

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
APRIL 28, 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, April 28, 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

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

Chairman Booth 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 April 28, 2014 Agenda.

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

Discussion Agenda:

- Discussion Agenda – Health Department Request to externally post a Public Health Nurse II position

- Discussion Agenda – Updated Gap Funding Letter for the Water and Sewer Project to the Meadows Area.

Manager Morris noted the following:

- Health Department External Posting – Public Health Nurse II Position
 - Request was received after the Agenda was sent out
 - Need to fill the position in order to not lose grant funding
- Gap Funding Letter for Water and Sewer Project
 - Getting funding ready for the sewer project
 - Will provide more information during the discussion
- Both items will need to be moved to the Action Agenda tonight

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion regarding Manager Morris' request for the two additions to the Discussion Agenda.

The Board had no issues with placing the two items on tonight's Discussion Agenda.

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve the April 28th Agenda as amended.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Booth, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to add the two items to tonight's Discussion Agenda.

COMMENTS

Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Rescue Search at Belews Creek Lake
 - Search continues at Belews Creek Lake for two missing individuals
 - Stokes County is the lead agency in the search with numerous other agencies involved, even some from Virginia
 - All agencies have put a lot of effort in trying to locate the two missing individuals
 - Spoke with some of the family members who are very pleased with the effort being led by EMS Director Greg Collins
 - EMS Director Collins, along with the many agencies and volunteers, are doing an outstanding job
 - The recent search and rescue exercise done at Hanging Rock State Park has contributed significantly to the smooth operation being done with this search

- Advertisement of Delinquent Taxes
 - Tax Administrator Jake Oakley would like for the Board to know that 2013 Delinquent Real Property Taxes will be advertised in the Stokes News on Thursday, May 1st as required by statute
 - There are 1,466 accounts = \$646,218.91
- Proposed Fiscal Year 2014-15 County Budget
 - All budget requests have been turned in for the upcoming 2014-15 County Budget
 - Have received great support from department heads and outside agencies
 - Currently working and will continue working diligently to get the recommended budget ready for submission to the Board at the May 27th meeting
- Camp Sertoma
 - Received information from Chief Financial Officer Charles Leffler, NC State, that they are ready to meet with all the stakeholders
 - A meeting will be scheduled with all the stakeholders hopefully next week to discuss options
- Ice Pigging
 - Ice Pigging was done this past weekend
 - Believe citizens will see some good results from the process
 - Feel the process worked better this time since the new system/water tank are in operation; more pressure forced the ice through much better
 - Will take approximately 3-4 days of flushing the lines before the water will clear up

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Encouraged to hear what seems to be progress regarding Camp Sertoma
 - Very serious issue in our county
 - Has been several months since the process started
 - Appears now that some real progress is being made
- Encourage everyone to vote
 - Primary is Tuesday, May 6th
 - Early Voting has already started
 - Every vote counts
- As far as the budget, often times citizens are not sure that their voice counts
 - One thing is for certain, if I don't hear comments or receive any input, it is a known fact that your voice can't count because we haven't heard it
 - If anyone has any thoughts, suggestions, or concerns regarding the budget, I certainly would like to hear from you
 - Any input from our citizens is greatly appreciated
 - It would be hard to over emphasize how important this budget process is because so often it is funding that determines whether something will or will not happen
 - Would like to hear from any citizen who has input regarding the upcoming budget

Vice Chairman Jones commented:

- Am always open for any citizen to call or email me about any issue

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Always open to hear from citizens regarding any issue
- A Public Hearing, where each and every citizen came and speak regarding the upcoming Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2014, at 7:00 pm in Courtroom "A"
- Typically in the past, perhaps wrongly so, have thought if there are no complaints, it must be okay
- Hope citizens will come to the Public Hearing and let their voices be heard if they have a concern about any budgetary matter
- Will be in Raleigh, along with Economic Development Director Alan Wood, this Tuesday and Wednesday for the NCACC Economic Development Symposium

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – "A true friend is always loyal and a brother is born to help in time of need"
 - Feel this is a good scripture for us to live by
- Attended the Poplar Springs Dare Graduation, very inspiring seeing those kids participate in this program
- Feel it is very important to have a direct communication at all times with the people
- As a public servant, I had always rather have a citizen call me direct to find out the answers instead of getting the wrong information from the community and then start talking and providing others with incorrect information
- Will always try to give the facts instead of putting propaganda out
- Encourage people to call, email, or leave a message

Chairman Booth commented:

- Ditto what my fellow commissioners have stated
- Attended a recent declaring a natural disaster exercise with EMS last week, very informational and interesting

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:

April 28, 2014

Mr. Donald Henry Gibson
PO Box 6
Pine Hall, NC 27042
Re: Little Help for Pine Hall

Mr. Gibson presented the following comments:

- Here tonight to ask for a little help for Pine Hall
- Live up against Belews Creek Lake and the dam
- Wells have toxic waste in them, have been tested and showed true
- Just need a little help to pay for my drinking water
- Know the county budget is really tight
- Just a little help anywhere
- We are facing Mercury, Chromium, Selenium, Manganese, Lead, and Arsenic
- Only thing we are asking is for a little help with our water bills
- We have to haul our water into our homes
- Anything the County can do, I will appreciate it
- Have been living like this for about a year
- I am a 4th generation of the Gibson Family in Pine Hall
- I have heart trouble and they think it might be connected
- Provided the Board with a copy of "Health Effects of Coal Ash"

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda:

Minutes

- Minutes of April 14, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Public Buildings, Contingency - Budget Amendment #71

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #71.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Public Buildings			
100.4190.590	Improvements	\$3,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$33,000.00
	Contingency			
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$144,837.00</u>	<u>\$(30,000.00)</u>	<u>\$114,837.00</u>
	Totals	\$147,837.00	\$00.00	\$147,837.00

April 28, 2014

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Contingency for the replacement of part of the roof at the Community Service Building (old school building)

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

Social Services - Budget Amendment #72

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #72.

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			
100.5310.511	Equipment	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$30,000.00</u>	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

Purchases will be paid using MOE dollars. State has approved DSS to purchase computers, printers and equipment purchase.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$30,000.00** 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	Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.202	SS County Federal	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$30,000.00</u>	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00

Tax Administration Report – March 2014 **Present-Use Value Late Applications**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Present-Use Value Late Applications at the April 14th meeting with a request for approval at the April 28th meeting:

- **Taxpayers: Barney Joyce, Dane Joyce, and Tony Joyce**
 - Address: 6167 NC 704 HWY E, Sandy Ridge, NC 27046
 - Parcel: 697904820779
 - Acreage: 35
 - Reason: Parcel has been in the family for many years; tract is covered by a Forestry Management Plan
 - Tax Office is recommending approval

- **Taxpayers: Joseph Ayers Jr. and Kathy Ayers**
 - Address: 1667 Flat Rock Road, Pinnacle, NC 27043
 - Parcel: 599600555272
 - Acreage: 21
 - Reason: This parcel has been owned by the current owners since 1990
 - Tax Office is recommending approval

- **Taxpayer: Iva Bowman**
 - Address: 3008 Flat Shoals Road, Germanton, NC 27019
 - Parcel: 692500723890
 - Acreage: 50.65
 - Reason: This parcel has been in the family for many years as a farm
 - Tax Office is recommending approval

Tax Foreclosures – Meadows and Aderhold Law Firm

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented a request at the April 14th meeting to use Meadows and Aderhold Law Firm (previous law firm who did the foreclosures for the Tax Department) to conduct the foreclosure proceedings in the event that County Attorney Ty Browder has a “client conflict of interest”. Tax Admin. Oakley requested the Board consider approval at the April 28th meeting.

Proposed Proclamation – “Emergency Medical Services Week 2014”

EMS Director Greg Collins presented the following proposed Proclamation “Emergency Medical Services Week 2014” for the Board’s consideration and approval at the April 28th meeting:

**STOKES COUNTY
PROCLAMATION BY THE
STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK 2014”**

WHEREAS, The State of North Carolina has proclaimed May 18 - 24, 2014 as "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK"; and

WHEREAS, Stokes County's Emergency Medical Services system is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Emergency Medical Services teams are ready to provide life-sustaining care to those in need twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the quality of emergency care has dramatically improved the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the residents and visitors to Stokes County benefit daily from the dedicated efforts, knowledge and skills of the emergency medical teams, career and volunteer; emergency medical technicians; paramedics; emergency nurses; emergency physicians; rescue squad workers; fire fighters; public safety telecommunications personnel; emergency administrators; emergency response educators; disaster response personnel, and others who received specialized training and continuing education to enhance and maintain their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, injury prevention, public safety education and the appropriate use of the Emergency Medical Services system will help reduce health care costs; and

WHEREAS, to recognize the value and accomplishments of the Emergency Medical Services teams, we set aside a special period to observe the contribution of these men and women to the citizens of Stokes County.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS does hereby proclaim May 18, 2014 through May 24, 2014, as "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK" in Stokes County, and calls upon all citizens to observe this period with appropriate programs and activities.

Adopted this 28th day of April, 2014.

