

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
JANUARY 27, 2014

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, January 27, 2014 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager Richard D. Morris
Clerk to the Board Darlene M. Bullins
Finance Director Julia Edwards
Health Director Scott Lenhart
County Attorney Tyrone Browder

Chairman James Booth called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Commissioner Walker delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Booth 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 Booth entertained a motion to approve or amend the January 27, 2014 Agenda.

County Manager Rick Morris requested to add the following item to tonight's

Discussion Agenda:

- Temporary Easement with NC Department of Transportation for sidewalk project in front of Southeastern Middle School

Manager Morris noted the following:

- Walnut Cove Town Manager had requested last week for this item be on the Agenda
- No action could be taken on the item until approval was received from the Stokes County Board of Education, which was given the last part of last week, after the agenda was set and delivered
- Time sensitive item, will need to be added to the tonight's Action Agenda – could lose grant funding
- Information was emailed to the Board on Friday

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve the January 27th Agenda as amended to add the Temporary Easement. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS

Manager/Commissioners

Chairman Booth opened the floor for comments from the County Manager and the Board of Commissioners.

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Camp Sertoma – Request for Information (RFI)
 - RFI was done to survey the community for serious candidates who would be interested in operating Camp Sertoma if the County was able to sublease in conjunction with working with NC State
 - Did not receive any calls by the cutoff date of January 15, 2014
 - Did have a telephone conversation this week with NC State University's Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
 - CFO stated that the university was reviewing the proposal submitted by the County and should hear back from them sometime this week regarding a follow-up meeting in order to review the options and attempt to have a good outcome as far as Camp Sertoma is concerned
- VIPER Identification Numbers
 - Numbers for the fire departments were received today
 - Will be quickly getting an effort going to get those ID numbers installed and training scheduled to finish the communications upgrade with all emergency services on the VIPER System

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Would like to compliment Economic Development Director Alan Wood and others who were involved in the Business Extravaganza; thought it was a great event

- This was the fifth Extravaganza and thought it was as good as any that I can recall being a part of; very well attended with a lot of positive energy in the room
- Good communication at the Extravaganza
- Took a lot of pictures at the event, could see by the pictures how involved the people in attendance were; very good displays
- Tentatively encouraged to hear the manager say that things are proceeding in hopefully a positive way with Camp Sertoma; sounds like the folks at NC State are preparing a response and hopefully will provide the Board with more information to work with
- Would have been nice if there had been a response to the RFI, but really, the way the RFI was worded, it would take quite a commitment to step forward to take on that kind of involvement for a private party to be that involved to that degree
- Still hopeful that when the time comes in whatever way it might be, there can, if necessary, significant involvement on the county's part in whatever way it would take to make it happen
- Bottom line, I don't want to see Stokes County lose that asset
- Don't want to see the County, what I would consider, backwards
- Don't want to see the County lose ground in any way and especially lose something like Camp Sertoma, particularly as much as it has been a part of the County for many years; that would be a loss that I would not want to see happen
- Again, encouraged with the manager's comments regarding the upcoming meeting with NC State

Vice Chairman Jones commented:

- Concur with what Commissioner Walker said, none of us want to lose Camp Sertoma; it is pretty obvious that we are all interested in seeing something work out
- Right now the ball is in the court of NC State, will have to see what shakes out with that and move from that point
- Attended a basketball fundraiser at North Stokes for Patrick Simmons who has been very sick
- The event raised a large amount of money for his medical bills; it was so wonderful to see the community rally together
- There are so many others in the community who are sick and are suffering alone that don't have any resources or family; thoughts and prayers go to all those sick and alone
- Will be the speaker at the Lawsonville Dare Program tomorrow at 8:30 am

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Attended the CenterPoint Board of Directors regular meeting last Thursday
- It appears that the State will end up with four (4) large MCOs transitioning from approximately twelve (12) MCOs currently
- CenterPoint is in negotiations with Smokey Mountain Region which will have 35 counties
- Will be quite interesting, lot of challenges ahead

- Been on the CenterPoint Board for ten (10) years, it has always been something in transition with DHHS when it come to mental health; not sure it is always a positive thing
- Will keep the Board posted
- Attended the NCACC Board of Directors' meeting this past week
- Dr. Patricia Mitchell, who is the new Assistant Secretary of the newly formed Department of Commerce, spoke at the NCACC Board of Directors' meeting
- NCACC will be lobbying to keep rural counties in the focus to make sure the rural counties get their fair share
- The old Rural Center is merging with the Department of Commerce
- The NCACC is in great financial condition and there will be no charge for the upcoming County Assembly Day in May

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would like to share another ethics of life – “Giving thanks unto the Father which hath made us to meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light”
- Feel that is a given, if we believe in the things we do, as far as our life is concerned, it will be great for us
- Had a good meeting with the League of Governments last Thursday night; the meeting is for elected officials from the Town of Walnut, Town of Danbury, City of King and Stokes County; very good communication tool
- Board is working on many projects at this time and has requested assistance from our state representatives who have been on board with us on several things
- Can call either one of our representatives and will receive a return call back shortly
- It is good to know that the County has people like this working for us on the state level

Chairman Booth commented:

- Agree with Commissioner Lankford regarding our state representatives
- Attended the quarterly CenterPoint meeting which went very well; there was a lot of good discussion and feel there will be some good things happening from that meeting

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would like to note that Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes has added four (4) new employees; soon will be one of the bigger employers in the county

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Booth opened the floor for Public Comments.

Chairman Booth reminded those in attendance that the Board does not reply to Public Comments.

Chairman Booth also reminded those speaking that there was a three (3) minute time limit.

