

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 9, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, February 9, 2015 at 1:30 pm with the following members present:

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

Members absent:
Vice Chairman Jimmy Walker

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager Richard D. Morris
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins
Finance Director Julia Edwards
DSS Director Stacey Elmes
Tax Administrator Jake Oakley
GIS Specialist Greg Hunsucker
Cooperative Extension Director Debbie Cox
Sheriff Mike Marshall

Chairman Ronda Jones called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Chairman Jones noted that Vice Chairman Walker was absent from today's meeting due to his recent surgery, but should be back by the next meeting.

Commissioner Inman delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Jones 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 Jones entertained a motion to approve or amend the February 9, 2015

Agenda.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the February 9th Agenda as presented.

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

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Control Forestry Burns
 - NC Forestry Service held the first of two Control Burns near Hanging Rock State Park this past week
 - County used the Reverse 911 System to alert residents within a five-mile radius of the burn
 - One remaining Control Burn is scheduled for later in February
- Budget Guidance Work Session – Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 10:00 am

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “A faithful witness will not lie; but a false witness will utter lies” (Proverbs)
- Piedmont Triad Regional Development Corporation (PTRDC)
 - First meeting was held this past Wednesday for the PTRDC at the Piedmont Triad Regional Council who will be providing a space for the PTRDC to meet
 - PTRDC will meet quarterly
 - PTRDC will undertake activities for economic development and social welfare, will promote job creation, and will promote economic development initiatives
 - PTRDC has 35 members from the twelve counties
 - Will be serving as the one elected official member from Stokes County
 - Von Robertson will be serving for Stokes County as another member representing contractors with other members being from private organizations and financial institutions
 - Hope Stokes County can get some benefit from this new organization

Commissioner Inman commented:

- CenterPoint Human Services
 - Continuing to work toward a merger with Partners
 - Lot of negotiating being done
 - Will have more information by the next meeting
- NCACC – Board of Directors

- Met this past Wednesday in Raleigh
- Board of Directors approved the Federal goals which included those submitted by the County
- Attended the Governor's State of the State Address with Representative Holloway
 - Governor McCrory's State of the State Address included the following five main initiatives
 - Creation of Jobs
 - Strengthen Education Systems for Students and Teachers
 - Connectivity
 - Health Care including Mental Health
 - Government Efficiencies
- Was able to talk to the Health and Human Services Steering Committee on Thursday regarding the mental health initiative

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Attended the League of Governments Meeting sponsored by the Town of Walnut Cove this past Thursday
- Attended the Rally in King regarding the flag/statute
 - Very pleased this morning to see that the American Legion has the statute with the cross at each entrance to their facility

Chairman Jones commented:

- Also attended the League of Governments Meeting
- Stokes County Community Child Protection and Child Fatality Prevention Team held a meeting with CenterPoint Human Services which was very positive
- Will be attending a Piedmont Authority Regional Transportation meeting this week
- Referenced a USDA Newsletter which talks about restructuring of their Loan Program
- Forsyth Tech received a \$90,000 Rural Community Mobilization Grant through the NC Department of Commerce to provide short-term job training to the unemployed and underemployed in Stokes County
 - Program is designed to connect qualified residents with full time jobs and new careers, and the training will be provided at no cost
 - Forsyth Tech hopes to help 140 individuals get a job by April 2015

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following spoke during public comments:

Mr. Buddy Timm
POBox 573
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

Mr. Timm commented:

- Will be speaking to the Board about the King Veterans Memorial

Mr. Timm read and provided the following to the Board of Commissioners:

"My concern is over the evil of forcing State officials to prohibit a community from displaying Christian symbols which historically represent the State's founding, on city property, by using the "establishment clause" from the Constitution's First Amendment: which states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof". That is an obvious misuse of the law, and therefore forced lie, since the sentence is addressed to Congress. There are no specific words within the Constitution or Amendments to clearly allow changing the word "Congress" to "the States". It is only an opinion on the gun barrel forced Fourteenth Amendment, which is called the Incorporation Doctrine; that is said to administer the States' Bill of Rights back to the States. That would be TREASON to change our form of government on an opinion, when our officials have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution of original intent. We need to be mindful that the States would never have ratified the Constitution, if they were not given their States' Bill of Rights.

Jefferson's Kentucky Resolution, Resolved 3, makes it very clear from the Tenth Amendment, to sighting the First Amendment specifically, that those powers "are withheld from the cognizance of federal tribunals". From that understanding, there is the Separation of Church and State, the Separation of Speech and State, the Separation of Press and State, and the Separation of Assembly and State; all separated from the federal tribunals' governance or state.

America's heritage is from God our Creator, and "Free and Independent States"; and not Atheism, nor centralized unlimited power.

Does not North Carolina have a Right to acknowledge its Christian Heritage? The 1776 North Carolina Constitution, states; "That no person, who shall deny the being of God or the truth of the Protestant religion, or the divine authority either of the Old or New Testaments, or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the State, shall be capable of holding any office...within this State".

North Carolina turned down the Constitution three times; one of the concerns was: there were no Christian requirements to hold Federal Office. Around Christmas, 2014, the News mentioned the Atheists had a lawsuit to remove the probation against Atheists holding office in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. It should be obvious that without God's moral foundation anything goes.

Have we degenerated to the point where those with power and money can imply law and run our courts; and we, our children, and leaders are forced to abide by an evil lie?

Please act collectively or individually on this to the Governor and General Assembly.

Chairman Jones expressed appreciation to those speaking during public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of January 26, 2015 – Regular Meeting

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #39

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #39.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.490	Dues & Subscriptions	<u>\$3,900.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$4,100.00</u>
	Totals	\$3,900.00	\$200.00	\$4,100.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funding for ABC Officers' membership dues with the NC ABC Officers Association. (No County Funding)

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$200.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.413	State Fine & Forfeitures	<u>\$9,661.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$9,861.00</u>
	Totals	\$9,661.00	\$200.00	\$9,861.00

Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #40

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #40.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.511	Equipment -- Non-Capital	<u>\$18,330.00</u>	<u>\$1,138.00</u>	<u>\$19,468.00</u>
	Totals	\$18,330.00	\$1,138.00	\$19,468.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funding to purchase KID ID Equipment. (No County Funding)

This will result in a **net increase of \$1,138.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.411	Federal Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$6,985.00</u>	<u>\$1,138.00</u>	<u>\$8,123.00</u>
	Totals	\$6,985.00	\$1,138.00	\$8,123.00

Solid Waste Department- Budget Amendment #41

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #41.

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 Waste Department			
100.4720.250	Auto Supplies	\$135,000.00	\$(50,000.00)	\$85,000.00
100.4720.351	Main. & Repairs - Auto	<u>\$90,000.00</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>	<u>\$140,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$225,000.00	\$00.00	\$225,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds for repairs to trucks.