James Booth - Chairman

Ronda Jones – Vice Chairman

Jimmy Walker - Commissioner

J. Leon Inman - Commissioner

Ernest Lankford- Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene M. Bullins – Clerk to the Board

Proposed Proclamation – “Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day”

County Manager Rick Morris, on behalf of Frederick Douglas, Family Partner Coordinator at CenterPoint, presented the following proposed Proclamation “Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day for the Board’s consideration and approval at the April 28th meeting.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

May 8, 2014

A PROCLAMATION

BY COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, to promote awareness of positive mental health, well-being and development for all children, youth and young adults ages birth through 26 years in Stokes County, NC; and

WHEREAS, the leadership in Stokes County, NC recognizes that mental health needs and treatment be on par with physical needs and treatment; and

WHEREAS, families shall not feel stigma and shame to seek treatment for their children and youth and be able to discuss openly their need for help without public retribution; and

WHEREAS, Children's Mental Health promotion needs to be universal and available to everyone. Education on the identification and use of child strengths to support success and promote mental health as well as anti-stigma, inclusion and social skills education should be available to all citizens of Stokes County, NC; and

WHEREAS, available school based mental health programs and Positive Behavior, Interventions and Supports should be considered a best practice, and be encouraged to be implemented in every Stokes County public school. This should include early infant mental health, interventions and trauma knowledge; and

WHEREAS, children are recognized for having unique needs for recovery of mental health, emotional, behavioral and substance abuse issues and not being combined with the adult mental health population for treatment; and

WHEREAS, effective mental health treatment services to strengthen families, youth leadership development and family partner/peer supports results in children and youth overcoming trauma, becoming successful and contributing Stokes County citizens in a safe environment in their homes, schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, The Stokes County Board of Commissioners and the families who have children, youth and young adults struggling with emotional and behavioral health issues and their other community members join to recognize **Children's Mental Health Awareness Day**..

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims **May 8, 2014**, "**CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY**" in Stokes County, North Carolina, and commend its observance to our citizens.

Adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners this 28th day April, 2014.

Chairman James D. Booth

Vice Chairman Ronda Jones

Commissioner J. Leon Inman

Commissioner Jimmy Walker

Commissioner Ernest Lankford

April 28, 2014

Attest:

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

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

Commissioner Walker seconded the motion.

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that there will be a balance of \$114,837 after the appropriation as noted in Budget Amendment #71.

County Manager Morris commented:

- Over half of this roof has already been replaced
- The part that needs replacing has been patched several times and can't be patched any longer
- Public Works Director Mark Delehant has one quote for approximately \$30,000 and will be getting additional quotes (at least three) before awarding the job

The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding NC Fast:

- The State met the USDA deadline (March 31, 2014) for Food and Nutrition Services
- Temporary employees continue to assist the Agency with intake so that full time employees can work on processing applications and completing re-certifications
- Employees have worked overtime, as previously approved, to get applications processed and re-certifications as caught up as much as possible
- System issues/glitches continue to keep workers frustrated and continue to slow the work that needs to be accomplished
- North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services (NCACDSS) is reaching out to engage and seek the support of the NCACC in ensuring the successful implementation of NC Fast in all 100 counties throughout North Carolina
- This information (impact to local resources, significant system challenges, and needed action) was put together so that NCACC would be equipped with a local perspective in the delivery of services and the impact at the county level
- In order to ensure the ongoing and future success of NC Fast, NCACDSS has offered the following recommendations and seeks the assistance of NCACC in pursuing approval from the state

- Immediately suspend E Pass until such time that corrections can be made and it can work more effectively and not pose additional challenges and hardship to counties as the current Epass System causes additional excessive work
- Counties need a working relationship with the state which would facilitate successful implementation and avoid operating in crisis mode
- Counties and the state should jointly develop key metrics and prior to any hard launch, these metrics will be used to determine launch of the functionality
- Discontinue sending applications from the Federally Facilitated Marketplace to counties and the state use its own resources and staff to work such applications
- In conducting any reviews and monitoring, hold counties harmless for all errors made as a result of NC Fast implementation issues
- State to develop a process to handle emergencies for Medicaid recipients when cases are held up by NC Fast
- Immediately suspend additional mandatory implementation, beyond what is currently in place, of NC Fast/Curam until the system is working well in all phases in the pilot counties and allow for flexibility for individual counties to voluntarily “hard launch” cases as they are ready to do so upon timely notification and timely approval by DHHS
- Did a conference call, along with DSS Director Elmes, with the NCACC and DHHS last Thursday
 - DHHS stated that they are in a better place than they have been, probably because of all the resources that have been expended to help the deadlines (especially the Food and Nutrition Service’s March deadline which was met)
 - Do not have any more Federal deadlines right now, but will have some state and local deadlines to meet to keep the transit going
 - Will be looking at improving their help desk
 - A lot of the issues are directly related to IT (software and operating system), impact of the heavy workload
 - The Medicaid part is going to be the most complicated one that has been done yet
 - Several other modules to add
 - Concerned this may be an ongoing problem for a long time
 - Working on providing additional training at the local agencies
 - Maximizing the use of the “Over the Shoulder” temporary employees which are only funded to June 30, 2014
 - Doing some type of a time study (performance metrics) that would allow county managers to calculate the staffing requirements (where that leads us will be interesting)

Chairman Booth expressed appreciation to Manager Morris for the update.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Community Development Block Grant – Fair Housing Plan Extension

Manager Richard Morris presented a Fair Housing Plan Extension which was prepared by Benchmark CMS.

Manager Morris noted the following:

- The County recently received approval from the state to reopen the Community Development Block Grant (10-C-2129) to use unspent funding for an applicant whose home had been rehabilitated and had a latten defect that came up right after Benchmark closed the grant
- The applicant had notified the county of a water quality issue shortly after Benchmark closed out the grant with the State
- The Fair Housing Plan Extension details what will be done with the reopening of the grant
- County is mandated to hold another “Closeout” Public Hearing
- Request consensus from the Board to schedule a Public Hearing for either the May 12th or May 27th meeting
- Will try to get everything in order to hold the Public Hearing at the May 12th meeting
- Will depend on everything being completed in time
- Happy to report that the well has been dug and the homeowner is very happy with his water

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with scheduling a Public Hearing for either the May 12th or May 27th meeting.

Chairman Booth, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on May 12th Action Agenda and schedule the Public Hearing when appropriate.

Proposed Resolution – Surplus Equipment Donation – Stokes-Rockingham Vol. Fire Department and Rescue

Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a request from Fire Chief Devin Rhodes, Stokes-Rockingham Vol. Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.:

- County received a request for one of the County’s surplus Crown Vics
- The vehicle will be used by the Stokes-Rockingham Vol. Fire Department and Rescue Squad to attend meetings and training not held within their response area or the County

- Vehicle would become a great asset to the vehicular fleet and allow the department to keep other vehicles in the district necessary for call response
- Would recommend the County surplus and donate a 2005 Ford Crown Vic, serial number #2FAHP71W55X149450 without compensation as allowed by General Statutes
- Would request the Board place the submitted proposed Resolution on the May 12th Action Agenda

Manager Morris submitted the following proposed resolution that would need to be adopted:

**Resolution authorizing sale of personal property worth less than \$30,000.00
(G.S. 153A-176; 160A-267, 160A-279)**

WHEREAS, The County of Stokes owns a 2005 Ford Crown Vic that has become surplus; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 160A-279 authorizes the County to appropriate funds to any public or private entity which carries out a public purpose, the County may, in lieu of or in addition to the appropriation of funds, convey by private sale to such entity any real or personal property which it owns.

WHEREAS, Procedural provisions of North Carolina 160A-267 Private Sale shall apply;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners are convened in a regular meeting;

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STOKES COUNTY RESOLVES THAT:

1. The Board of Commissioners authorizes the Support Services Supervisor to sell with or without compensation the following vehicle to:

Stokes Rockingham VFD & RS Inc.
2005 Ford Crown Vic Serial Number 2FAHP71W55X149450
2. The Support Services Supervisor shall publish a notice summarizing this Resolution and transfer of ownership of said vehicle shall not be executed pursuant to this resolution until at least ten (10) days after the date notice was published.

Adopted this the ____ day of _____ 2014.

James D. Booth - Chairman

Ronda Jones – Vice Chairman

J. Leon Inman - Commissioner

Jimmy Walker - Commissioner

Ernest Lankford – Commissioner

Attest _____
Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker questioned Manager Morris if the County would be ready if another voluntary fire department submitted a similar request?

Manager Morris responded:

- County is mandated by statute to place an advertisement in the local paper before any transfer of equipment
- County will be able to see if there are other requests or issues before transferring the vehicle
- Certainly, if we do it for one, would want to consider it for other departments
- Have donated other vehicles such as ambulances

Commissioner Walker noted the County would need to be prepared to consider any other requests of this type, that was the main reason for asking the question.

The Board had no issues with the request.

Chairman Booth, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the May 12th Action Agenda.