The following spoke during the Public Comments:

Ms. Johannah Stern
1215 Single Tree Road
Westfield, NC 27053
Re: Camp Sertoma

Ms. Stern presented the following comments:

- I am confused about Sertoma
- I have to assume that this debacle has just been an astonishing lack of communication
- One would hate to think that this has all been done on purpose
- When a group of us met to begin working on a proposal to save Sertoma, this Board, we thought, assigned a commissioner to work as our liaison
- We assumed that the Board was apprised of our discussions
- You told us that NC State would only deal with the County and to have a viable plan, the County would have to be involved
- So we worked believing that premise
- Many meetings, discussions, and research hours later, with our Board liaison present to most meetings, we formulated a plan; Jess Moore presented it
- You went into closed session and discussed it
- We figured our plan was being considered
- We assumed that you would, as it's normal, come back and say that you liked this and not that, can you move this here, can you delete this, get this person involved, get this group involved, or assign a citizen committee which is often done
- This is how one expects its government in this nation to interact with its citizens, with respect, with consideration, in partnership
- Next thing we heard was that we needed to fill out a RFI
- It doesn't take a genius to some of us it appeared that the request for the RFI was written expressively and specifically to eliminate our proposal
- Thus, after working for six (6) weeks and coming up with a plan within the stated parameters, we were requested to come up with an entirely, unrelated set of ideas with completely different parameters in two weeks
- Not only does the RFI require that the County remain financially uninvolved, it presents an impossible working model
- No businessman or woman, in their right mind, would put out cash, time, and the attention required to make Sertoma successful knowing that the County, with no money on the line, retains the right to dissolve the contract after a two (2) or four (4) year review
- Donald Trump couldn't make this work
- If the County did not want to be involved, why did you not say so from the onset, we would have gone other routes
- To reject our plan out of hand, by resetting the conditions and publically state that there is no interest in Sertoma, that is just wrong

- Further, we even put up the start money of \$50,000, at least, that was the beginning on the table in the form of free advice
- You never even called the highly, qualified experts
- That has been the clearest indication to me of your commitment to this project
- We remain committed to saving Sertoma, but we are at a loss to where to go from here
- Trust has been broken
- We can't work without trust in each other
- Can we please get back to the negotiating table
- By the way, Sertoma would be open and operating right now on its way to the black, if you had implemented any symbolism of our plan

Mr. Bill Sparks

1215 Single Tree Road
Westfield, NC 27053

Re: Revenue

Mr. Sparks presented the following comments:

- This is not about Camp Sertoma
- Please turn your attention the NC General Statutes that allow you to ask the General Assembly for the right, under current NC Law, to assess a one (1) percent levy on prepared foods and beverages in Stokes County
- It is similar to a lodging tax which would raise little revenue here because there is little lodging
- This is not a levy on groceries, it is on prepared foods and beverages only
- The State closely monitors this revenue as the proceeds must go to tourism and tourism related activities
- Our new cultural art center would have qualified, as well as, opportunities like Camp Sertoma and saving old bridges
- University level research says that this levy would raise \$325,000 a year for Stokes County
- You and private tourism related companies currently advertise in one metro market, the Triangle; it is all we can afford
- Imagine if we could advertise in ten (10) metro markets
- The revenue would allow us to do that and jump start tourism efforts ahead by ten (10) years
- We would have a tourism budget commiserate to surrounding counties
- Because we have so much to offer, we would "blow the doors off" of every rural county that surrounds us
- This is a good revenue source if there ever was one, it is not regressive, people with money eat out the most and would pay the most
- On a twenty (20) dollar meal, you are asking people to pay twenty (20) cents
- On a Big Mac and Happy Meal, you are asking people to pay eight (8) cents
- On a three (3) dollar beer or a glass of wine, you are asking people to pay three (3) cents
- In our State, Mecklenburg, Wake, and Cumberland Counties have this levy
- Dare County, with less population than Stokes has it
- Little Hillsboro, North Carolina, population 6,000 has it
- Little Stuart, Virginia, population 1,700 has it and they are doing great things

- Be assured that Forsyth County will have it one day
- Commissioner Lankford stated in the minutes last year that the County did not make anything off the river, some say we make nothing off the Park
- This is your chance to get the hundreds of thousands of visitors here to make a small contribution
- Yes, our citizens will also contribute
- Our restaurants and bars will have to collect this levy, but in return, I can assure them an increase in revenue, I guarantee it
- There are members of the restaurant industry that support this effort
- Imagine what we could do with a six (6) figure tourism budget
- If you believe in tourism, for our future, this is the answer
- If someone looks at Stokes to establish a tourism related business, economic development can tell them we have a six (6) figure tourism budget to back them, a huge selling point
- At Singletree, we have donated hundreds of hours of work, meeting space, and money to promote tourism in this county
- I have put hours of research into this specific idea
- If any of you believe this idea will solve many of our problems, I am available to share the data
- At a minimum, you should ask the General Assembly for the authority to impose this levy, it doesn't mean you have to act on it immediately, but the tool will be available when you do
- You can't market without marketing funds
- Let's do this
- Let's ramp it up and roll big time

Ms. Janis Henderson-Hunsucker

PO Box 396

Danbury, NC 27016

Re: **Camp Sertoma**

Ms. Henderson-Hunsucker presented the following comments:

- Here is my idea about Camp Sertoma
- It seems like NC State wants us to work with the County because they say they don't want to work with community stakeholders
- I think the RFI is so restrictive, in my opinion
- I would like to propose that we all get back to the table
- All interested parties, whoever is interested, can sit down with Manager Morris and Economic Development Director Alan Wood
- Keith Russell at Sertoma is going to give us budget figures; have already been given some of that information
- We can sit down and try to work up a plan that may work for everybody
- A lot of people on the "Save Sertoma Website" and the Facebook page, specifically the Facebook page, want to know what they can do
- They want to raise money
- My question is, "What are we raising money for?"
- We really don't have permission to raise money or do anything