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

Sheriff's Department- Budget Amendment #42

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #42.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Sheriff's Department			
100.4310.311	Training	<u>\$7,290.00</u>	<u>\$2,028.00</u>	<u>\$9,318.00</u>
	Totals	\$7,290.00	\$2,028.00	\$9,318.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funding for the NCNEOA Spring Training Conference. (No County Funding)

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$2,028.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.411	Federal Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$8,123.00</u>	<u>\$2,028.00</u>	<u>\$10,151.00</u>
	Totals	\$8,123.00	\$2,028.00	\$10,151.00

Advertisement of Tax Liens

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Tax Liens at the January 26th meeting with a request that the Government Body Order the Tax Collector/Administrator to advertise the Tax Liens no earlier than thirty (30) days after the mailing of the past due notices (less any bills paid between the report date and the advertising date) at the February 9th meeting:

- As of January 22, 2015
 - Delinquent 2014 Tax Bills – General County/Education = 4,398 Bills = \$1,885,819 principal due
 - Delinquent 2014 Tax Bills – City of King = 262 Bills = \$289, 676 principal due
 - Delinquent 2014 Tax Bills – Town of Danbury = 17 Bills = \$4,807 principal due
 - Delinquent 2014 Tax Bills – Town of Walnut Cove = 95 Bills = \$56,061 principal due

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

County Manager Rick Morris noted the NC Association of County Commissioners requested the February Update be presented to the Board of Commissioners at their first meeting in February.

The power point presentation provided the following information:

February 9, 2015

- Legislative Goals Conference was held in Moore County in January 2015 which is held every two years before the General Assembly's long session
 - This year, seventy (70) counties presented more than 300 proposals
 - Conference began with an information session on Thursday morning which was designed to help commissioners have a better understanding of the current legislative environment
 - Intergovernmental Relations Director Rebecca Troutman updated those in attendance regarding sales tax revenue; Director Troutman noted there is some growth in sales tax revenue, but cautioned counties not to rely on the huge boost in the January distribution as being a trend
 - Voting began on Thursday afternoon
 - Voting delegates from 89 counties approved 45 proposals for 2015-16 in areas such as environment, public education, tax and finance, and health/human services
 - Voting delegates were asked to rank the top five priorities
 - Continue state funding of Medicaid and restoration of the original 40% share of the lottery proceeds designated for school construction were voted as the top two (2) priorities for counties for 2015-16
 - Other priorities:
 - To eliminate the general statute that allows school boards to sue board of county commissioners over county appropriations for education
 - To ensure the state does not transfer to counties any funding responsibilities for transportation such as secondary road construction and maintenance
 - To avoid unfunded mandates or shifts of state responsibilities to counties
 - NCACC President Ronnie Beale of Macon County presided over the meeting
- Introduction of Government Relations Staff
 - Johanna Reese, Director of Government Relations
 - Rebecca Troutman, Intergovernmental Relations Director
 - Casandra Skinner, Legislative Counsel
 - Alisa Cobb, Executive Assistant
 - Hugh Johnson, Government Relations Coordinator

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Feel the priorities voted on at the NCACC Goals Conference are right on target

Commissioner Inman, County's Voting Delegate, commented:

- Wanted to let the Board know that there was a lot of discussion at the conference regarding Medicaid
- There is a lot of talk going on in the General Assembly pertaining to Medicaid, not all good

- There is talk that the General Assembly would love to give the Medicaid responsibility back to the counties
- Need to make sure our representatives lobby hard against Medicaid being given back to the counties; Association will be lobbying hard against Medicaid being given back to the counties

Chairman Jones commented:

- Very thankful that the counties have an association that will lobby for what the counties want and need

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

NC Cooperative Extension – Strategic Plan – Base Staffing Model

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the NC

Cooperative Extension – Strategic Plan Base Staffing Model:

- Cooperative Extension Debbie Cox was in attendance for the discussion
- Cooperative Extension Service has updated their strategic plan over the past year
- Extension Service has adopted the Base Staffing Model which converts all the counties personnel salaries to a 50/50 cost share on base + add-on positions by July 1, 2016
- Provided Board members with estimated costs:
 - Extension Director – already 50/50 – no additional cost
 - Agriculture Agent – currently 59.81% state and 40.19% county - \$2,391 additional cost to meet 50/50
 - 4H Youth Development Agent – currently 57.38% state and 42.62% county - \$1,482.18 additional cost to meet 50/50
 - Administrative Assistant – currently vacant – already 50/50 – no additional cost
 - Crop Position – Shared Position with State, Forsyth County and Surry County – decrease of (\$208.80)
 - Livestock Agent – vacant – unknown – possible decrease since the current appropriation is 25.37% for the County and will go to 25%
 - Total estimated cost to bring all positions 50/50 = \$3,664.38 annually
- County managers are being asked what the county's intent for the upcoming budget requests as it relates to positions and/or movement towards 50/50 funding
- County managers are being asked to mark one of the following for each position in the county:
 - Funding for the _____ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval
 - Funding for the _____ position is requested in the budget; medium expectation of approval
 - Funding for the _____ position is requested in the budget; low expectation of approval

- Funding for the _____ position is not requested
- The early indication will allow everyone to proceed with updated information while the budget process is under way
- Would like direction from the Board at the February 23rd meeting on completing the questionnaire for each position
- Do not have a definite answer on what the impact would be to the county if the Board does not agree to the 50/50 cost sharing, but feel the County could expect to potentially lose some services or possibly share some staff
- The Extension Service has a budget that they will be working towards, just like the County

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Confirmed with Director Cox that the county shares the Crop position with Forsyth and Surry Counties and would see a decrease in the cost to the County
- Confirmed with Director Cox that the Livestock Agent is only shared with Forsyth County and would be 25% for the County if the 50/50 is approved

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

Tax Administration Report – January 2015

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

Fiscal Year 2014-15	Budget Amt	Collected Amt	Over Budget	Under Budget
Current 2014 Taxes	\$19,080,388.00	\$18,207,525.03		\$872,862.97
New Schools F-Tech Fund (Includes Prior 98-2013 Taxes)	\$1,272,026.00	\$1,248,394.16		\$23,631.84
Prior Taxes 1998-2013 Tax Years County Regular & Motor Vehicles	\$675,000.00	\$483,293.10		\$191,706.90
Collection Percentage As of January 31, 2015 Current 2014 Tax = 0.9543%				
New School F-Tech Fund = 0.9814% Prior 1998-2013 Tax Years (Reg and MV) = 0.7160%				

EMS Current Collections**Total Collected**

(01-01-15/01-31-15)

\$130,094.16

Total Collected

(07-01-14/06-30-15)

\$868,622.99

Percentage of Collection =

57.91%

Balance to collect =\$631,377.01

Delinquent EMS Collection**Report - Total Collected**

(01-01-15/01-31-15)

\$12,139.02

(07-01-14/06-30-15)

\$111,081.75

Percentage of Collection = 69.43%

Balance to collect =\$48,918.25

Business and Personal Property Discovery**Report****Audit Dates****Accts****Total Value****Taxes Due**