Refinancing of General Obligation Refunding Bond

County Manager Morris presented the following information regarding the refinancing of General Obligation Refunding Bond:

- County has been working to refinance General Obligation Refunding Bond
- County's interest rate on the General Obligation Refunding Bond will decrease from 4% to 1.62% resulting in approximately \$203,000 (estimated for 4 years) cost savings for the County
- County will have to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda and approve the following documents in order to meet the Local Government Commission's deadline for their June Board Meeting"
 - A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina Making Certain Statements of Fact Concerning Proposed Bond Issue
 - Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not To Exceed \$4,700,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond of the County of Stokes, North Carolina
 - A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina Providing for the Issuance of a Not to Exceed \$4,680,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2014 of the County of Stokes, North Carolina
- Documents were prepared by the County's Bond Attorney and have also been reviewed and approved by County Attorney Ty Browder
- Would request the item be moved to tonight's Action Agenda in order to meet the submission deadline for the Local Government Commission's June meeting

A copy of the following documents were placed in the Board's Agenda for consideration:

**A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina
Making Certain Statements of Fact Concerning Proposed Bond Issue**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the County of Stokes, North Carolina was held on Monday, April 28, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Administration Building located at 1014 Main Street, Danbury, North Carolina. Chairman James Booth, presiding:

The following members of the Board of Commissioners were present:

_____.

The following members of the Board of Commissioners were absent:

_____.

Also present:

_____.

Commissioner _____ introduced the following resolution, a summary of which had been provided to each Commissioner, a copy of which was available with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and which was read by title:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH
CAROLINA MAKING CERTAIN STATEMENTS OF FACT CONCERNING PROPOSED BOND ISSUE**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is considering the issuance of a bond of the County of Stokes, North Carolina (the "County") which shall be for the following purposes and in the following maximum amount:

Not to exceed \$4,700,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond to pay the costs of refunding in advance of their maturities \$4,630,000 aggregate principal amount of the County of Stokes, North Carolina General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2004 maturing on and after June 1, 2015.

WHEREAS, certain findings of fact by the Board of Commissioners must be presented to enable the Local Government Commission of the State of North Carolina to make certain determinations as set forth in Article 4 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes, Section 52.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners meeting in open session on the 28th day of April, 2014, has made the following factual findings in regard to this matter:

A. **Facts Regarding Necessity of Proposed Financing.** The proposed bond is necessary and expedient to lower debt service costs to the County.

B. **Facts Supporting the Amount of Bond Proposed.** The sums estimated for this bond is adequate and not excessive for the proposed purpose.

C. **Past Debt Management Policies.** The County's debt management policies have been carried out in compliance with law. The County employs a Finance Director to oversee compliance with applicable laws relating to debt management. The Board of Commissioners requires annual audits of County finances. In connection with these audits, compliance with laws is reviewed. The County is not in default in any of its debt service obligations. The County Attorney reviews all debt-related documents for compliance with laws.

D. **Past Budgetary and Fiscal Management Policies.** The County's budgetary and fiscal management policies have been carried out in compliance with laws. Annual budgets are closely reviewed by the Board of Commissioners before final approval of budget ordinances. Budget amendments changing a function total or making changes between functions are presented to the Board of Commissioners at regular Board of Commissioners meetings. The Finance Director presents financial information to the Board of Commissioners which shows budget to actual comparisons annually and otherwise as the County Manager deems necessary or as a member of the Board of Commissioners may request.

E. **Retirement of Debt.** The schedule for issuing the bond does not require a property tax increase. The schedule for issuance calls for issuing all of the bond in Fiscal Year 2014, but issuance may be delayed until such time as the County receives sufficient net present value savings therefrom.

F. **Financing Team.** The County Manager and the Finance Director, with advice from the County Attorney, are hereby authorized and directed to (1) retain Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP, Charlotte, North Carolina, as bond counsel, (2) retain DEC Associates, Inc., Charlotte, North Carolina, as financial advisor to the County for the bond, and (3) approve PNC Bank, National Association, Charlotte, North Carolina, as the purchaser of the bond.

Upon motion of Commissioner _____, the foregoing order titled: **"A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA MAKING CERTAIN STATEMENTS OF FACT CONCERNING PROPOSED BOND ISSUE"** was adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 28th day of April, 2014.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners (the "*Board*") of the County deems it advisable to refund \$4,630,000 in aggregate principal amount of the 2004 Bonds maturing on and after June 1, 2015;

WHEREAS, an application has been filed with the Secretary (the "*Secretary*") of the Local Government Commission of North Carolina (the "*Commission*") requesting Commission approval of the bonds hereinafter described as required by the Local Government Bond Act, and the Secretary has notified the Board that the application has been accepted for submission to the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, as follows:

Section 1. The Board deems it advisable to refund \$4,630,000 in aggregate principal amount of the 2004 Bonds maturing on and after June 1, 2015.

Section 2. To raise the money required to pay the costs of refunding the 2004 Bonds, as set forth above, a General Obligation Refunding Bond of the County of Stokes, North Carolina is hereby authorized and shall be issued pursuant to the Local Government Bond Act of North Carolina. The maximum aggregate principal amount of such General Obligation Refunding Bond authorized by this bond order shall be and not exceed \$4,700,000.

Section 3. A tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on said General Obligation Refunding Bond when due shall be annually levied and collected.

Section 4. A sworn statement of the County's debt has been filed with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and is open to public inspection.

Section 5. This bond order shall take effect on its adoption.

The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners is directed to publish a notice of adoption as prescribed by The Local Government Bond Act, the bond order titled, "**BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$4,700,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BOND OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA**", which was introduced at the meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on April 28, 2014.

Upon motion of Commissioner _____, the foregoing order titled: **BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$4,700,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BOND OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA**", was adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 28th day of April, 2014.

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

I, Darlene M. 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 the bond order titled **“BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$4,700,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BOND OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA”**, which was adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina in regular session convened on the 28th day of April, 2014, as recorded in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, this the 28th day of April, 2014.

(SEAL)

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
County of Stokes, North Carolina

**A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina
Providing for the Issuance of a Not to Exceed \$4,680,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond,
Series 2014 of the County of Stokes, North Carolina**

Extract of Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, held on Monday, April 28, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner’s Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Administration Building located at 1014 Main Street, Danbury, North Carolina. Chairman James D. Booth, presiding:

* * *

The following members were present:

The following members were absent:

Also present:

* * *

Commissioner _____ moved that the following resolution (the “*Resolution*”), a copy of which was available with the Board and which was read by title:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A NOT TO EXCEED \$4,680,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BOND, SERIES 2014 OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the Bond Order (as defined below) has been adopted, and it is desirable to make provision for the issuance of the Bond authorized by the Bond Order;

WHEREAS, the County of Stokes, North Carolina (the "*County*") desires to issue its General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2014 (the "*Bond*") and to request that the Local Government Commission (the "*Commission*") sell the Bond to PNC Bank, National Association (the "*Bank*"), in accordance with the terms provided herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

Section 1. For purposes of this Resolution, in addition to the words defined above, the following words will have the meanings ascribed to them below:

"*Bond Order*" means the Bond Order authorizing the General Obligation Refunding Bond adopted by the Board of Commissioners on April 28, 2014 and effective on its adoption.

"*Bond*" means the County's General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2014, authorized under the Bond Order.

"*Code*" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Each reference to a section of the Code herein will be deemed to include the United States Treasury Regulations proposed or in effect with respect thereto.

"*Federal Securities*" means, to the extent permitted by the General Statutes of North Carolina, as amended, (a) direct obligations of the United States of America for the timely payment of which the full faith and credit of the United States of America is pledged; (b) obligations issued by any agency controlled or supervised by and acting as an instrumentality of the United States of America, the timely payment of the principal of and interest on which is fully guaranteed as full faith and credit obligations of the United States of America (including any securities described in (a) or (b) issued or held in the name of the Trustee in book-entry form on the books of the Department of Treasury of the United States of America), which obligations, in either case, are held in the name of a trustee and are not subject to redemption or purchase prior to maturity at the option of anyone other than the holder; (c) any bonds or other obligations of the State of North Carolina or of any agency, instrumentality or local governmental unit of the State of North Carolina which are (i) not callable prior to maturity or (ii) as to which irrevocable instructions have been given to the trustee or escrow agent with respect to such bonds or other obligations by the obligor to give due notice of redemption and to call such bonds for redemption on the date or dates specified, and which are rated by Moody's, if the Bond is rated by Moody's, and S&P, if the Bond is rated by S&P, within the highest rating category and which are secured as to principal, redemption premium, if any, and interest by a fund consisting only of cash or bonds or other obligations of the character described in clause (a) or (b) hereof which fund may be applied only to the payment of such principal of and interest and redemption premium, if any, on such bonds or other obligations on the maturity date or dates thereof or the specified redemption date or dates pursuant to such irrevocable instructions, as appropriate; or (d) direct evidences of ownership of proportionate interests in future interest and principal payments on specified obligations described in (a) held by a bank or trust company as custodian, under which the owner of the investment is the real party in interest and has the right to proceed directly and individually against the obligor on the underlying obligations described in (a), and which underlying obligations are not available to satisfy any claim of the custodian or any person claiming through the custodian or to whom the custodian may be obligated.

"*Moody's*" means Moody's Investors Service, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, its successors and their assigns and, if such corporation for any reason no longer performs the functions of a securities rating agency, "*Moody's*" will be deemed to refer to any other nationally recognized rating agency other than S&P designated by the County.

"2004 Bonds" means the \$13,385,000 aggregate principal amount of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2004, of which \$4,630,000 is currently outstanding.