- Until we have permission as a group to start the Vade Mecum Foundation, we can't really do anything
- I think that is one of the most frustrating things to me
- I don't want to make money off of Camp Sertoma
- I want my deaf kids to be able to go back and use Camp Sertoma, that is why I am interested in it
- I also want it for the County and my high school kids to have somewhere to go
- It is not for selfish reasons that I want this to be successful
- There are other people on our steering committee that feel the same way
- Know that you have a follow-up meeting with NC State; not a really big fan of them right now
- Maybe everyone can sit down and talk
- That is one of the most frustrating things, not having that dialogue to be able to do public comments
- If we would have some kind of meeting like that, maybe we could all solve this problem

Ms. Linda Hicks
 1130 Rock Road
 Madison, NC 27025
 Re: **Gasland II Screening**

Ms. Hicks presented the following comments:

- I know it seems like a done deal that fracking will take place in North Carolina
- We do thank you all for signing the previous resolution that you signed
- But if Womack and the mining/energy commissions can quickly complete their job and joke of regulations with the lack of protection for the citizens, yes we will be fracked
- When Governor McCrory and Shirley Randleman, our State Senator, keep strongly supporting fracking, yes we will probably be fracked
- This is another fast track plan that will be a disaster like the DHHS fiasco only much more devastating consequences
- Perhaps, if we were all to speak out to our state elected officials, maybe that would do more good than the resolution
- The profrackers in our county say that we will have our own energy supply and jobs
- I received information, that as I speak, facilities are being constructed to liquefy natural gas near Chesapeake Bay
- The plan is then to ship the gas to countries with the most money
- We all know that is not the US, it includes India, China, Japan, and some others that already have our dollars
- There is a finite supply of natural gas just like the other fossil fuels and we are going to ship it to other countries while we destroy our water, air and land for big corporations to reap the benefits
- Would like to invite all the commissioners to the screening of "Gasland II" on Sunday, February 9th at the Walnut Cove Library where maybe you can get more information on fracking
- I know at least one of the commissioners has attended a profracking film

- I attended that program also which did not include any information on fracking in the US and was prepared by a journalist, not scientists
- And the film portrays those of us who oppose fracking as Russian agents, I am not a Russian agent
- I just want to protect my country, my county, and my community for our children's future in beautiful Stokes County including a place that we want to improve tourism
- Tourism and fracking don't go together
- We need to speak out against it
- You need to let your voices be heard if you are truly against fracking and you want to help Stokes County and North Carolina
- Hope to see everyone on February 9th

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda:

Minutes

- Minutes of January 13, 2014 – Regular Meeting
- Minutes of January 14, 2014 – Goals/Budget Work Session

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #44

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #44.

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				
100.4310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$1,482,727.00	\$(50,000.00)	\$1,432,727.00
100.4310.020	Salaries & Wages-Part Time	<u>\$171,162.00</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>	<u>\$221,162.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,653,889.00	\$00.00	\$1,653,889.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds due to extensive man hours used on involuntary commitments and other similar man hour needs in part time.

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.

Vehicle Maintenance, Sheriff's Department, Jail, E911, EMS, Social Services & Contingency
- Budget Amendment #45

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #45.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Vehicle Maintenance			
100.4250.000	Salaries & Wages	\$88,248.00	\$350.00	\$88,598.00
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$1,500,641.00	\$5,424.00	\$1,506,065.00
	Jail			
100.4320.000	Salaries & Wages	\$629,194.00	\$4,076.00	\$633,270.00
	E911			
100.4325.000	Salaries & Wages	\$373,094.00	\$4,570.00	\$377,664.00
	EMS			
100.4370.000	Salaries & Wages	\$1,136,741.00	\$391.00	\$1,137,132.00
	Social Services			
100.5310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$1,802,271.00	\$7,880.00	\$1,810,151.00
	Contingency			
100.9910.100	Leave Contingency	<u>\$100,000.00</u>	<u>\$(22,691.00)</u>	<u>\$77,309.00</u>
	Totals	\$5,630,189.00	\$00.00	\$5,630,189.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Leave Contingency for employees' payoff who retired, resigned or have been dismissed. (Holiday payoff = \$1,142, vacation = \$14,112, and compensatory time = \$7,437)

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.

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #46

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #46.

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				
100.4310.311	Training	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>\$601.00</u>	<u>\$6,601.00</u>
	Totals	\$6,000.00	\$601.00	\$6,601.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:
To send Narcotic Detectives to a Meth Lab Certification Course.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$601.00** 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
100.3301.411	Federal Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$2,113.00</u>	<u>\$601.00</u>	<u>\$2,714.00</u>
	Totals	\$2,113.00	\$601.00	\$2,714.00

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #47

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #47.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
Sheriff's Department				
100.4310.260	Departmental Supplies	<u>\$37,558.00</u>	<u>\$2,091.00</u>	<u>\$39,649.00</u>
	Totals	\$37,558.00	\$2,091.00	\$39,649.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:
To purchase investigative and special operations equipment

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$2,091.00** 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
100.3301.441	Federal Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$2,714.00</u>	<u>\$2,091.00</u>	<u>\$4,805.00</u>
	Totals	\$2,714.00	\$2,091.00	\$4,805.00

Social Services - Budget Amendment #48

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #48.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
Social Services				
100.5310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$1,797,471.00	\$(5,000.00)	\$1,792,471.00
100.5310.010	Salaries & Wages-Over Time	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,797,471.00	\$15,000.00	\$1,812,471.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

Per approval of the Board of Commissioners at their January 13, 2014 meeting, transfer \$20,000 from lapsed salary to cover necessary overtime for Income Maintenance Caseworkers.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$15,000.00** 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
100.3301.202	SS County Federal	<u>\$1,996,175.00</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,011,175.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,996,175.00	\$15,000.00	\$2,011,175.00