(01-01-15/01-31-15)

0

\$00.00

\$00.00

(07-01-14/06-30-15)

346

\$4,238,924.00

\$40,312.14

Motor Vehicle Release Report**Audit Dates**

Assessment through NC

Department of Motor Vehicles

Garnishment Totals

Month	Total Accounts	Original Levy Amount	Collected Amount
(01-1-15/01-31-15)	143	\$42,571.91	\$28,373.16
F/Year 2014-15			
(07-1-14/6-30-15)	1,226	\$329,892.69	\$262,454.98

Monthly Delinquent Tax Collection Report

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Monthly Delinquent Tax Collection

Report for January 2015:

<u>County</u>	<u>Real/Personal</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>2015</u>				
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Write-offs	Payments	Ending Balance	
2013	\$ 372,654.32	\$(169.03)	\$131.40	\$231.83	\$(3.49)	\$(31,262.89)	\$ 341,697.12	
2012	\$ 188,143.80	\$(140.40)	\$140.40			\$(10,676.23)	\$ 177,467.57	

2011	\$	100,349.98	\$(140.40)	\$140.40		\$(2,983.78)	\$	97,366.20
2010	\$	66,414.74	\$(140.40)	\$140.40		\$(1,586.56)	\$	64,828.18
2009	\$	40,038.21				\$(515.78)	\$	39,522.43
2008	\$	30,003.98				\$(778.26)	\$	29,225.72
2007	\$	19,771.27				\$(25.25)	\$	19,746.02
2006	\$	13,879.64				\$(846.81)	\$	13,032.83
2005	\$	10,681.40				\$(18.00)	\$	10,663.40
2004	\$	10,855.29				\$(6.20)	\$	10,849.09
2003	\$	8,818.43				\$(6.20)	\$	8,812.23
2002	\$	1,191.09				\$(11.85)	\$	1,179.24
2001	\$	10.78				\$(6.20)	\$	4.58
2000	\$	257.96				\$(6.20)	\$	251.76
1999	\$	319.98				\$(6.20)	\$	313.78

<u>County</u>	<u>Motor</u>		<u>January</u>	<u>2015</u>			
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Write-offs	Payments	Ending Balance
2013	\$ 25,061.51				\$(0.48)	\$(1,515.73)	\$ 23,545.30
2012	\$ 5,480.71				\$(0.87)	\$(1,120.55)	\$ 4,359.29
2011	\$ 19,382.50				\$(0.16)	\$(183.72)	\$ 19,198.62
2010	\$ 21,313.23				\$(0.99)	\$(215.12)	\$ 21,097.12
2009	\$ 17,061.80					\$(259.84)	\$ 16,801.96
2008	\$ 18,453.48	\$(1.83)				\$(142.46)	\$ 18,309.19
2007	\$ 16,330.42				\$(0.01)	\$(55.64)	\$ 16,274.77
2006	\$ 12,000.59						\$ 12,000.59
2005	\$ 14,910.83					\$(26.82)	\$ 14,884.01
2004	\$ 13,183.42				\$(0.44)	\$(79.79)	\$ 13,103.19
2003	\$ 13,288.69					\$(4.96)	\$ 13,283.73
2002							

<u>New</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Forsyth</u>	<u>Tech</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>2015</u>	
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Write-offs	Payments	Ending Balance
2013	\$ 27,317.86	\$(11.27)	\$8.76	\$15.45	\$(0.25)	\$(2,084.37)	\$ 25,253.85
2012	\$ 15,262.33	\$(9.36)	\$9.36			\$(678.37)	\$ 14,583.96
2011	\$ 7,228.49	\$(9.36)	\$9.36			\$(198.91)	\$ 7,09.58

Collection of New State Motor Vehicle Billings

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following new report for the combination of County/State reporting of the collection of Motor Vehicles:

- Graph shows each month's collection per taxing codes:

December 2014

New VTS System

Tax Code	Levy	Interest	Adjustment	Billing	Net
Jurisdiction	Billed	Paid	Made	Cost	Collected
City of King	\$16,512	\$123	-\$206	-\$975	\$15,454
King Car Fee	\$2,345	\$16	-\$5	None	\$2,356
Walnut Cove Town	\$3,018	\$31	None	-\$149	\$2,902
Danbury Town	\$423	\$5	None	-22	\$406
School Tax	\$11,004	\$89	-\$72	-\$562	\$10,459
King Fire	\$2,767	\$25	-\$14	-\$143	\$2,635
Rural Hall Fire	\$478	\$2	None	-\$25	\$455
Walnut Cove Fire	\$1,980	\$18	None	-\$98	\$1,900
General County	\$165,056	\$1,340	-\$1,076	-\$8,429	\$156,891
Service Fire	\$9,624	\$77	-\$71	-\$491	\$9,139
Total Collected	\$213,207	\$1,726	(\$1,444)	(\$10,892)	\$202,597

- Cost in the New VTS System is calculated in all areas of billing (staffing, contracting, postage, DMV, software, etc.) by the NC Department of Revenue and prorated on each taxing district per bill
- Cost in car fees for the City of King is calculated in the City of King Bills

CUMULATIVE COLLECTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15

NC Vehicle Tax System Summary per Tax District)

Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	City of King/Car fee	\$114,327.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 2,938	Total Expenses	<u>\$(5,403.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$1.84	Total Net Collected	\$108,924.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Town of Walnut Cove	\$16,099.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 633	Total Expenses	<u>\$(717.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$1.13	Total Net Collected	\$15,382.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Town of Danbury	\$1,446.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 94	Total Expenses	<u>\$(65.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.69	Total Net Collected	\$1,381.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	F Tech/School Fund	\$67,999.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 25,801	Total Expenses	<u>\$(3,139.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.12	Total Net Collected	\$64,860.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	King Fire District	\$17,656.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 3,906	Total Expenses	<u>\$(829.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21	Total Net Collected	\$16,827.00

Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Rural Hall Fire District	\$3,522.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 745	Total Expenses	<u>\$(159.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21	Total Net Collected	\$3,363.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Walnut Cove Fire Dist.	\$11,277.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 2,410	Total Expenses	<u>\$(513.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21	Total Net Collected	\$10,764.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	General County	\$1,019,950.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 25,801	Total Expenses	<u>\$(47,106.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$1.83	Total Net Collected	\$972,844.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Service Fire District	\$ 59,953.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 14,821	Total Expenses	<u>\$ (2,754.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.19	Total Net Collected	\$ 57,199.00

Total Cumulative Collected NCVTS through December (all tax districts)	\$1,312,229.00
Total Expenses for NCVTS through December (all tax districts)	\$ 60,685.00
Total net collected for NCVTS through December(all tax districts)	\$1,251,544.00
Average cost per total billings through December	\$2.35 per bill

Lowest cost billed = \$2.14 (County, School Fund, Service Fire based on 25,801 cars)
Highest cost billed = \$3.79 (County, School Fund, King City based on 2,938 cars)