"Pricing Certificate" means the certificate of the County's Finance Director delivered in connection with the issuance of the Bond which establishes the final maturity amounts, the interest payment dates and the provisions for redemption or any other changes to the terms described herein.

"Refunded Bonds" means the 2004 Bonds maturing on and after June 1, 2015.

"Registrar" means the bond registrar, or alternate or successor registrars selected by the County pursuant to Section 159E-8 of the Registered Public Obligations Act, Chapter 159E of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

"S&P" means Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC business, its successors and their assigns and, if such corporation for any reason no longer performs the functions of a securities rating agency, *"S&P"* will be deemed to refer to any other nationally recognized rating agency other than Moody's designated by the County.

Section 2. The County shall issue its Bond in an aggregate principal amount of \$4,680,000 unless changed by the Pricing Certificate.

Section 3. The Bond shall be dated as of its date of issuance and mature on June 1, 2018. The Bond shall pay interest semiannually on June 1 and December 1, beginning December 1, 2014, unless changed by a Pricing Certificate. The Bond is being issued to refund the Refunded Bonds pursuant to and in accordance with the Bond Order in order to lower the County's debt service costs related to projects refinanced with the proceeds of the 2004 Bonds.

Section 4. The Bond is to be numbered "R-1" and shall bear interest from its date at a rate of 1.62%, computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

Section 5. The Bond shall be registered as to principal and interest, and the Finance Director of the County is directed to maintain the registration records with respect thereto. The Bond shall bear the original or facsimile signatures of the Chairman of the Board or County Manager of the County and the Clerk to the Board. An original or facsimile of the seal of the County is to be imprinted on the Bond.

Section 6.

(a) Unless otherwise changed by the Pricing Certificate, the Bond is subject to optional redemption, in whole or in part, at any time on 30 days' prior written notice to the Bank at a redemption price of 100% of the principal redeemed, plus accrued interest thereon to the date of redemption plus a premium equal to the Reinvestment Loss determined in the manner provided in the definition of Reinvestment Loss below.

"Reinvestment Loss" means the present value of the difference between (1) the amount that would have been realized by the Bank on the redeemed amount for the remaining term of the Bond at the Federal Reserve H.15 Statistical Release rate for the fixed-rate payers in interest rate swaps for a term corresponding to the term of the Bond, interpolated to the nearest month, if necessary, that was in effect on the date the Bond is issued and (2) the amount that would be realized by the Bank by reinvesting such redeemed funds for the remaining term of the Bond at the Federal Reserve H.15 Statistical Release rate for fixed rate payers in interest rate swaps, interpolated to the nearest month, that was in effect on the date fixed for redemption; both discounted at the same interest rate utilized in determining the applicable amount for clause (2) above. Should the present value have no value or a negative value, the County may redeem with no additional fee

other than the minimum fee set forth below. Partial redemptions may be made subject to a redemption charge based on the same calculation methodology described above. Should the Federal Reserve no longer release rates for fixed-rate payers in interest rate swaps, the Bank may substitute the Federal Reserve H.15 Statistical Release with another similar index. The Bank shall provide the County with a written statement explaining the calculation of the premium due, which statement shall, in absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on the County. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any redemption of the Bond will be subject to a minimum prepayment fee of 0.5% of the amount being redeemed, which minimum redemption fee will be paid by the County to the Bank at the time of redemption of the Bond.

(b) Unless otherwise changed by the Pricing Certificate, the Bond is subject to mandatory redemption before maturity in part at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount to be redeemed, without premium, on June 1 in the years and in the amounts as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT</u>
2015	\$1,275,000	2017	\$1,245,000
2016	1,260,000	2018*	850,000

* Maturity

Section 7. The Bond and the provisions for the registration of the Bond and for the approval of the Bond by the Secretary of the Commission are to be in substantially the form set forth in Appendix A hereto.

Section 8. The Finance Director of the County is hereby authorized to execute a no-arbitrage certificate with respect to the Bond in order to comply with Section 148 of the Code and the applicable Income Tax Regulations thereunder.

Section 9. The County covenants, agrees with the owner of the Bond and acknowledges:

The County covenants that it will not take any action, or fail to take any action, if any such action or failure to take such action would adversely affect the exclusion from gross income of the interest on the Bond for federal income tax purposes. The County will not directly or indirectly use or permit the use of any proceeds of the Bond or any funds of the County, or take or omit to take any action that would cause the Bond to be an “*arbitrage bond*” within the meaning of Section 148(a) of the Code. To that end, the County will execute and deliver an Arbitrage and Tax Regulatory Certificate, dated the date the Bond is issued and will comply with all of the requirements of Section 148 of the Code to the extent applicable.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the County agrees that it will pay from time to time all amounts required to be rebated to the United States of America pursuant to Section 148(f) of the Code and any temporary, proposed or final Treasury Regulations as may be applicable to the Bond. This covenant survives the payment in full of the Bond.

The County acknowledges that the Bank is purchasing the Bond at the Interest Rate on the basis that the interest on the Bond is exempt from federal and State taxation and on the basis of other State and federal laws in effect as of the date the Bond is issued. If any action or failure to take any action by the County shall make the interest received by the Bank on the Bond deemed to be taxable income to the Bank by any governmental agency or court of competent jurisdiction, then the Interest Rate and remaining interest on the Bond will be adjusted upward in order to provide for the payment of interest by the County at a taxable rate which will preserve the Bank’s after-tax economic yield with respect to the Bond. In such event, the County agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Bank

from any cost and expense incurred as a result of the loss of the tax-exempt status, specifically including without limitation all administrative expenses arising in connection with the amendment of the Bank's income tax returns. In addition, if any action or failure to take any action by the County adversely affects the Bank's after-tax economic yield with respect to the Bond, the Interest Rate shall be adjusted to produce an after-tax yield to the Bank equivalent to the Bank's after-tax yield immediately prior to such action or inaction.

The County agrees to give prompt written notice to the Bank on the County's receipt of any oral or written notice or information from any source whatsoever to the effect that the interest received by the Bank on the Bond shall be or has been deemed to be taxable income to the Bank.

If the County provides to the Bank an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel to the effect that any action required under this Section is no longer required, or to the effect that some further action is required, to maintain tax-exempt status, the County and the Bank may rely conclusively on such opinion in complying with the provisions of this Section.

(f) The County will provide the owner of the Bond annually:

- (1) within 210 days of the end of its fiscal year, audited financial statements for that fiscal year, and
- (2) such other documents relating to the financial condition of the County as the owner of the Bond reasonably requests.

The County shall permit the owner of the Bond its agents and representatives to inspect the County's books and records and make extracts therefrom. The County represents and warrants to and covenants with the owner of the Bond that all financial statements which have been delivered to the owner of the Bond fairly and accurately reflect the County's financial condition and there has been no material adverse change in the County's financial condition as reflected in the financial statements since June 30, 2013.

Section 10. Unless otherwise changed by the Pricing Certificate, the Finance Director shall cause the proceeds of the sale of the Bond necessary to redeem and discharge the 2004 Bonds to be transferred to The Depository Trust Company on behalf of the registered owners of the 2004 Bonds on June 12, 2014. The Finance Director shall deposit the balance of the proceeds of the Bond in a separate segregated account held by the County; invest and reinvest such proceeds as permitted by the laws of the State of North Carolina; and apply such proceeds to pay the costs of issuance of the Bond. The Finance Director shall keep and maintain adequate records pertaining to such account and all disbursements from the account so as to satisfy the requirements of the laws of the State of North Carolina and assure that the County maintains its covenants with respect to the exclusion of the interest on the Bond from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation. To the extent any funds remain in the account on November 15, 2014, the Finance Director shall apply the remaining proceeds of the Bond to pay interest on the Bond on December 1, 2014.

Section 11. Actions taken by officials of the County to select paying and transfer agents, and a bond registrar, or alternate or successor agents and registrars pursuant to Section 159E-8 of the Registered Public Obligations Act, Chapter 159E of the General Statutes of North Carolina, are hereby authorized and approved.

Section 12. The Commission is hereby requested to sell the Bond in a private placement to the Bank subject to the provisions hereof. The Bond will be non-transferable, except to a bank, insurance company or similar financial institution or any other entity approved by the Local Government Commission.

Section 13. The Chairman of the Board, the County Manager, the Finance Director and the Clerk to the Board of the County are hereby authorized and directed to cause the Bond to be prepared and, when it has been duly sold by the Commission, to execute the Bond and to turn the Bond over to the registrar and transfer agent of the County for delivery to the Bank.

Section 14. The Chairman of the Board, the County Manager, the Finance Director and the Clerk to the Board of the County are authorized and directed, individually and collectively, to execute and deliver for and on behalf of the County any and all additional certificates, documents, opinions or other papers and perform all other acts as may be required by the documents contemplated in this Resolution or as may be deemed necessary or appropriate in order to implement and carry out the intent and purposes of this Resolution.

Section 15. Portions of this Resolution may be amended or supplemented, from time to time, without the consent of the owner of the Bond if, in the opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel, such amendment or supplement would not adversely affect the interests of the owner of the Bond and would not cause the interest on the Bond to be included in the gross income of a recipient thereof for federal income tax purposes. All other amendments or supplements to this Resolution require the consent of the owner of the Bond, including any amendment or supplement that would reduce the principal amount of the Bond, reduce the interest rate payable on it, extend its maturity or the times for paying interest, change the monetary medium in which principal and interest is payable.