Social Services - Budget Amendment #49

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #49.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
Social Services				
100.5310.000	Salaries & Wages	<u>\$1,777,471.00</u>	<u>\$39,654.00</u>	<u>\$1,817,125.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,777,471.00	\$39,654.00	\$1,817,125.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

Per approval of the Board of Commissioners at their January 31, 2014 meeting, increase salary and wages to cover necessary expenses for the six (6) temporary maintenance caseworkers.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$39,654.00** 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
100.3301.202	SS County Federal	<u>\$2,011,175.00</u>	<u>\$39,654.00</u>	<u>\$2,050,829.00</u>
	Totals	\$2,011,175.00	\$39,654.00	\$2,050,829.00

Social Services - Budget Amendment #50

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #50.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Social Services			
100.5850.002	Regular Purchase of Day Care	<u>\$945,048.00</u>	<u>\$(90,000.00)</u>	<u>\$855,048.00</u>
	Totals	\$945,048.00	\$90,000.00	\$855,048.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To revise the total budget amount of the Daycare Line Item; State has reverted funds from the Day Care Line item.

This will result in a **net decrease** of **\$90,000.00** 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
100.3301.208	Day Care	<u>\$1,190,048.00</u>	<u>\$(90,000.00)</u>	<u>\$1,100,048.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,190,048.00	\$(90,000.00)	\$1,100,048.00

Tax Administration Report – December 2013

Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Real and Personal Refunds

more than \$100 (December 2013) at the January 13th meeting with a request for approval at the January 27th meeting:

**Refunds more than
\$100 - Real/Personal**

Property	December 2013	
Name	Bill Number	Amount
James A. Garr	13VZYH1903	\$172.64
Overlap Billings		
Kristel H. Hurst	13VCAS8610	\$113.42
Vehicle sold		
David Lee Smith	9820877	\$103.07
Vehicle sold		
George G. Smith	9086409	\$119.05
Vehicle sold		
Robert Griffin, Jr.	12A694204645853	<u>\$116.33</u>
Vehicle sold		
	Total Amount	\$624.51

Appeal of 2% Interest Charge

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Appeal of 2% Interest Charge at the January 13th meeting with a request to deny at the January 27th meeting:

- Jeremy S. and Amy B. Parker are appealing the 2% interest charge that has accrued on Parcel #698404629750 (interest charges = \$30.48)
- Bill Number #13A698404629750
- Market Value = \$216,200
- Base Amount 2013 Tax Bill = \$1,524.21
- Current Amount owed on 2013 Tax Bill including interest = \$1,554.69
- The 2013 annual tax bill was not sent to Mr. & Mrs. Parker, as this information was requested by their escrow company, Wells Fargo
- Wells Fargo did not pay the bill in July 2013 because the Parkers refinanced their home with another loan company which does not process escrow accounts
- Most likely the escrow amount was paid back to the Parkers or applied to their existing loan
- The Parkers were unaware of the outstanding tax bill until it was past due and interest charges had already been accrued
- The Tax Administration is sympathetic to the Parker's dilemma, but to remain consistent and fair to all taxpayers, the Tax Administration recommends that the Board of Commissioners deny the Parker's request to remove the interest charges from the tax bill

Personal Property Schedule of Values and Depreciation Schedules for 2014

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Personal Property Schedule of Values and Depreciation Schedules for 2014 at the January 13th meeting with a request for approval at the January 27th meeting:

- 2014 Department of Revenue Cost Index and Depreciation Schedules for Business Personal Property
- 2014 Pricing Guidelines for Personal Property
- 2014 Single Wide Mobile Home Pricing Guidelines (Schedules Developed from Marshall and Swift)

Proposed Bids – Purchase of EMS Ambulance

County Manager Rick Morris presented proposed bids for the purchase of an EMS Ambulance at the January 13th meeting with a request for approval for the low bidder (FESCO Emergency Sales - (\$161,897.00) Horton 553C modular body/2014 Chev. G4500 chassis) at the January 27th meeting.

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Walker seconded the motion.

Commissioner Walker questioned Clerk Bullins why there was no department head approval signature on Budget Amendment #45?

Clerk Bullins responded:

- Budget Amendment #45 is the transfer of funding from the Leave Contingency Account for pay off employees who have retired, resigned or been dismissed
- Each department can't budget for this unknown amount
- Each year, an amount is allocated in the Leave Contingency Line Item to cover these unknown amounts
- The Finance Director transfers the funding quarterly in order for the departments to have enough funding in their budgets

The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Presentation of 2012-2013 Audit

Audit Manager Shane Foxx, Martin Starnes & Associates, presented the following information regarding the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Audit:

- Audit Process
 - Planning and Risk Assessment
 - Interim Procedures
 - Final Procedures
 - Year-round Process
 - Appreciate the work done by the Finance Director and Finance Department
- Audit Highlights:
 - Unmodified opinion (this is a clean opinion)
 - No findings or questioned costs
 - No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses (internal controls)
 - Out of 165 audits done by our firm, roughly half of those have at least a finding or deficiency
 - To have neither is a very positive thing
 - No management comments needed
 - Cooperative Staff
- General Fund Summary:
 - Revenues
 - 2012 = \$40,336,838
 - 2013 = \$42,088,006
 - Expenditures
 - 2012 = \$40,179,002
 - 2013 = \$42,971.661
- Fund Balance:
 - Serves as a measure of the County's financial resources available
 - Assets – Liabilities = Fund Balance
 - Five (5) Classifications
 - Non spendable – not in cash form
 - Restricted – external restrictions (laws, grantors)
 - Committed - internal constraints at the highest (Board) level; do not require, require Board action to undo
 - Assigned - internal constraints, lower level than committed
 - Unassigned - no external or internal constraints
- Total Fund Balance – General Fund:
 - 2011 = \$13,214,356
 - 2012 = \$14,791,246
 - 2013 = \$18,030,157
 - Increase of \$3,238.911 from 2012 to 2013
- Last year, GASB 53 & 54, changed the way you look at the General Fund