Interstate Collection Report	Collection	Total Collected
January 2015		
Cumulative Total Collected to Date	NC Debt Setoff	\$213,511.98
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Motor Vehicles	\$128,196.51
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Property Taxes	\$44,336.19
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	EMS	<u>\$250,956.74</u>
Collected (to date)	All Categories	\$423,489.44

Releases Less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases less than \$100 –
Real and Personal Property (January 2015) at the February 9th meeting for the Board's review:

Releases Less Than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Name	Bill No	Amount
Brandy & Robert Harp	13A73650.01.1	\$44.25

Carrie Timmons -	14A28343.09	\$9.45
Prof.& Business Ser		
James Rickie Stevens	14A20821.04	\$23.27
Dennis Guertin	14A156035339.07	\$71.39
	14a156035339.07.1	\$14.59
Ruth Lloyd	14A156032211.09	<u>\$3.88</u>
Total		\$166.83

Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (January 2015) at the February 9th meeting for the Board's review with a request for consideration at the February 23rd meeting:

Releases more than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Vanderbilt Mortgage	14A697200812266	\$331.35	DWMH moved before 1-1-14
Triumph LLC	14A155928321.09	\$328.10	Equipment sold in 2014
Michael Thompson	14A156027191.09.1	<u>\$134.42</u>	Listed in Forsyth County
Total		\$793.87	

Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (January 2015) at the February 9th meeting for the Board's review with a request for consideration at the February 23rd meeting:

Refunds more than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Charles Johnston	20386061	\$190.94	Vehicle Sold
Jeremy Reeves	19016247	\$144.47	Vehicle Sold
Pamela Reeves	19027671	<u>\$103.33</u>	Vehicle Sold
Total		\$438.74	

Tax Administrator Oakley requested the following be placed on the February 23rd Consent Agenda:

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100
- Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Noted the improvements with the EMS Collection
- Confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the department is billing insurance claims within 30 days of the actual services
- Very pleased with the collection of taxes

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley responded:

- EMS Collections increase with the payment of Medicare and Medicaid which is paid quarterly
- Current tax collection rate is .9543 as of January 2015

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the following on the February 23rd Consent Agenda:

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100
- Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100

Adoption of the New 2014 Digital Aerial Photography Maps

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following information regarding the adoption of the New 2014 Digital Aerial Photography Maps:

- GIS Specialist Greg Hunsucker was in attendance for the discussion
- The New 2014 Digital Aerial Photography Maps were produced and furnished to the County free of charge by the North Carolina E911 Board for public and private use; saves the county approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000
- The Mapping/GIS Department has reviewed these aerial photographs
- The Mapping/GIS Department is in full acceptance of their quality and accuracy
- Provided board members with a power point presentation of some of the new aerial photos
- Lot more details on these aerial photos, much improvement from the 2010 photos
- Request approval/adoption of the New 2014 Digital Aerial Photographs Maps at the February 23rd meeting (Action Agenda)

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Very familiar with these maps

- Confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that these new aerial photographs will be loaded to GIS Mapping Website
- Confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the “Go Maps” will be implemented by ROK Technologies
- Pleased with the new aerial photographs

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Commended the billing/collection department for the work being done to get the bills invoiced and insurance filed and the improvement in the collection of EMS revenue

Tax Administrator Oakley responded:

- Billing/Collection Department does an excellent job and is very dedicated to make sure insurance claims are filed and bills are sent out

Commissioner Lankford questioned when the department received the maps for reviewing?

GIS Specialist Greg Hunsucker responded:

- First review was done in August and September 2014 (county had approximately 30 days for review)
- Second review was provided about four (4) weeks ago
- Have reviewed approximately 98% of the county
- Lot of improvement since the 2010 photos

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that his department recommends approving/adopting the New 2014 Digital Aerial Photography Maps.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the proposed New 2014 Digital Aerial Photography Maps on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

Social Services Monthly Report

DSS Director Stacey Elmes presented the following Social Services Monthly Report:

- Program Reports
 - Quarterly Oversight from Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR)
 - Services Report (Social Work, Family Support Services, Administration)
- NCFAS FNS/SNAP Pending Applications – Report Date 01-30-2015
 - Total pending Apps = 125
 - Totally untimely = 2
- NCFAS FNS Recertification Workload
 - Total Re-certifications in Progress = 74
- NCFAS Application Processing – Traditional MAD Pending = 83
- NCFAS Application Processing – Traditional Medicaid Pending = 92

Metrics

- As of January 2015:
 - Income Maintenance
 - NC FAST – In compliance
 - WorkFirst – Needs improvement – System issues with payments and workers having to learn program
 - FNS – In compliance
 - Adult Medicaid – Needs improvement – Workload numbers continue to be high
 - Family and Children’s Medicaid – Workload numbers continue to be high
 - Child Support – In compliance
 - Program Integrity – In compliance
 - Appeal Hearings and Fraud Hearings – In compliance
 - Day Care – In compliance
 - Foster Care
 - Foster Care Services – Needs improvement
 - Continue taking children into custody
 - Reunification plans aren’t working and children are staying in care longer
 - Foster Care Home Licensing – In compliance
 - While this is in the green, we are in desperate need of licensed foster homes
 - Adoptions – In compliance –
 - Child Protective Services
 - Investigations – Needs improvement
 - Working to get closed cases completed
 - New position filled 01-12-2015
 - Case Management – Needs improvement – one vacancy – interviewing
 - Adult Services
 - Adult Protective Services– In compliance
 - Guardianship– In compliance
 - SSBG/HCCBG/Payee/Adult Day– In compliance
 - Family/Monitoring– In compliance
 - SA IH/MAC– In compliance
 - CAP DA/CAP C– In compliance
 - Intake– In compliance
 - Caseloads– In compliance
 - Supervision (Staff/Supervisor Ratio)- Needs Improvement
 - Continue to have two supervisors who supervise more than the state recommends/mandates
 - Staffing (Years of Service) – In compliance
 - Medicaid Transportation – In compliance
 - Clerical – In compliance
 - Foster and Adoptive Parent Information

- DSS will host a Foster and Adoptive Parenting Information Night on Monday, February 16th at 6:00pm
- Individuals will be able to learn more about fostering and adopting through DSS and Upcoming Foster Parent Training Classes
- Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) Update
 - LIEAP provides a one-time vendor payment to help eligible households pay their heating bills
 - Program ends March 31, 2015
 - Currently open to any eligible individual
 - County has approximately \$85,000 remaining
 - County has served 504 households this fiscal year

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Director Elmes that the department has investigated 179 Child Protective Services Reports from July thru December 2014.

Commissioner Lankford questioned what types of reports were being taken?

Director Elmes responded:

- Majority of the reports deal with substance abuse and mental health issues

Commissioner Lankford also questioned how voter registration pertained to this report and DSS?