Any act done pursuant to a modification or amendment consented to by the owner of the Bond is binding on all owners of the Bond and will not be deemed an infringement of any of the provisions of this Resolution, whatever the character of the act may be, and may be done and performed as fully and freely as if expressly permitted by the terms of this Resolution, and after consent has been given, no owner of the Bond has any right or interest to object to the action, to question its propriety or to enjoin or restrain the County from taking any action pursuant to a modification or amendment.

Section 16. Nothing in this Resolution precludes (a) the payment of the Bond from the proceeds of refunding bonds or (b) the payment of the Bond from any legally available funds in accordance with the prepayment provisions described in Section 6 herein.

If the County causes to be paid, or has made provisions to pay, on maturity or on redemption before maturity, to the owner of the Bond the principal of the Bond (including interest to become due thereon) and, premium, if any, on the Bond, through setting aside trust funds or setting apart in a reserve fund or special trust account created pursuant to this Resolution or otherwise, or through the irrevocable segregation for that purpose in some sinking fund or other fund or trust account with an escrow agent or otherwise, moneys sufficient therefor, including, but not limited to, interest earned or to be earned on Federal Securities, such Bond shall be considered to have been discharged and satisfied, and the principal of the Bond (including premium, if any, and interest thereon) shall no longer be deemed to be outstanding and unpaid; *provided, however,* that nothing in this Resolution requires the deposit of more than such Federal Securities as may be sufficient, taking into account both the principal amount of such Federal Securities and the interest to become due thereon, to implement any such defeasance.

If such a defeasance occurs and after the County receives an opinion of a nationally recognized verification firm that the segregated money or Federal Securities together with interest earnings thereon are sufficient to effect a defeasance, the County shall execute and deliver all such instruments as may be necessary to effect such a defeasance and desirable to evidence such release, discharge and satisfaction. The County shall make provisions for the mailing of a notice to the owner of the Bond that such money is so available for such payment.

Section 17. All acts and doings of the Chairman of the Board, the County Manager, the Finance Director of the County and the Clerk to the Board that are in conformity with the purposes and intents of this Resolution and in the furtherance of the issuance of the Bond are in all respects approved and confirmed.

Section 18. If any one or more of the agreements or provisions herein contained is held contrary to any express provision of law or contrary to the policy of express law, though not expressly prohibited, or against public policy, or for any reason whatsoever is held invalid, then such covenants, agreements or provisions are null and void and separable from the remaining agreements and provisions and will in no way affect the validity of any of the other agreements and provisions hereof or of the Bond authorized hereunder.

Section 19. All resolutions or parts thereof of the Board of Commissioners in conflict with the provisions herein contained are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby superseded and repealed.

Section 20. This Bond Resolution is effective on its adoption.

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

I, *Darlene M. 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, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$4,680,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BOND, SERIES 2014 OF THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA**” adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, at a meeting held on the 28th day of April, 2014.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the County of Stokes, North Carolina, this the 28th day of April, 2014.

Darlene M., Bullins
Clerk to the Board
County of Stokes, North Carolina

[SEAL]

APPENDIX A

FORM OF BOND

No. R-1

\$4,680,000

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF STOKES

INTEREST

RATE
1.62%

MATURITY DATE
JUNE 1, 2018

DATED DATE
JUNE [], 2014

April 28, 2014

REGISTERED OWNER: PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

PRINCIPAL SUM: FOUR MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS

GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BOND, SERIES 2014

THE COUNTY OF STOKES, NORTH CAROLINA (the "*County*") acknowledges itself indebted and for value received hereby promises to pay to the Registered Owner named above, on the Maturity Date specified above, on surrender hereof, the Principal Sum shown above and to pay to the Registered Owner hereof interest thereon from the date of this Bond until it shall mature at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, payable on December 1, 2014 and semiannually thereafter on June 1 and December 1 of each year. Principal of and interest on this Bond are payable in immediately available funds to the owner of the Bond shown above at the close of business on the 15th day of the month preceding an interest payment date or a bond payment date.

This Bond is issued in accordance with the Registered Public Obligations Act, Chapter 159E of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and pursuant to The Local Government Finance Act, a bond order adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County on April 28, 2014 and effective on the date of its adoption. The Bond is issued to provide funds to (1) refund in advance of their maturities \$4,680,000 aggregate principal amount of the County of Stokes, North Carolina General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2004 and (2) pay the costs of issuing the Bond.

This Bond is subject to optional redemption, in whole or in part, at any time on 30 days' prior written notice to the Bank at a redemption price of 100% of the principal redeemed, plus accrued interest thereon to the date of redemption plus a premium equal to the Reinvestment Loss determined in the manner provided in the definition of Reinvestment Loss below.

"Reinvestment Loss" means the present value of the difference between (1) the amount that would have been realized by the Bank on the redeemed amount for the remaining term of the Bond at the Federal Reserve H.15 Statistical Release rate for the fixed-rate payers in interest rate swaps for a term corresponding to the term of the Bond, interpolated to the nearest month, if necessary, that was in effect on the date the Bond is issued and (2) the amount that would be realized by the Bank by reinvesting such redeemed funds for the remaining term of the Bond at the Federal Reserve H.15 Statistical Release rate for fixed rate payers in interest rate swaps, interpolated to the nearest month, that was in effect on the date fixed for redemption; both discounted at the same interest rate utilized in determining the applicable amount for clause (2) above. Should the present value have no value or a negative value, the County may redeem with no additional fee other than the minimum fee set forth below. Partial redemptions may be made subject to a redemption charge based on the same calculation methodology described above. Should the Federal Reserve no longer release rates for fixed-rate payers in interest rate swaps, the Bank may substitute the Federal Reserve H.15 Statistical Release with another similar index. The Bank shall provide the County with a written statement explaining the calculation of the premium due, which statement shall, in absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on the County. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any redemption of the Bond will be subject to a minimum prepayment fee of 0.5% of the amount being redeemed, which minimum redemption fee will be paid by the County to the Bank at the time of redemption of the Bond.

The Bond is subject to mandatory redemption before maturity in part at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount to be redeemed, without premium, on June 1 in the years and in the amounts as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT</u>
2015	\$1,275,000	2017	\$1,245,000
2016	1,260,000	2018*	850,000

* Maturity

THE BOND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE, EXCEPT TO A BANK, INSURANCE COMPANY OR SIMILAR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER ENTITY APPROVED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION.

It is hereby certified and recited that all conditions, acts and things required by the Constitution or statutes of the State of North Carolina to exist, be performed or happen precedent to or in the issuance of this Bond, exist, have been performed and have happened, and that the amount of this Bond, together with all other indebtedness of the County, is within every debt and other limit prescribed by said Constitution or statutes. The faith and credit of the County are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on this Bond in accordance with its terms.

This Bond is not valid or obligatory for any purpose until the certification hereon has been signed by an authorized representative of the Local Government Commission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County has caused this Bond to bear the original or facsimile of the signatures of the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the County and the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of the County and an original or facsimile of the seal of the County to be imprinted hereon and this Bond to be dated as of the Dated Date above.

(SEAL)

Clerk to the Board

Chairman

Date of Execution: June [], 2014

The issue hereof has been approved under the provisions of The Local Government Bond Act.

T. VANCE HOLLOMAN
Secretary of the Local Government Commission

FORM OF ASSIGNMENT

ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto

(Please print or typewrite Name and Address,
including Zip Code, and Federal Taxpayer Identification or
Social Security Number of Assignee)

the within Bond and all rights thereunder, and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints

Attorney to register the transfer of the within Bond on the books kept for registration thereof,
with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: _____

Signature guaranteed by: _____

NOTICE: Signature must be guaranteed by a Participant in the Securities Transfer Agent Medallion Program ("*Stamp*") or similar program.

NOTICE: The signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as it appears on the face of the within Bond in every particular, without alteration, enlargement or any change whatever.

TRANSFER FEE MAY BE REQUIRED

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker questioned how the County happened to find out about the possible refinancing?

Finance Director Edwards responded:

- County was approached by PNC Bank
- PNC had been looking at the bond and it was callable June 1st
- Savings could be higher, recently learned that the closing costs will not be as high as originally anticipated

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Very pleased to see that the payoff date does not changed (four years remaining)

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that there were currently no other opportunities out there like this.