- They have added several other funds that have been separate in the past
- General Fund is now made up of four (4) funds, the General Fund, Revaluation Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Health Department Fund
- This a country change, not just a state change
- Total General Fund Balance of \$18,030,157 is made the following:
 - Approximately \$15 million from the General Fund
 - Approximately \$1.7 million from the Debt Service
 - Approximately \$800,000 from the Health Department Fund
- Available Fund Balance, as defined by the Local Government Commission (LGC), is calculated as follows:
 - Total Fund Balance
 - Less: Non spendable (not in cash form, not available)
 - Less: Stabilization by State Statute (by state law, not available)
 - Equals = Available Fund Balance
 - This is the calculation utilized as the basis for comparing you to other units and calculating your Fund Balance percentages
- Fund Balance position – General Fund:
 - Total Fund Balance - \$18,030,157
 - Non spendable - \$(61,912)
 - Stabilization by State Statute - \$(2,475,097)
 - Available Fund Balance = \$15,892,097
 - Available Fund Balance 2013 = \$13,031,304
 - Increase in Available Fund Balance = \$2,861,170
- Available Fund Balance as a Percent of Expenditures and Transfers to other Funds: General Fund:
 - 2010 = 22%
 - 2011 = 28%
 - 2012 = 31%
 - 2013 = 37%
- Stokes County's Fund Balance Classifications
 - Non-spendable Fund Balance:
 - Inventory = \$61,912
 - Restricted Fund Balance
 - Stabilization by State Statute = \$2,075,771
 - Register of Deeds = \$3,291
 - All others = 2,475,097
 - Committed Fund Balance
 - Assigned Fund Balance = \$2,841,946
 - Un-assigned Fund Balance = \$10,572,140
 - Total General Fund (Fund Balance) Balance = \$18,030,157
- Total Fund Balance as a Percent of Expenditures – General Fund
 - 2012 = 35.09%
 - 2013 = 40.93%
- Ad Valorem Tax
 - 2011 = \$21,550,476
 - 2012 = \$23,122,908

- 2013 = \$23,654,220
- Restricted Intergovernmental
 - 2011 = \$10,810,014
 - 2012 = \$10,485,698
 - 2013 = \$12,645,155
- Sales and Services
 - 2011 = \$3,703,880
 - 2012 = \$3,845,564
 - 2013 = \$3,670,666
- Other Taxes and Licenses
 - 2011 = \$3,342,559
 - 2012 = \$3,592,980
 - 2013 = \$3,754,489
- Human Services
 - 2011 = \$10,402,202
 - 2012 = \$10,283,800
 - 2013 = \$10,219,695
- Public Safety
 - 2011 = \$7,622,140
 - 2012 = \$7,586,392
 - 2013 = \$9,596,281
- Education
 - 2011 = \$10,526,119
 - 2012 = \$10,267,838
 - 2013 = \$10,301,511
- General Government
 - 2011 = \$3,714,395
 - 2012 = \$3,948,003
 - 2013 = \$5,358,991

Manager Foxx discussed the new reporting of modified version with the Board.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Foxx that the Fund Balance figure provided by the Finance Director is always the day-to-day figures.

Finance Director Edwards noted that the Fiscal Year 2012-13 General Fund Balance only is \$10,572,140 or 23.24%.

Manager Foxx noted that the County's numbers are very positive compared to counties with the same population across the state.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that the loss of revenue due to the Revaluation will appear in the next fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.
January 27, 2014

Manager Foxx reiterated a very clean audit with positive figures.

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that the increase in Public Safety, which shows a large increase, is due to the E911 Upgrade Project; this increase will not be included in the Fiscal Year 2013-14 audit.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Find the comparisons presented by Manager Foxx very encouraging
- These have not been the easiest times for our county
- Next year will be more of a challenge with the loss of revenue from Revaluation
- Sounds like the County is in good financial shape currently
- Questioned Manager Foxx if there was anything in particular that stands out for Stokes County?

Manager Foxx responded:

- Would point out the sales tax
- Of the roughly 40 counties that are audited by Martin & Starnes, have seen a large decrease on average, with Stokes County increasing slightly
- Also to see the Fund Balance continually growing is phenomenal

Vice Chairman Jones commented:

- Would just like to clarify something regarding the Fund Balance
- I know the 23% looks very good, but it is a false sense
- We need, as a county, to stay at 20% (three months worth of operating costs)
- The funding in the Fund Balance is not there to just dip into anytime we want
- Feel there is a perception among the citizens that the money is just sitting there, but we have to maintain the Fund Balance according to General Statutes and Local Government Commission (to be able to borrow funding for capital projects)
- Will probably be getting close to that 20% this year
- Will have to really be careful

Chairman Booth commented:

- The Hold Harmless that the County normally gets approximately \$2.2 million is most likely gone
- The County, this fiscal year (2013-14), only received \$1.1 million

County Manager Morris noted that he would be talking more in the budget work session this week regarding the upcoming Fiscal Year Budget (2014-15).

Chairman Booth expressed the Board's appreciation to Manager Foxx for the presentation.