Director Elmes responded:

- Unsure how it pertains to DSS, but it is required by the State

Chairman Jones commented:

- Confirmed with Director Elmes that with the County currently having 75 foster children and only 23 foster homes, several of the foster children are placed outside the county and some even in other states (South Carolina)
- Hope the information night for Foster and Adoptive Parenting increases the number of foster homes in the County

Site Location – Proposed Animal Adoption Facility

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following information regarding a possible location for the proposed Animal Adoption Facility:

- The Friends of Stokes Shelter (FOSS) Non-Profit has requested that Stokes County consider gifting or leasing them approximately one (1) acre of land at the Old Prison Camp Property in the Meadows area to construct a building and parking area to be

used for the adoption of animals, a function that is currently performed by the County Animal Control Officers

- County Administration staff has identified a potential site that could be used for the facility
 - Manager Morris provided the Board with a revised aerial map of the Old Prison Camp Property and the potential location
 - Location changed due to a land swap with NC Department of Transportation
- If the Board of Commissioners would like to pursue this option, the next step would be for the FOSS Organization to have a specific location surveyed and a site plan prepared by an engineer
- After the site plan is ready, the location would also have to be zone “Highway Business” which would also require an access easement plus a commercial driveway permit from NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
- A major consideration before approving this location would be the impact of this decision on future development of the remainder of the Old Prison Camp Property
- The designated area would be readily accessible to water and sewer
- FOSS provided a drawing of the proposed building floor plan for the Board’s review
- Entrance could be off Dodgetown Road – would be easier to place once the site plan is developed
- Site has to be more than ½ acre, could possibly be a little less than an acre
- Would recommend to give the group exactly what is needed, as little as possible
- Proposed facility has to have approximately a 90’ x 40’ slab with eleven (11) parking places and one handicapped parking space
- Will be able to hook to sewer and water (approximately \$15,000 cost) (estimate provided by Public Works Director Mark Delehant)
- FOSS is ready to get started on the facility and has raised a substantial amount of funding for the project and plans to raise more once the project is started
- Would request the item be placed on the February 23rd Action Agenda for consideration

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the FOSS group has talked to the municipalities in the County regarding placement of the facility – cost prohibitive – group would have to purchase land
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the current Animal Shelter will be used for enforcement of animal control and to house any animal that could not be adopted or needed to be housed for evidence
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that a majority of the adoptions are done by individuals outside of the county
- Would look at the entrance possibly being in the old entrance road as suggested by the Mapping Department

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the proposed site backs up to NCDOT property which would leave land available in the front for possible development
- Agree with Commissioner Lankford about the entrance possibly being in the old entrance road
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the FOSS group would be responsible for the sewer/water connection cost

County Manager Morris commented:

- Public Works Director Mark Delehant also provided the following estimate:
 - Could do a \$28,000 hook up option that would allow additional hookups for other buildings for future development
 - County would be responsible for \$13,000 of the cost
 - Would save money by doing the connection now

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Most of my questions have already been answered
- Very familiar with the proposed location
- Don't feel it will impact any future use of the remaining property
- Could be buffered very easily
- Would like to make sure the group gets what they need, as far as land, for the long term (possible future expansion)
- Agree with Commissioner Lankford regarding the entrance in the old road

Chairman Jones commented:

- Agree with Commissioner Inman's comments
- Site plan will give a better view for where the entrance needs to be
- Feel there will be growth in that area, may want to consider the additional hookups
- Could be looked at as incentive if someone was looking for a location that already had water/sewer hookups

County Manager Morris noted the FOSS group wants a long term lease on the property.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the proposed Site Location for the proposed Animal Adoption Facility on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

Petree Project – Petree Modification Agreement

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Petree Modification Agreement for the Board's review and consideration:

MODIFICATION AGREEMENT

This Modification Agreement amends the Contract between the undersigned parties dated _____, concerning the donation of land and money to the County of Stokes.

The undersigned hereby agree that the date of the required letter of acceptance from the County of Stokes is hereby extended from February 1, 2015 to August 1, 2015.

Except as amended herein, all other terms of said Contract shall remain in full force and effect.

This Modification is effective as of August October 1, 2014.

COUNTY OF STOKES

By: _____
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners Walter Ronald Petree

Attest: _____
Clerk to the Board Walter Ronald Petree
 Attorney-in-Fact for
 Ann Petree Ivey

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following:

- The current Modification Agreement, which had extended the Agreement to February 1, 2015 with Mr. Petree has expired
- Would like to extend the Petree Modification Agreement until August 1, 2015
- Would request the item be moved to today's Action Agenda in order to execute the agreement

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the request nor moving the item to today's Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the proposed Petree Modification Agreement on today's Action Agenda.

Petree Project – Petree Revocable Charitable Trust

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the Walter Ronald Petree Revocable Charitable Trust:

- The Trust is designed to further Mr. Petree's intent as described in the written letter of intent the Board previously signed
- The Charitable Trust is designed to be what is called a "Type I Supporting Organization"
- Because the supporting organization is devoted to one charitable endeavor (the county and specifically this health initiative), the IRS allows this charitable trust/supporting organization a great deal of latitude
- There are fewer forbidden transactions, fewer requirements, and fewer ways to run afoul of the IRS regulations
- Contributions to this trust are considered contributions to a public charity for most purposes, which is helpful first to Mr. Petree and any future contributors for income tax deduction purposes
- Once the agreement is finalized, Mr. Petree can make the Trust irrevocable, which means the Board of Commissioners will become the Trustees
- At that time, the organization is considered a private foundation, and the process of applying for approval of exempt status from the IRS must begin
- The approval process takes as long as the IRS wants, but contributions are considered correct and deductible from the beginning, subject to final approval
- County Attorney Ty Browder has reviewed the proposed Charitable Revocable Trust and has no issues with the document
- The County's auditing firm has also reviewed the proposed Charitable Revocable Trust and sees no issue with the document
- Mr. Petree signed last Friday the Revocable Charitable Trust; a copy of the signed document will be provided to the Board at the next meeting
- Would request the Board accept/approve the Revocable Charitable Trust at the February 23rd meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that once the Revocable Trust is accepted/approved by the Board, Mr. Petree can make the Trust irrevocable which takes no action from the Board.