The Board had no issues with moving the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

The Board commended the staff for bringing the item to the Board's attention

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

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget Work Session Schedule

Manager Morris presented the following information regarding the approved Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget Work Session Schedule:

- Following dates were approved by the Board at the April 14th meeting:

Work Session Schedule	Date
For Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget	
Presentation of Proposed Budget	Tuesday, May 27, 2014 -6:00pm
Work Session	Wed., June 4, 2014 -10:00am
Work Session	Thursday, June 5, 2014 -10:00am
Public Hearing	Tuesday, June 10, 2014 -7:00pm
Work Session	Wed., June 11, 2014 -10:00am
Work Session - (BOE)	Thursday, June 12, 2014-10:00am
Work Session	Tuesday, June 24, 2014-1:00pm
Work Session	Wed., June 25, 2014 -1:00pm

- Joint meeting with the Board of Education has been confirmed for Thursday, June 12th at 10:00 am
- Vice Chairman Jones notified Chairman Booth that she would not be attending recertification training as previously planned during the week of June 16th (no meetings were scheduled that week)
- Recommend the Board consider changing the Tuesday, June 24th to Monday, June 16th and Wednesday, June 25th to Tuesday, June 17th
- Manager Morris noted the following with the current approved schedule:
 - Once the budget is presented to the Board at the May 27th meeting, the Board will have 7 days before the first budget work session on June 4th
 - Power point presentation will be presented at the first budget work session on June 4th summarizing the entire budget (both expenditures and revenues)
 - The next work session will be on June 5th
 - The Board will have 5 days after the June 5th work session before the Public Hearing on June 10th
 - The Board will have 4 work sessions after the Public Hearing on June 10th to discuss and approve the budget
- Would like the Board's consensus to leave the schedule as is or change the last two dates to June 16th and June 17th

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

The Board discussed changing the dates of June 24th and June 25th to June 16th and June 17th.

The Board unanimously agreed to change the dates of June 24th and June 25th to June 16th

and June 17th with both sessions starting at 1:00pm.

April 28, 2014

The Board approved, by consensus, the following budget work session schedule:

**Proposed Work Session
For Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget**

Date

Presentation of Proposed Budget	Tuesday, May 27, 2014 -6:00pm
Work Session	Wed., June 4, 2014 -10:00am
Work Session	Thursday, June 5, 2014 -10:00am
Public Hearing	Tuesday, June 10, 2014 -7:00pm
Work Session	Wed., June 11, 2014 -10:00am
Work Session - (BOE)	Thursday, June 12, 2014-10:00am
Work Session	Monday, June 16, 2014-1:00pm
Work Session	Tuesday, June 17, 2014 -1:00pm

- Work Sessions will be held in the Conference Room – third floor-Admin Building
- Public Hearing will be held in Courtroom “A” at 7:00 pm

Proposed Program Integrity Policy

County Manager Rick Morris reported the following:

- County Attorney Ty Browder requested that the proposed Program Integrity Policy be placed on the May 12th Action Agenda in order to allow more time to review the proposed document
- Attorney Browder noted some additional language may need to be added to the proposed policy

Chairman Booth, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the May 12th Action Agenda.

Health Department – Posting Public Health Nurse II Position External

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following request from Health Director Scott

Lenhart:

- Request to advertise externally for a Public Health Nurse II (Child Health Coordinator)
- This position became vacant after the applicant who was to fill the position decided not to take the position
- It is imperative that this position be filled as soon as possible in order to not lose approximately \$50,000 in grant funding
- This occurred after the Agenda was delivered
- Request to move the item to tonight’s Action Agenda in order to expedite the filling of this vacant position

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the request and placing the item on tonight's Agenda.

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

Gap Funding Letter

County Manager Morris presented the following updated Gap Funding Letter for the Board's review and consideration:

April 28, 2014

President Dan Gerlach
Golden LEAF Foundation
301 N. Winstead Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804

Subject: Gap Letter for Stokes County Sewer Extension to Community College Campus

Dear President Gerlach:

At the request of The Golden Leaf Foundation, the Stokes County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is providing an updated funding gap letter for the county's water/sewer project to the new community college, located in the Meadows Community of Stokes County.

The purpose of this letter is to certify and guarantee that if any funding gaps occur in the completion of the project, the BOCC will fund the gap from internal county funds. This ensures the project is fully funded whether additional grant funding is received or not. More specifically, it addresses the \$519K that the county originally requested from the Rural Center, which is now being requested from the N.C. Dept. of Commerce.

Since a final answer is still pending on the \$519K, this gap letter guarantees that the project will be fully funded. The project scope addressed by this letter is the sewer line to the college and Meadows Community plus furnishing of water from the well that is already located on the property. It does not include the future water expansion project, which will include a new water tank at South Stokes Fire Department and new water line running from that location to the community college and surrounding area. The water expansion project will be addressed with future grant applications.

Sincerely yours,

James D. Booth
Chairman
Stokes County Board of Commissioners

cc: Vice President of Programs Ted Lord

April 28, 2014

Program Officer Miranda Dalton

Manager Morris noted the following:

- In reference to the Water and Sewer Project, two things that the County is getting ready to do
 - Bids for the sewer project were opened last Thursday
 - Had 4 bidders with at least 2-3 being in the expected range of the cost of the project
 - Bids are being evaluated
 - Will be getting the bids to the Board very soon for approval of a contractor
 - Getting ready to start spending dollars
 - Need to extend this project a little bit which is not uncommon
- The Board had previously approved a Gap Funding Letter for ARC
- The Gap Letter states that if funding from a source does not come thru that was expected, the Board will cover the gap
- This is an updated Gap Letter
- Golden LEAF has no problem with the extension, but request before the extension is approved and any further funding is released, the County submit an updated Gap Letter
- The funding documents that Golden LEAF had seen earlier included the \$519,000 that was expected from the former Rural Center
- Golden LEAF wants to be sure, since the \$519,000 is not final as to whether the County will receive the funding, the Board would still fund the gap if the \$519,000 funding is denied
- That is reason for an updated Gap Letter
- Still working with NC Department of Commerce regarding the \$519,000
- Secretary Sharon Decker, NC Dept. of Commerce, has requested a meeting with all the funders to discuss the project
- Can't afford to lose the \$2.6 million that has already been approved for the project
- If the \$519,000 does not come through, will bring a recommendation back to the Board to fill the gap
- Would request the Board move the item to tonight's Action Agenda in order to get the extension and start construction within the next 45 days

Chairman Booth opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Feel it is a necessary step to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda
- Concerned about funding for the entire project
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that Pilot View has been involved in every step of this project

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Met with Charles Anderson, Pilot View, and Representative Holloway last week concerning funding
- Pilot View RC&D has some unspent federal funding (approximately \$400,000)

- There is a possibility that the unspent funding could be moved to Stokes County
- Representative Holloway is working to see if that federal funding can be moved to Stokes County
- Unfortunately, when the Governor did away with the Rural Center and transferred them to the Department of Commerce, we are finding it is not user friendly to rural counties (mean the requirements just don't fit the rural counties)
- If a community college in a county that leads the state in the percentage of residents that commute outside the county to work and has very little business/industry and that project does not qualify for a rural grant, what would qualify?

Vice Chairman Jones commented:

- Feel the \$519,000 that was promised prior to the transfer should be made good

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Bottom line seems to be, where the power is, is where the money goes
- Agree with Vice Chairman Jones, that funding was promised to the County

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Representative Holloway was trying to get that funding for the county from leftover undesignated funding
- The Department of Commerce says that was then and this is now
- Have met with Dr. Patricia Mitchell, NC Department of Commerce
- County Manager Rick Morris has met with Secretary Decker
- Have tried to turn over every rock trying to find funding
- Secretary Decker has called the manager back and offered some loans
- Representative Holloway is still working diligently to get the funding for the project

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Questioned if it is necessary to put the dollar amount since the letter states that the County will certify and guarantee that if any funding gaps occur in the completion of the project, the BOCC will fund the gaps from internal county funds?

County Manager Morris responded:

- Golden LEAF specifically requested the \$519K amount be included in the letter since it had not been awarded to the County
- The \$519K has been shown in our funding stream
- Do not know when there will be a decision regarding the \$519K

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – Proposed Legislative Allocation Applications for Fiscal Year 2014-15

Chairman Booth entertained a motion regarding the following Proposed Legislative Allocation Applications for Fiscal Year 2014-15 submitted at the April 14th meeting:

	JCPC Legislative Allocation for F/Y 13-14	County Match	JCPC Recommendation For F/Y 2014-15	County Match
Stokes Friends of Youth	\$77,615	\$23,285	\$77,526	\$23,258
Stokes SCAN	\$21,737	\$6,521	\$21,940	\$6,582
Children's Center	\$11,084	\$3,325	\$11,084	\$3,325
Insight	\$25,549	\$7,665	\$25,460	\$7,638

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Proposed Legislative Allocation Applications for Fiscal Year 2014-16. Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Adoption Policy and Adoption Fee Policy

Chairman Booth entertained a motion to approve the following proposed Adoption Policy and Adoption Fee Policy presented at the April 14th meeting which has been approved by County Attorney Ty Browder:

Stokes County Department of Social Services Adoption Policy

Philosophy and Purpose

The Stokes County Department of Social Services operates as a licensed adoption agency according to guidelines established by North Carolina General Statutes and the Social Services Division of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources. Local policies set forth by the agency are intended as a guide for establishment of uniform practices in regard to the provision of adoption services to adoptive applicants. The agency's adoption program is geared to the needs of children in its care. The Stokes County Department of Social Services strives to deliver, in partnership with our community, adoption services which are culturally competent, child centered and family focused.

The primary purpose of adoption is to help a child, whose birth parents are incapable of assuming or continuing parental responsibilities, to become part of a new family. It is the goal of the Stokes County Department of Social Services to identify those children in need of adoption services and to meet their needs through adoptive placement.

Another purpose is to provide services to individuals who desire to parent a child or children who may be unable to become biological parents or wish to increase their family through adoption. The adoption process also includes the protection of natural parents to prevent the release of their child through hasty decisions made under stress and anxiety.