NC Fast Update

County Manager Rick Morris, as requested by the Board of Commissioners, presented the following NC Fast Update:

- DSS Director Elmes will present the NC Fast update with her monthly report on the 2nd Mondays and Manager Morris will present the update on the 4th Mondays
- Temporary positions were posted externally on January 14th for six (6) Income Maintenance Caseworkers
- Have received eight (8) applications so far with a closing date of January 28th
- Workers continue to be very frustrated with the system and its quirks
- One worker is retiring January 31, 2014
- Another worker is resigning on January 31, 2014 and is going to another county doing a different job which is closer to home
- Both of these workers have said that NC Fast assisted them in making their decision to go
- Our “over the shoulder support” person from the State who has been trained in the NC Fast System stated on January 21st, but knows no policy
- On January 21st, twenty-six (26) applications were taken in the office for Medicaid and Food/Nutrition Services (FNS) with thirteen (13) more received in the mail
- Reports provided by NC Fast to date show that Stokes County had 48 pending Food/Nutrition applications that are at least 30 days old
- The same report shows that DSS has 38 Food/Nutrition re-certifications that are greater than 30 days old (requirement for FNS applications to be processed is 30 days)
- Federal regulators have warned North Carolina to solve delays in processing Food/Nutrition applications or face losing federal money to run the program
- On February 1st, some of our workers will begin working nights and weekends for additional compensation in order to work on applications and re-certifications in the NC Fast System
- Effective February 10th, the state must meet USDA requirements or funding for administrative dollars will cease in March
- DSS Directors have received the following requirements from NC Department of Health and Human Services-Division of Social Services: (provided copies from NCDHHS to the BOCC)
 - All backlogged applications subject to the 7-day processing be completed
 - All applications subject to the 30-day processing and are pending over 90 days be completed
 - All re-certifications that are pending over 90 days be completed
 - As a first step, Directors need to immediately assure that the daily pending applications and re-certifications reports are reviewed and appropriate action is taken to process all overdue FNS cases
 - It is imperative that these applications are processed urgently
- On Saturday, seven (7) employees worked an average of 4.5 hours each; they were able to process 35 pending cases

- This proves that being able to provide compensation as opposed to compensatory time will assist us in meeting our deadlines
- During the month of December, DSS took 285 applications in NC Fast
- As of January 24, 2014, DSS has taken 296 applications in NC Fast
- If Administrative funding is held by the federal government, it would amount to approximately \$80 million statewide annually, if the deadlines are not met
- Effective February 1st, staff will be working overtime for monetary wages, this should help to process the overdue cases
- Feel the Board of County Commissioners have done all they can do in support of DSS
- Will watch very closely and provide the Board with bi-weekly updates
- This is a very urgent situation, County can't afford to supplant the amount of Administrative Funding that could potentially be cut
- Medicaid is due to transition around the first of February for Stokes County which will make things even more complicated

Chairman Booth opened the floor for any questions.

Chairman Booth commented:

- DSS Director Elmes is working very hard to try to get these applications processed and get the approved additional employees hired

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that all the counties are doing similar things to get these backlogged cases processed.

Vice Chairman Jones commented:

- One of things that is going on with it is that it is not interfacing with the Affordable Health Care Act; that is part of the glitch
- Federal government is saying get it fix and they are the ones that have caused the hardship; that is my interpretation from reading the material

Commissioner Inman commented:

- If you read the letter from USDA, Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) does not accept responsibility
- Commissioner Inman read the following from the USDA letter:
 - In addition, it has come to FNS's attention through recent news reports that the State is attributing the difficulties in reducing their SNAP backlog to the Affordable Care Act (ACA). It should be noted that many other States have implemented ACA without the dramatic impacts on SNAP that have occurred in NC. FNS expects full resolution of the remaining backlog and that all new applications and re-certifications will be processed in accordance with the Federal timeframes no later than March 31, 2014.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Have learned in the 21st Century that it is never the fault of anyone in Washington

- If there are problems, it is always someone else's fault

Chairman Booth expressed appreciation to Manager Morris for his report.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Proposed Agreement – South Stokes Vol. Fire Department – Sewer/Water Project

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following Proposed Agreement with South Vol. Fire Department for the location of a well and water tank on the property of the fire department for the Board's review and consideration at the February 10th meeting:

NORTH CAROLINA

AGREEMENT

STOKES COUNTY

This Agreement is made as of the _____ day of February, 2014 by and between The County of Stokes, North Carolina, a body politic and corporate of the State of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as "County"; and South Stokes Volunteer Fire Department, a North Carolina non-profit corporation, hereinafter referred to as "Fire Department";

WITNESSETH:

Whereas County desires to extend water and sewer service to the Forsyth Technical Community College Project, residents and other commercial property sites in the Meadows Community; and

Whereas in order to extend service to said area, it will be necessary to locate a well and water tank in the area; and

Whereas Fire Department has available land on which to locate a well and water tank; and

Whereas Fire Department will benefit from the extension of water and sewer service to Forsyth Tech Community College and the Meadows area;

Now Therefore in consideration of the mutual benefits that will accrue to each of the parties pursuant to this agreement, the parties agree as follows:

1. County and its agents and subcontractors are hereby given permission to conduct tests and surveys on the property of Fire Department located at 4747 Flat Shoals Road, Walnut Cove, North Carolina for the purpose of determining the feasibility of locating a well and water tank on the property of Fire Department.

2. County agrees that all testing and surveys will be done at the sole expense of the County, and that there will not be any interference with the activities of Fire Department.

3. County agrees that it will indemnify Fire Department from any loss or damage arising out of the testing and surveys conducted on said property; and that the property will be restored to the same condition as existed prior to the testing and surveys.

4. If the testing and surveys confirm the feasibility of locating a well and water tank on said property, then Fire Department agrees to execute a permanent easement to County for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a well and water tank on Fire Department property in the approximate location as shown on the attached Exhibit A. Said well and water tank will be used to furnish water to the Forsyth Tech Community College, residents and other commercial property sites.

In Witness Whereof the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date written above.

