY*** that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a resolution entitled "**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER RELATED MATTERS THERETO**" adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina at a meeting held on the 8th day of April, 2013.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, this the 8th day of April, 2013.

DARLENE BULLINS
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes, North Carolina

EXHIBIT A NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

At its April 8, 2013 meeting, the Board of Commissioners (the "*Board of Commissioners*") of the County of Stokes, North Carolina (the "*County*") adopted a resolution which:

1. Authorized the County to proceed to pay the capital costs of the acquisition of a building located in Walnut Cove, NC for use as a County garage and office building (the "*Facility*"), pursuant to an installment financing contract with the current owner of the Facility (the "*Contract*"), in a principal amount not to exceed \$725,000 under which the County will make certain installment payments, in order to make the Facility available to the County;
2. Authorized the County to proceed to provide, in connection with the Contract, as grantor, a deed of trust and security agreement (the "*Deed of Trust*") under which the Facility is located as set forth below (the "*Mortgaged Property*") will be mortgaged by the County to create a lien thereon for the benefit of the current owner of the Facility or its assigns.

The Facility is located at 3169 NC 8 Hwy S, Walnut Cove, North Carolina 27052 and will be owned by the County. The Mortgaged Property will be subject to the mortgage provided in the Deed of Trust. On payment by the County of all installment payments due under the Contract, any lien created by the Deed of Trust will terminate and the County's title to the Facility will be unencumbered.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Sections 160A-20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, that on April 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Administration Building located at 1014 Main Street, Danbury, North Carolina, a public hearing will be conducted concerning the approval of the execution and delivery of the Contract and the County's acquisition of the Facility. All interested parties are invited to present

comments at the public hearing regarding the execution and delivery of the Contract and the Facility to be financed thereby.

/s/ Darlene Bullins

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes, North Carolina

Published: _____

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the Resolution for Acquisition of Real and Personal Property. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

Commissioner Inman moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Ernest Lankford
Chairman