Commissioner Booth suggested placing the item on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the Petree Revocable Charitable Trust on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

Jail Expansion – Request for Qualifications – Architectural Services

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Architectural Services:

- Sheriff Mike Marshall was in attendance for any questions
- Would like to have consensus from the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to move forward with the RFQ process to solicit an architectural firm for the potential jail expansion project
- If the BOCC desires to move forward to the next step in the jail expansion analysis, the information provided to the Board during the special meeting held on Tuesday, January 20th needs to be refined
- At the time of the special meeting, County staff was using rough order of magnitude numbers for cost of the project
- As noted by the County's Financial Advisor Doug Carter during the special meeting, the refinement of the cost numbers to expand the jail will need to be completed by an architectural firm
- For the BOCC to make a decision on the jail expansion during the next three (3) to six (6) months, the RFQ process needs to start now to get an architect on board so the required cost data can be provided
- The RFQ does not mean the Board is going to hire an architect, it only qualifies the architect – no cost to execute the RFQ
- The consensus of the Board today will get the process started
- The actual selection of the architectural firm will come back to the BOCC as a regular Agenda item
- Since the special meeting in January, the Grand Jury inspected the jail and found the jail to be overcrowded; county will be receiving a report from the Grand Jury regarding the overcrowding

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Special Meeting went well with a very good presentation by the Sheriff and his staff, but the presentation was more about overcrowding and revenue than expenditures
- I had to go back and do some analyzing on the expenditures
- Found out that this project, which I am supporting, needs to have a timeline on it that will be closer to some funding that will become available within the near future
- With my analyzing, found out the following:
 - New jail will house 112 more beds at an estimated cost of \$5 million
 - Will have both dormitory and individual cells
 - Projected recurring costs:
 - 8 new employees at an annual cost of approximately \$300,000
 - Utilities = \$70,000
 - Maintenance = \$35,000
 - Health Services = \$120,000
 - Food = \$200,000
 - Other expenditures = \$65,000
 - Total of recurring expenditures each year = approximately \$800,000
 - The recurring estimated cost for expenditures of \$800,000 plus a debt payment of \$360,000 = \$1.2 million each year

- At some point time, there will be some additional funding available in the General Fund from paying off outstanding bonds

Finance Director Edwards noted that \$1 million of that payoff is school capital outlay funding that can't be used for anything but school capital outlay and school debt.

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that any other funding would go back into the General Fund.

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Finance Director Edwards approximately \$400,000 would be going back into the General Fund this year, if the debt was paid off.

Commissioner Lankford continued:

- Don't think we can put this off forever, but think we can put a timeline on it for the architect, project bid, and expand it out for construction to where we can hit a possible two-year cycle a lot better than we can instantly go into it not knowing where the funds are going to come from; this is my point of view
- Know that the additional revenue is a projection, not a guarantee
- Presentation indicated that we could possibly get 25 Federal prisoners, what I have heard is possibly getting 10 Federal prisoners

County Manager Morris noted the projections presented at the special meeting were based on 10 Federal prisoners per day.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Hear the projections presented by Commissioner Lankford today which don't match the best/worst case scenarios
- Information that I have before me does not come up to the projection of \$800,000 for expenditures
- Worst case scenario was expenditures projected to be \$827,000 that included a \$475,000 debt service payment
- My understanding is the debt could possibly go 30 years instead of 20 years which would decreased the debt service to approximately \$280,000
- Since the meeting, have heard that debt service could possibly go 40 years which would decrease the debt service payment to approximately \$230,000
- This would decrease the annual expenditures substantially
- Have to also consider what will come from the Grand Jury
- Must consider the County could be made to build a jail
- I must be able to justify building this addition to the citizens of Stokes County
- Must look at the additional projected revenue
- I have been looking at the projections provided by the Sheriff at the special meeting, but hear different projections from Commissioner Lankford today

County Manager Morris responded:

- Would recommend the 40-year financing which could be paid off early with no penalty

Sheriff Marshall commented:

- The scenarios were based on current costs with a projection of six (6) new employees

Commissioner Booth continued:

- Confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that all the six (6) employees would most likely not be hired at the same time
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the County might have to make one payment before the new addition is opened
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the revenue projections will offset the expenditures in the budget which would mean that the budget will not show an increase in expenditures, but could possibly show an increase in revenue
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the County's Financial Advisor recommended at the special meeting that the information (estimates) needed to be refined

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- That is projections, not assurance

Sheriff Marshall commented:

- Need an architecture on board to be able to provide final cost for construction
- Preliminary estimates were provided by an architect who could not provide any other estimates without charging the department

Commissioner Booth questioned Sheriff Mike Marshall if he felt the numbers provided by the architect for construction were in range?

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- The architect who provided the preliminary estimates builds between 80 to 90% of the jails in North Carolina
- Architect used a conservative number to be on the safe side, the number could be a little higher

Commissioner Booth continued:

- I am looking at overcrowding in a 20-year old jail
- Crime is definitely not decreasing, it is increasing
- Depending on the information provided by the Sheriff and the County Manager that it will work
- Bottom line, been overcrowded for several years

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- State suggests that staff should start looking at facility needs when overcrowding is at 80% which was addressed in 2004; delayed due to finances

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that former Sheriff Mike Joyce looked at the need for expansion because of overcrowding back in 2004.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- No doubt that we have overcrowding, that has been documented
- Hearing two different projections, I am sure that Commissioner Lankford has done his homework
- Will have some more questions
- Understand that we are working off projections

County Manager Morris responded:

- That is one reason for hiring an architect so that more refined information can be provided to the Board

Commissioner Inman continued:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the RFQ is not hiring an architect, only qualifying an architect

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that there will be 6 new employees needed
- With only six employees, expenditures would be approximately \$740,000 plus the payment
- I do know factually that recurring expenditures would be \$740,000 each year plus the debt payment

County Manager Morris noted that he would like to analyze Commissioner Lankford's estimates and figure them into the model.

Chairman Jones commented:

- The request today is to proceed with a RFQ which is no financial commitment from the Board
- Moving forward with the RFQ does show movement by the Board in case the Federal Government does decide to start looking at the county for the overcrowding
- Feel to be prudent, need to move forward with the RFQ process

County Manager Morris reiterated that the RFQ only prepares the County to hire an architect, doesn't financially commit the County.

Chairman Jones continued:

- Can find out more information as the RFQ is being done
- Proceeding with the RFQ shows that the County is doing something about the overcrowding

Chairman Jones reminded the Board that today's request is for proceeding with the RFQ and that other questions can be answered at a future meeting.

Commissioner Booth continued:

- Have a lot of questions with the scenarios provided by the Sheriff and staff compared to the information provided by Commissioner Lankford such as the cost of meals

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Provided statistical budget information from the 2014-15 budget that was approved for the jail budget

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Budget numbers are estimates for a fiscal year
- The projections used in the scenarios were based on jail records
- For example, the more meals served, the cheaper the price per meal
- Spent over a year, not a week, putting together the information provided to the Board at the special meeting

County Manager Morris commented:

- Stand behind the information that was provided at the special meeting
- Would like for the Board to provide information to the staff regarding questions about the best and worst case scenarios
- Will take those questions and investigate
- Can't compare numbers pulled out of the air, must look at the best and worst case scenarios

Chairman Jones questioned the pleasure of the Board regarding the request for the RFQ.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that the Board would have refined numbers regarding construction cost if an architect was hired.

County Manager Morris commented:

- If the Board chooses to hire an architect, staff will be working with the Financial Advisor regarding the USDA financing for the 40-year loan
- Worked up some numbers today using USDA financing for both the jail project and the community college project for 40 years; the county's debt percentage would only be 13.12% to expenditures

Commissioner Booth reiterated the meal expenses mentioned by Commissioner Lankford.