COUNTY OF STOKES

BY: _____
Chairman of Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Clerk to the Board

SOUTH STOKES VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT

BY: _____
Chairman of the Board of Directors

ATTEST: _____
Secretary

County Manager Morris noted the following:

- This is an agreement that needs to be put in place as part of the Water and Sewer Project so that whenever the water portion is funded, all agreements will be ready to start the water project
- Have already met with the South Stokes Vol. Fire Department Board of Directors along with folks from Pilot View
- Have look at the location for the placement of a water tank and discussed the testing to see if the location is suitable
- This agreement formalizes that the fire department has available land on which to locate a well and water tank

- If the testing and surveys confirm the feasibility of locating a well and water tank on the said property, then the fire department agrees to execute a permanent easement to the County
- Have informed the members of the Board of Directors about the proposed agreement being on the Board's Agenda for tonight
- Plan on attending the Board of Directors' meeting on the second Thursday in February to discuss the proposed agreement
- Will allow the Board of Directors to review the proposed agreement for any concerns
- This water line will support Forsyth Tech and economic development in the Meadows area once it is installed

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker questioned Manager Morris regarding the amount of funding that can be identified for this project?

County Manager Morris responded:

- Estimated total water and sewer - \$6 million
- Still trying to finish the sewer portion of the project
- Do not have any funding earmarked for the water project, but any additional funds received that are not needed for the sewer can be held to be used for the water project, possibly use as matching funds
- Will be a separate effort to obtain funding for the water project

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that the sewer and/or water project are not to delay the community college project.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that if funding is not available for the water project when needed, an onsite system is planned.

Manager Morris commented:

- The onsite water system using the wells and pump system on the property is a temporary plan to support the college
- Will need the water project for long-term requirements, need businesses in the Meadows area
- If the community college is ever expanded, the water project will definitely be needed

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that the water project is still planned to be funded by grant funds.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- The Board made the decision to do a breakaway project
- The project initially started out with just a sewer project with the water part being added later
- Pilot View informed the Board that if both projects were done at the same time, it would save dollars because both projects were using the same route
- Then the decision was made to run the water from the South Stokes Vol. Fire Department area
- In order to keep the project on schedule, the decision was made to do a breakaway project so that the sewer project could get started and be ready for the new community college; water is already on the location

Commissioner Walker noted that there was a very good, quality well and water supply already on the community college site.

Commissioner Inman continued:

- Agree, there is an outstanding well on the property; that is why the sewer project is on schedule with bid information to be released in March
- Forsyth Tech is moving with their project
- My goal is to see construction this year with students at the new facility in the Fall of 2015

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

Social Services – External Posting

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following request from DSS Director Stacey Elmes:

- Request to post externally a vacant Income Maintenance Caseworker II position
- Position was advertised internally with the department receiving no qualified applicants
- With the struggle facing the department with NC Fast, it is imperative that the department hires someone who can assist in taking and processing applications and completing re-certifications to ensure that citizens are receiving their much needed benefits in a timely manner
- Respectfully request to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda

County Manager Morris requested, due to NC Fast, to be able to approve external postings for DSS without bringing them to the Board of Commissioners.

County Manager Morris noted:

- At times, there potentially can be two weeks lost waiting for the Board's approval
- Being able to post positions as quickly as possible will help to facilitate the NC Fast problem
- Would ask the Board to consider giving the manager the authority to approve the external postings without coming back to the Board of Commissioners for some period of time
- Don't recall any DSS positions ever being turned down for external posting
- Respectfully request to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- My position all along has been for the manager to approve external postings without having to come back to the Board
- Do not recall any being turned down
- Is there any exception that you see would need to be considered regarding external postings?

County Manager Morris responded:

- Don't feel there would be any exceptions, this would be done to accelerate the process during the next two to three months while the NC Fast System is struggling
- Could put a cutoff date

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would like to see a cutoff date

Chairman Booth agreed with Commissioner Lankford regarding a cutoff date.

Commissioner Walker stated that he was comfortable not having a cutoff date, feel this is in the range of the manager's duties.

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Have never understood why external postings come before the Board
- Never seen one not approved

Vice Chairman Jones suggested a cutoff date of March 31, 2014.

Manager Morris noted that he could come back to the Board with a renewal request if needed.

Commissioner Inman noted that he was fine with the March 31, 2014 cutoff date.

The Board unanimously agreed to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

Chairman Booth, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the items on tonight's Action Agenda.

Proposed Contract – Women, Infants, and Children Services

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information/request from Health

Director Scott Lenhart:

- Department has a continuous struggle keeping Nutritionists in the Women, Infants, and Children Services (WIC)
- Former Nutritionist III/WIC Director resigned on December 12, 2013 to take a state consultant position
- Currently, the department has one full time Nutritionist with the other vacant position being filled by a contract nutritionist from any agency called "Nutritionist That Works" (NTW) which assists healthcare agencies in filling vacant positions on a permanent or temporary basis
- The last three (3) Nutritionists resigned for better paying positions after the County paid for their training
- The department has three Nutritionists position:
 - One is a Nutritionist III/WIC Director which is vacant and very hard to fill because of the low salary
 - One is a Nutritionist II which is filled with the employee scheduled to be out on an approved absence starting in March for approximately six (6) weeks
 - One is a Nutritionist II which is currently frozen – not funded in the current budget
- Director has an applicant who could be qualified to do a work against in the Nutritionist II position if unfrozen
- The Nutritionist III/WIC Director will most likely have to be covered by NTW or the Board consider increasing the salary to an acceptable level for that type of position
- In Fiscal Year 2012-13, the Health Department had to return \$36,000 of WIC funds because the department could not draw down funding due to staff shortages
- In Fiscal Year 2014-15, WIC funds will be reduced by 10% (approximately \$17,496) because of a reduced number of patients being seen
- WIC Funding is based on the number of individuals seen
- WIC is currently failing to meet their current benchmark which is set by the State
- WIC is seeing 84% of clients that are eligible for services due to staff shortage as of last Tuesday
- Could possibly at some point be unable to provide the services for those eligible candidates who need the services; this could bring its own set of problems