The majority of the children in North Carolina who are freed for adoption are considered special needs children. Special needs is defined as children who are physically, mentally or emotionally handicapped; victims of early childhood maltreatment; a member of a sibling group; a child over the age of 6; or a child from a minority group. Priority will be given to those applicants who believe they can accept and meet the needs of these children. The emphasis of the adoption worker's efforts will be the recruitment and study of homes for the placement of these children up to age 18.

The rights of individuals to apply for adoption services through the Stokes County Department of Social Services are recognized by this agency. To ensure a clear understanding of the agency's responsibility in providing services to adoptive applicants and children in need of this service, the following guidelines have been adopted as county policy by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners.

Intake

Potential adoptive applicants will be given information about the types of children for whom the agency is currently seeking adoptive parents. The availability of Adoption Assistance for children in the custody of a Department of Social Services will also be explained.

Potential adoptive applicants who are not interested in licensing as foster parents will also be given a list of child placing agencies that could serve as a resource for an applicant. Applicants not interested in licensing as foster parents will have the option of requesting the agency to complete a Pre-placement Assessment. The Assessment, if approved, will be shared with only those counties who have children identified as available for adoption.

All applicants will be asked to complete personal information forms. Once this information is received applicants will be placed on a waiting list, if one exists at the time of application. The waiting list will be prioritized based on the needs of available children. Applicants seeking to adopt special needs children or any child in the custody of a Department of Social Services will have their assessment completed first. Other applicants will be moved to the assessment phase as the following guidelines are met and staff is available to provide the service.

Guidelines

1. The applicant(s) must be residents of Stokes County, or within a 30 mile radius.
2. Age: North Carolina law specifies that a petitioner for adoption must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. All applicants; however, will be considered on an individual basis to determine if their age is appropriate for the age of the child.

3. Marital Status: If an applicant is married, the spouse must join in the application and the couple must have been married for at least two years prior to an application for adoption and must demonstrate a secure and responsible living environment. Single individuals may apply for adoption and must demonstrate a stable living environment for a minimum of two years. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
4. Marital Status: Adoptive applicants must have a current physical examination. Each applicant must be able to demonstrate they are physically and mentally able to parent a child.
5. Income: Adoptive applicants must have sufficient income to maintain an adequate standard of living. They must demonstrate the ability to manage their finances so as to provide reasonable economic security in the home for a child or children. It is expected that at the time of placement one of the adoptive parents will take a leave from employment to ease the child's placement to the new home environment. The age and needs of the child and the employment of the adoptive couple will be taken into consideration when establishing the amount of leave time required. It is the agency's responsibility to explore fully during the home study all factors concerning an adoptive applicant's feelings and plans about a leave from employment during the initial adjustment period. In situations where both parents are employed there must be an understanding that the decision as to when employment will resume will be a joint determination between the adoptive applicant and the agency. Factors to be considered are the progress of the child's adjustment and integration into the family and the adequacy and appropriateness of the child care plan. The emphasis throughout should be on a cooperative approach and joint decisions as to what constitutes the best interest of the child.
6. If marital or psychological problems are indicated, the agency may request an evaluation by a psychologist, psychiatrist or mental health professional at the cost of the applicant. The home evaluation will not be completed until said evaluation is completed and the recommendations shared with the agency.
7. Fingerprinting will be done and criminal records will be checked on each applicant as mandated by the Adoption and Safe Families Act.
8. Applicants will be accepted without regard to race, creed, national origin or religious affiliation.
9. "In county" placements of children into adoptive homes will be made after careful deliberation and study of all factors. The decision will be made only on the basis of the best interest of a child.
10. The agency has the authority, until the Decree of Adoption is issued, to recommend that the adoption be dismissed and the child removed from the home.
11. The agency fully understands the requirements of the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act and will fully comply with its mandates.
12. Time Limits: If an applicant(s) is approved by the Adoption Committee, the agency will conduct a search for an appropriate child both locally and by circulating the assessment with other agencies in North Carolina who may have children available for adoption. The assessment will be circulated for up to eighteen months and if the family has not been selected for the placement of a child, the family can ask that the summary be updated. If an update is completed the assessment will be circulated for up to eighteen additional months. At the end of this time, if the family has not been selected, the case will be closed.
13. Training Requirements: All adoptive applicants who are seeking to adopt a special needs child or a child in the custody of a Department of Social Services will be required to

- complete MAPP/GPS (Model Approach for Partnership in Parenting/Group Preparation and Selection), or other such training as approved by the North Carolina Division of Social Services. Completion of at least half the classes is required before the adoptive assessment will be started and is also dependent on staff availability.
14. Before initiation of an assessment can begin the applicant(s) will read and agree to the Stokes County Fee Policies and Schedules for Adoptive Services. The Adoption Fee Agreement must be signed prior to the start of an assessment.
 15. Adoptive applicants moving into the county whose status is that of a currently approved adoptive home in their previous county and who have already completed MAPP classes may be accepted as an approved home in this county, provided requirements of the prior county are comparable to those of this agency. For these families an updated pre-placement assessment will be completed.
 16. A family or individual who has previously adopted a child will be required to wait a minimum of one year after the granting of the Decree of Adoption before they can again be considered as adoptive applicants. Exceptions to this will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 17. Approval or Denial: All assessments will be presented to the Adoption Committee for approval or denial. Copies of the pre-placement assessment will be provided to families or individuals who are the subject of the assessment and notice will be provided in writing to applicants as to approval or denial of their application within 30 days of the completion of the assessment.
 18. Adoption Assistance is available to help children who might otherwise not be able to be placed in an adoptive home by removing a financial barrier. Eligibility for adoption assistance will be determined related to criteria relating to the child's circumstance and not those of the potential adoptive parents. Information regarding a child's eligibility for adoption assistance will be shared with prospective adoptive parents prior to the child's adoptive placement.
 19. As provided for in G.S.48-3-304(a) and G.S.48-2-504(a), the Stokes County Department of Social Services has set fees for the preparation of the Pre-Placement Assessments and Reports to the Court for adoption services. Fees as charged are detailed on the attached fee schedule. However, no fee shall be charged when the head of household for the prospective adoptive family is a Work First or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient, the family unit's income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level or when the prospective adoptive family or individual plans to adopt a child who is in the custody and placement of the Department of Social Services.
 20. The Adoption Committee may recommend an exception to guidelines found within this policy. All exceptions must be approved by the Director.

Children

Children cleared for adoption, either through termination of parental rights, release by the parent(s) or by other court action, will have their special needs assessed in order to secure an appropriate match with an adoptive family. In situations where the agency does not have approved adoptive applicants available for a particular child, the agency will prepare an adoptive profile for the child, which will be circulated as appropriate to seek the most appropriate family. Other means of securing a home for these children may be employed, such as listing the child with NC Kids or any other available means.

Children in the custody of the Department of Social Services may be placed outside the county in an adoptive home. Family relationships and family ties that would be disruptive to a placement would be a major factor in considering the location of the best placement.

Foster Parents

If a foster child becomes available for adoptive placement, the foster parents with whom the child has resided for at least six months and with whom bonding has occurred will have first opportunity to apply to adopt that child along with any other applicants.

The agency will inform the foster parents that a child may be available for adoption when adoption is sanctioned by the court as the permanent plan for a child in agency custody. If the foster parents are interested in adoption of the child, an adoptive assessment will be completed by the agency. The agency's Adoption Committee will make the decision regarding whether other adoptive applicants will be considered.

Foster parents will not be placed on a waiting list in order to have their assessments completed.

Foster parents wishing to adopt will be considered along the same established adoption guidelines as all other applicants. The agency will have the sole authority to place the child with the adoptive parents that the agency deems most appropriate.

Service to Agency Employees, Board Members, Others

If an employee of the Stokes County Department of Social Services, a member of the Agency Board or any other individual(s) with whom there may be a conflict of interest (as determined by the Director) wishes to apply for the adoption of a child, the agency shall abide by the following policy:

The Stokes County Department of Social Services will request another county Department of Social Services to provide the adoption service. The pre-placement assessment, approval or denial of the applicant(s) for adoption and the follow-up services needed will be the responsibility of the other agency.

Legal Risk Placements

The goal of the Stokes County Department of Social Services is for every child to have a permanent family as soon as possible. In some situations it is possible to place a child in what is termed by the Agency as a "legal risk placement." A legal risk placement is the placement of a child who is not legally cleared for adoption at the time placement occurs. The family selected for the placement of a child in legal risk placements should have completed the adoptive home study process and be found suitable to meet the child's needs.

Before placement, the family will be fully informed of the child's legal status and of the potential for removal of the child from their home should legal clearance not be accomplished for some reason. The family shall be given adequate time and encouragement to carefully consider all aspects of a legal risk placement. The purpose of a legal risk placement is to move a child into a permanent home as soon as possible without jeopardizing the legal or social well-being of the child.

In a legal risk placement, the agency does not yet have the legal authority to make an adoptive placement or to consent to the adoption. The home in which the child is to be placed must be licensed as a foster home.