Sheriff Marshall commented:

- There will not have to be another contract for meals
- The more meals, the cheaper the cost per meal
- The \$181,000 budgeted for meals is for the entire contract, not just for food
- Wish Commissioner Lankford had discussed his projections and his concerns with him; could have explained each scenario and how the calculations were figured
- Not saying your numbers, Commissioner Lankford, are wrong, but disagree when you say my numbers are wrong

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- I am not saying your numbers are incorrect, the numbers that were presented were more directed toward revenue than toward expenditures

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- You just can't take the numbers and double them

County Manager Morris responded:

- Both scenarios included expenditures and revenues that projected what, if any, would be additional revenue

Sheriff Marshall commented:

- It is totally up to you, the Commissioners, what you do
- I am telling you what my needs are, what I am faced with
- If you decide to build a jail, fine
- If you don't decide to build a jail, fine
- I have done my job
- I have got to have a place to house these inmates
- In figuring these numbers, it is costing approximately \$120,000 right now to outsource inmates to other facilities
- If you tell me to put them in the jail, I will, but when the lawsuit comes, you will answer for it, not me

Chairman Jones requested the pleasure of the Board regarding the RFQ.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed Manager Morris to move forward with the RFQ for architectural services.

External Postings – Social Services – Social Worker II

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding external postings for county vacancies:

- DSS- Social Worker II

- A vacant Social Worker III position in Foster Care (case management) was filled by a qualified Social Worker II currently employed by the County
- The vacant Social Worker II position is also in Foster Care (licensing, home studies, etc.)
- Would like to post external if there are no qualified applicants within the department
- Would request the item be moved to today's Action Agenda in order to expedite the hiring process

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the request and with moving the item to today's Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the External Posting (DSS) on today's Action Agenda.

External Postings – Health Department – Processing IV Positions

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding external postings for county vacancies:

- Health Department has two vacant Processing Assistant IV positions
- Both positions are vital as they directly relate to generation of revenue for the county –billing
- Would request to post external, if positions are not filled internally
- Would request the item be moved to today's Action Agenda in order to expedite the hiring process
- Moving the item to the Action Agenda today would save advertising costs

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the request and with moving the item to today's Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the External Posting (Health Department) on today's Action Agenda.

Appointments – Stokes County Community Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team (CCPT/CFPT)

County Manager Morris provided the following information regarding appointments for the

Stokes County Community Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team (CCPT/CFPT).

- CCPT/CFPT requested the Board appoint the following to the CCPT/CFPT at the January 26th meeting:
 - Director of County Department of Social Services
 - Stacey Elmes
 - Director of Local Department of Public Health
 - Scott Lenhart
 - Member of the DSS Director's staff
 - Marsha Marshall
 - Local Law Enforcement Officer
 - Detective Kelly Craine - CCPT
 - Sheriff Mike Marshall - CFPT
 - Attorney from the District Attorney's Office
 - Tom Langan
 - Executive Director of the local community action agency or his/her designee
 - Jeannie Easter or Bridgett Stowe
 - Superintendent or his designee
 - Tony George
 - Local mental health professional
 - Kathy Perkins
 - Guardian ad Litem Coordinator
 - Jaime Kehoe
 - Local health care provider/County medical examiner
 - Dr. Sam Newsome
 - Emergency Medical Services provider or firefighter
 - Greg Collins
 - District Court Judge
 - Judge Angela Puckett
 - Representative of a local child care facility or Head Start Program
 - Susan Hairston
 - Parent of a child who died before reaching the child's 18th birthday
 - Samantha Brewster
 - County Commissioner
 - Commissioner Ronda Jones
 - County Commissioner
 - Commissioner Jimmy Walker
 - Juvenile Services
 - Rusty Slate or Jeana Barneycastle
 - Prevention Agency
 - Tamara Veit or Julie Wood
 - Community Representative
 - Pam Hooker
 - Community Representative
 - Shelia Bower
 - Team Coordinator
 - Wanda East

- All appointees have been filled according to statutory requirements

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated the following:

- Stacey Elmes
- Scott Lenhart
- Marsha Marshall
- Detective Kelly Craine
- Sheriff Mike Marshall
- Tom Langan
- Jeannie Easter or Bridgett Stowe
- Tony George
- Kathy Perkins
- Jaime Kehoe
- Dr. Sam Newsome
- Greg Collins
- Judge Angela Puckett
- Susan Hairston
- Samantha Brewster
- Commissioner Ronda Jones
- Commissioner Jimmy Walker
- Rusty Slate or Jeana Barneycastle
- Tamara Veit or Julie Wood
- Pam Hooker
- Shelia Bower
- Wanda East

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Inman moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

Appointments – Stokes County Board of Adjustment

County Manager Morris provided the following information regarding appointments for the Stokes County Board of Adjustment:

- Planning Director David Sudderth noted the following vacancies on the Board of Adjustment:

- Stephen Jessup - member
- Marvin Cavanaugh - member
- Arzell Montgomery - Alternate
- Terms expire March 1, 2015
- Board of Adjustment members serve on a quasi-judicial board that deals strictly with zoning issues
- This Board hears variance requests, appeals, and makes interpretations concerning the zoning ordinance
- All members request to be considered for re-appointment

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Booth moved to nominate the following:

- Stephen Jessup - member
- Marvin Cavanaugh - member
- Arzell Montgomery -alternate

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Inman moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the February 23rd Action Agenda.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Animal Control Ordinance – Proposed Amendments

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following Animal Control Ordinance which was presented at the January 26th meeting:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA))))) COUNTY OF STOKES)	AN ORDINANCE CREATING A STOKES COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT, PRESCRIBING THE DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT, REGULATIONS REGARDING ANIMALS, AND AND PROVIDING FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF SAID REGULATIONS
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ARTICLE I. GENERAL

Section 1. Definitions.

As used in this ordinance, the following words mean:

Adequate Shelter for Dogs: A structure intended for the animal's protection from inclement weather or sun, which consists of at least three sides, a floor and a roof. The structure must be constructed of durable fiber, wood, plastic or other non-metal material.

Animal Shelter: Any premises designated by the County for the purpose of impounding and caring for all animals found running at large or otherwise subject to impounding in accordance with provisions of this ordinance.

At Large: Any animal shall be deemed to be at large when he is off the property of his owner and not under the control of a competent person.

Exposed to Rabies: An animal has been exposed to rabies within the meaning of this ordinance, if it has been bitten by, or exposed to, any animal known or suspected to have been infected with rabies.

Kennel, Dealer, Breeder, or Pet Shop: Any person, group of persons, partnership or corporation engaged in buying, selling, breeding, or boarding pet animals.

Neutered Male: Any male which has been operated upon to prevent reproduction.