- Director Lenhart has two recommendations:
 - Option #1:
 - Contract for a Nutritionist III/WIC Director through NTW for a three-year contract at the cost of \$78,399 per year which has a thirty (30) day termination clause
 - Open up a frozen Nutritionist II position to help fill the void of decreased staffing; position will help in the King Clinic as well as in Danbury
 - Currently have one application for a Nutritionist II position who is a recent graduate who can be hired as a Nutritionist I position until qualified as a Nutritionist II
 - To contract with NTW to fill this frozen position would cost \$40.00 per hour
 - Continue to advertise for a Nutritionist III/WIC Director until a qualified candidate is found
 - Option #2:
 - Contract with NTW for Nutritionist III/WIC Director until a qualified applicant is found; increase the salary to a level (\$42,000 to \$50,000) that will attract a Nutritionist III/WIC Director
 - Open up the frozen Nutritionist II position full time to extend services at the King Clinic and assist in Danbury during the current employee's absence
- Funding Issue
 - Fiscal Year 2013-14 WIC funds total \$174,960
 - Remaining WIC Funds for FY 2013/14 as of January 17th is \$78,606
 - With the current contract plus a three-year Nutritionist III/WIC Director contract, the total WIC funds needed for the remainder of the FY is \$81,606, a shortfall of \$3,086
 - Additional funds to address the shortage can come from the following sources:
 - Lapse salaries
 - Shifting of Title XIX funds
 - If an additional Nutritionist is placed on contract or the frozen position is opened, deficit will be made up by shifting additional Title XIX funds (if available) or lapse salaries
- Respectfully request to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda

Health Director Scott Lenhart noted the following:

- Reiterated the cost of the three-year contract at \$78,399 per year
- If the Nutritionist II position is unfrozen, will be able to use that employee in King (2-3 days) once the other Nutritionist returns from leave
- WIC will have to close a couple of days or decrease services once the renovation starts in the WIC Department and the waiting area
- Need a plan of action to make sure patients are seen sooner
- Could eventually lose the WIC Department if the numbers don't improve

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Like the recommendation to unfreeze the Nutritionist II position and continue to advertise for a Nutritionist III/WIC Director

Vice Chairman Jones confirmed with Director Lenhart that his first choice would be to unfreeze the Nutritionist II position and contract with NTW for the Nutritionist III/WIC Director while continuing to advertise until a qualified Nutritionist III/WIC Director is found.

Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that the recommendation Commissioner Lankford was speaking of included contracting for the Nutritionist III/WIC Director at \$78,399 per year until a qualified candidate is found
- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that any increase in funding would not be available until Fiscal Year 2015-16

County Manager Morris noted it was very critical to have the thirty (30) day termination clause in the contract in case a qualified candidate applies.

Chairman Booth questioned if the department could overcome the approximately \$118,000 that would be added?

Director Lenhart responded:

- Really can't say, it is all based on the numbers
- WIC Program is funded by the USDA, all based on the numbers seen
- Must hit 97 percent in order to receive max funding
- Will try to make up the difference in funding by using lapse salaries or Title XIX and not have to use county funding
- One thing to remember is that the Title XIX Funding is eventually going to equal zero, decreasing each year
- Filling all the positions by either contract or full time employees should guarantee 97%
- Have had the numbers before, just decreased due to staffing
- Prenatal Program feeds into the WIC Program
- Currently, prenatal has thirty (30) new patients and five (5) children
- Feels there should be no risk
- Can't guarantee anything when funding is provided by governmental sources
- Part of the WIC Program is community outreach and education which has not been done due to staffing

Chairman Booth commented:

- With any option, the numbers will have to be monitored very closely to make sure the 97% is being met

The Board unanimously agreed to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

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

Proposed Temporary Easement – NC Department of Transportation

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a proposed Temporary Easement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT):

- Received a call from the Town of Walnut Cove last week regarding the need for the temporary easement to be executed to eliminate possible loss of grant funding for the sidewalk project
- The temporary easement is needed for the sidewalk project in front of Southeastern Middle School
- The temporary easement has to have the Board of Education's approval before the Board could approve to execute the temporary easement
- County Attorney Tyrone Browder contacted Board of Education Attorney Fred Johnson
- Board of Education Attorney Johnson notified County Attorney Browder last Thursday that the Board of Education had approved the temporary easement
- Respectfully request to move to tonight's Action Agenda
- Walnut Cove Commissioner Elwood Mabe was in attendance at the meeting for any questions

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the request.

The Board unanimously agreed to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

Chairman Booth, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the items on tonight's Action Agenda

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Social Services – External Posting

Chairman Booth entertained a motion regarding the DSS posting externally for an

Income Maintenance Caseworker II position and authorization for the County Manager to approve posting externally for DSS until March 31, 2014.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the posting externally for an Income Maintenance Caseworker II position and authorize the County Manager to be able to approve external postings for DSS until March 31, 2014. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Contract – Women, Infants, and Children Services (WIC)

Chairman Booth entertained a motion regarding the recommendation for WIC Services.

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve Option 1# for WIC Services - Contract with NTW for a Nutritionist III/Director (three year contract-\$78,399 per year) along with continuous advertising until a qualified applicant is found and unfreeze a Nutritionist II position.

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Temporary Easement – NC Department of Transportation

Chairman Booth entertained a motion regarding the proposed temporary easement with NC Department of Transportation for the sidewalk project in front of Southeastern Middle School.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the temporary easement with NC Department of Transportation for the sidewalk project. Vice Chairman Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

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

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

- To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)
- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the amount of compensation or other material terms of an employment contract pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(5)
- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6)

Commissioner Lankford moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the price or other material terms of an agreement for the acquisition or lease of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)
- To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)
- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the amount of compensation or other material terms of an employment contract pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(5)
- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6)

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to the regular session of the January 27th meeting.

Adjournment

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

Commissioner Lankford moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

James D. Booth
Chairman