Legal risk placements may be considered for a child in any one of the following circumstances:

1. Termination of parental rights has been granted and is under appeal.
2. Termination of parental rights has been established for one parent and termination for the other parent awaits only publication to notify the absent parent of the termination proceedings, and subsequent termination adjudication. Documentation of attempts to locate the absent parent must be available.
3. A petition for involuntary termination of parental rights has been filed but the Court has not yet entered its order, the Attorney General or the Agency's attorney has been consulted and stated that termination is likely and that the legal risk placement would not jeopardize the outcome of the termination hearing.

Adoption Committee

The Adoption Committee of the Stokes County Department of Social Services shall consist of the following individuals:

- Social Work Supervisor III – Child Welfare, Chairperson
- Agency Director, Vice-Chairperson
- Social Work Supervisor II – Foster Care
- Foster Care Licensing Social Worker
- Child's Foster Care Social Worker
- Guardian Ad Litem (to be determined on a case-by-case basis)
- Any other individual deemed appropriate by the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson

Duties of the committee are as follows:

- Determine which Adoption Assistance Benefits a child is eligible to receive
- Approve/Disapprove a Pre-Placement Assessment
- Selection of an adoptive home for an available child

Duties of the Chairperson:

- Call meetings as needed
- Ensure minutes are maintained of all meetings
- Ensure committee members are provided materials a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting to allow adequate time for review
- Notify the Director of all meetings and the purpose of the meetings to determine if Director's attendance is needed

Disruptions

Adoption disruption is a term used to describe the interruption of an adoptive placement after the actual placement with an adoptive family but before the completion of the legal adoption process. This is a painful experience for all involved and the decision to stop the adoption process should be mutually arrived at between the parents and the social worker and the child (if appropriate). The

decision should be made slowly and carefully and only after all alternatives and resources have been exhausted.

To minimize the possibility of disruptions or to minimize the painful effects of a disruption, the department may take the following steps to assist a family and child:

- Respond to a family's request for assistance
- Maintain open communication with the family, discussing the situation in words a child can understand
- Assist the parent in discussing disruption issues openly with the child
- Negotiate a plan of action with the family and the child
- Discourage the family from blaming anyone
- Review with the family the progress the child has made since placement
- Recognize the family's efforts, concern and love for the child
- Help the family with their grief at the loss of their adoptive child and the child with the loss of a family
- Help the child recognize and cope with feelings and express them appropriately
- Educate families to the importance of their attitudes toward a child during this time
- Help the family understand the importance of their support and preparation of the child as the child moves to another family
- Assure the child of continued adult interest and caring
- Refer family and/or child to services as needed, including agencies that specialize in disruptions

The agency will strive to identify and select a new family for the child as soon as the child is determined ready for a new placement. The new family will receive information about the disruption.

Post Adoption Services

An agency social worker will supervise the placement of a child until the Decree of Adoption is entered. Post Adoption Services (after the Decree of Adoption) will be offered as an agency service to be provided as needed and may be requested by any of the parties involved in an adoption. Post adoption services may involve interviewing, counseling, consultation or referral to clinical services for the purpose of ensuring the permanence of the placement.

Adoptive families will also be notified of the availability of post adoptive services provided by outside agencies.

Termination of Services

Adoption Services will terminate upon:

- Legal completion of the adoption of children placed by the agency or for children for whom the agency is under court order to investigate the placements and report to the court
- A referral of families to community resources for post-adoption services
- Withdrawal of the applicant(s)' formal application to adopt

Adoption Policy

This policy was approved and adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners on the
Day of , .

Chairperson
Stokes County Board of Commissioners

**Stokes County Department of Social Services
Adoption Fee Policy**

North Carolina General Statute 108-A authorizes local boards of social services to establish fee policies for some services rendered by a county Department of Social Services. In addition, N.C.G.S. 48-3-304(a) and N.C.G.S. 48-2-504(a) permit charges for the preparation of Pre-placement Assessments and Reports to the Court.

1. Any party requesting adoption services must sign a Stokes County Adoption Fee Agreement prior to the initiation of services. The fee for the service shall not be based on the outcome, either favorable or unfavorable, of the Assessment or the Report to the Court.
2. No fee shall be charged when one or more of the following circumstances exist:
 - The head of the household for the prospective adoptive family is a TANF or SSI recipient;
 - The family unit's income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level;
 - The family unit has identified an adoptee(s) that is in the custody and placement responsibility of a county Department of Social Services and provided that family continues to pursue the adoption of the identified child.
3. Adoption fees will be assessed for the following:
 - The adoptive applicants have identified an adoptee(s) that is not in the custody of a county Department of Social Services
 - The adoptive applicants do not desire to license as foster parents, and the agency is not aware of any children legally free for adoption at the time of the applicants request for services
 - To all other families requesting adoption services except as listed in item two (2) above
4. Required fees may be reduced or waived if it can be documented in the case record that the prospective adoptive family cannot pay the required fee, or if other reasons exist that would result in the fee becoming a barrier to the adoption. Unless reduced or waived, the entire fee shall be paid prior to the release of any assessments or reports. Only the Director of the Department of Social Services may reduce or waive the fee.

Fee Schedule for Adoption Services

Fees for the provision of services shall be as follows:

Pre-placement Assessment (This fee consists of an Assessment of the family's current functioning, gathering and assimilating a social history of the family, contacting references, a financial record check, court records check, consultation, counseling, supervision and support services following placement.)	\$1,000.00
Pre-placement Assessment Update	\$350.00 (was \$200)
Report to the Court (for children not in DSS custody) (step-parent, close relative adoptions, court ordered)	\$200.00 (was \$150)
Report to Court (for each additional child)	\$50.00 (new fee)
Services to Adult Adoptees -- up to one hour	no charge
Services to Adult Adoptees -- beyond one hour	\$25.00 per hour (new fee)
Post Adoption Services (for family and/or child)	\$25.00 per hour (new fee)

Vice Chairman Jones move to approve the Adoption Policy and Adoption Fee Policy.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Appointment – Stokes County Animal Control Advisory Council

Chairman Booth noted that Debbie Tuttle was nominated at the April 14th meeting to serve on the Stokes County Animal Control Advisory Council representing the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Booth opened the floor for any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Booth entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Booth polled the Board:

Commissioner Lankford: Debbie Tuttle
 Commissioner Inman: Debbie Tuttle
 Chairman Booth: Debbie Tuttle
 Vice Chairman Jones: Debbie Tuttle
 Commissioner Walker: Debbie Tuttle

Chairman Booth noted the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved Debbie Tuttle to serve on the Stokes County Animal Control Advisory Council representing the Sheriff's Department.

Appointment – Stokes County Adult Home Community Advisory Committee

Chairman Booth noted there were no nominations at the April 14th meeting for the vacancy on the Stokes County Adult Home Community Advisory Committee.

Chairman Booth opened the floor for any further nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated Linda Neal.

Chairman Booth entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Booth polled the Board:

Commissioner Lankford: Linda Neal

Commissioner Inman: Linda Neal

Chairman Booth: Linda Neal

Vice Chairman Jones: Linda Neal

Commissioner Walker: Linda Neal

Chairman Booth noted the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved Linda Neal to serve on the Stokes County Adult Home Community Advisory Committee.

Appointment – Northwest Piedmont Rural Planning Organization (RPO) TAC

Chairman Booth noted that Commissioner Ernest Lankford had been nominated to serve on the Northwest Piedmont Rural Planning Organization (MPO) (TAC).

Chairman Booth opened the floor any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Booth entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Booth polled the Board:

Commissioner Lankford: Commissioner Ernest Lankford
Commissioner Inman: Commissioner Ernest Lankford
Chairman Booth: Commissioner Ernest Lankford
Vice Chairman Jones: Commissioner Ernest Lankford
Commissioner Walker: Commissioner Ernest Lankford

Chairman Booth noted that the Board of Commissioners re-appointed Commissioner Ernest Lankford to serve on the Northwest Piedmont Rural Planning Organization (MPO) (TAC).

Refinancing of General Obligation Refunding Bond

Chairman Booth entertained to approve the following documents regarding the Refinancing of General Obligation Refund Bond presented at tonight's meeting:

- A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina Making Certain Statements of Fact Concerning Proposed Bond Issue
- Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not To Exceed \$4,700,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond of the County of Stokes, North Carolina
- A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina Providing for the Issuance of a Not to Exceed \$4,680,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2014 of the County of Stokes, North Carolina

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve the following documents regarding the Refinancing of General Obligation Refund Bond:

- A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina Making Certain Statements of Fact Concerning Proposed Bond Issue
- Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not To Exceed \$4,700,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond of the County of Stokes, North Carolina
- A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, North Carolina Providing for the Issuance of a Not to Exceed \$4,680,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2014 of the County of Stokes, North Carolina

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Health Department – Posting Public Health Nurse II Position External

Chairman Booth entertained a motion regarding the request to post externally a vacant

Public Health Nurse II position presented at tonight's meeting.

Vice Chairman Jones moved to approve the request to post externally a vacant Public Health Nurse II position. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Gap Funding Letter

Chairman Booth entertained a motion regarding the updated Gap Funding Letter presented at tonight's meeting by Manager Morris.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Chairman to execute the updated GAP Funding Letter to Golden LEAF Foundation. Vice Chairman Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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. Vice Chairman Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

James D. Booth
Chairman