Nuisance: Any animal is deemed a public nuisance and a threat to public health, (safety,) welfare, and tranquility if it repeatedly:

- a) Chases pedestrians, bicycles, animals, or motorized vehicles; or
- b) Snaps at people; or
- c) Roams in packs; or
- d) Fights with other animals; or
- e) Barks or howls; or
- f) Destroys or defaces lawns, shrubs, trees, agricultural crops, or other property; or
- g) Scatters garbage out of cans or other containers; or
- h) Takes personal property from premises where it belongs; or
- i) Creates a nuisance in any other way

Owner: Any person, group of persons, firm, partnership or corporation owning, keeping, having charge of, sheltering, feeding, harboring or taking care of any animal. The owner is responsible for the care, actions and behavior of his animals.

Restraint: Any animal is under restraint within the meaning of this ordinance if he is controlled by means of a chain, leash or other like device; or is sufficiently near the owner or handler to be under his direct control and is obedient to that person's commands; or is on or within a vehicle being driven or parked; or is within a secure enclosure.

Restraint of a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog: Confinement in a securely enclosed pen or other structure having a roof, cement floor, and secured by a padlock. When this type of dog is outside this pen or

structure, it must be restrained and held by the owner, or one who is in direct control, by an adequate leash, chain or other like device and the dog must be muzzled at all times. At no time shall restraint of this type of dog be accomplished by chaining it outside the pen or structure.

Spayed Female: Any female which has been operated upon to prevent conception.

Vicious Animal: An animal that has made an unprovoked attack on a human by biting or in any manner causing abrasions or cuts of the skin; or one which habitually or repeatedly attacks farm stock and other pets.

Section 2. Establishment and Composition of an Animal Control Department, Appointment, and Compensation of Department Employees

There is hereby created an Animal Control Department of the county, which shall be composed of such employees as shall be determined by the Board of County Commissioners. Such employees shall be hired and compensated in accordance with the policies of the County of Stokes Personnel Policies Handbook.

Section 3. General Duties of Animal Control Department

The Animal Control Department shall be charged with the responsibility of:

- a) Enforcing in this county, all state and county laws and ordinances relating to the care, custody, and control of animals.
- b) Cooperating with the Health Director and assisting in the enforcement of laws of the state with regard to animals and especially with regard to vaccination of dogs and cats against rabies and the confinement or leashing of vicious animals
- c) Investigating cruelty or animal abuse with regard to all animals.
- d) Making such canvasses of the county, including the homes in the county, as it deems necessary for the purpose of ascertaining that all dogs are duly and properly listed for tax purposes, and that all dogs and cats are vaccinated against rabies.
- e) Operating the Animal Control Shelter pursuant to policies of the Board of County Commissioners and (the State of North Carolina.)

Section 4. Records to be Kept by the Animal Control Department

It shall be the duty of the Animal Control Department to keep or cause to be kept, accurate and detailed records of:

- a) Impoundment and disposition of all animals coming into the animal shelter.
- b) Bite cases, violations and complaints, and investigation of same.
- c) All monies belonging to the county which were derived from impoundment fees, penalties, and sales of animals.
- d) All other records deemed necessary by the county manager.

Section 5. Animal Control Advisory Council

There is hereby created an Animal Control Advisory Council to advise the Board of County Commissioners and the county manager with respect to animal control matters. The Animal Control Advisory Council shall be composed of members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Section 6. General Duties of Keepers of Animals

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep animals under unsanitary or inhuman conditions or to fail to provide proper food and water daily, shelter from the weather and reasonably clean quarters for such animals, or to fail to provide proper medical attention for sick, distressed, or injured animals, as well as adequate inoculation against disease, according to the species of animal kept.

Section 6.1. Adequate Shelter for Dogs

Owners of dogs shall provide a structure intended for the animal's protection from inclement weather or sun, which consists of at least three sides, a floor and a roof. The structure must be constructed of durable fiber, wood, plastic or other non-metal material.

Section 7. Cruelty To Animals

It shall be unlawful for any person to molest, torture, torment, deprive of necessary sustenance, cruelly beat, needlessly mutilate or kill, wound, injure, poison, abandon or subject to conditions detrimental to its health or general welfare of any animal, or to cause or procure such action. The words "torture" and "torment" shall be held to include every act, omission or neglect whereby unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death is caused or permitted; but such terms shall not be construed to prohibit lawful shooting of birds, deer, or other game for human food; nor to prohibit the animal control department or its agents or veterinarians from destroying dangerous, unwanted or injured animals in a humane manner.

Section 8. Confinement, Muzzling, and Control of Vicious or Dangerous Dogs or Animals

It shall be unlawful for any owner to keep any vicious, fierce, dangerous or potentially dangerous dog or animal within the county, unless it is confined within a secure building, pen or enclosure as defined in this Ordinance, or unless it is securely muzzled and under restraint by a competent person who, by means of a leash, chain or rope, has such animal firmly under control at all times.

Violators of this section shall be guilty of a Class Three (3) Misdemeanor under N.C.G.S. 14-4(a) and shall be fined not more than \$500 per (violation).

Section 9. Animals Creating Nuisance Prohibited from Running at large

- a) If an animal is reported to an Animal Control Officer as being a nuisance, the Animal Control Officer shall investigate to determine whether the animal in question falls within the definition of nuisance in Section 1. If the Animal Control Officer finds that the animal is a nuisance, the Animal Control Officer shall order the owner to keep the animal under restraint at all times. The

owner shall not permit the animal to be at large. It shall be unlawful for any owner to allow an animal that is a nuisance as defined in Section 1, to be at large after receipt of this order.

- b) In addition to criminal penalties, any person violating the order set forth in subsection (a) above shall be subject to the following civil penalties:

- a. First Offense- Written Warning
- b. Second Offense - \$100 civil penalty
- c. Third Offense - \$200 civil penalty
- d. Fourth Offense - \$300 civil penalty
- e. Fifth Offense - \$400 civil penalty
- f. Sixth Offense and subsequent offense - \$500 civil penalty and seizure of the animal

Section 10. Dogs Privilege Tax Tag

- a) It is the purpose of this Section to supplement State Law by providing a procedure for the enforcement of laws requiring dogs to wear a privilege tax tag.
- b) It shall be unlawful for any dog owner or keeper to fail to provide his dog with a dog privilege tax tag to be issued annually by Stokes County and to take such action as is necessary to insure that said privilege tax tag is worn by said dog at all times except as otherwise provided in this ordinance.
- c) It shall be the duty of the Stokes County Tax Department to provide the animal shelter with a privilege tax tag list so that tags may be mailed. The tag is to be of such color, shape, or in some other way to clearly indicate the year for which the tag has been issued. The tag is to contain a number or other designation, and record is to be kept of the person to whom the tag has been mailed or otherwise deferred. After the initial mailing by September 1, dog tags may be obtained at the animal shelter only.
- d) In addition to all other penalties prescribed by law, a dog is subject to impoundment in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance if the dog is found not be wearing a currently valid dog privilege tax tag. Provide however, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any dog being kept in any governmental facility, veterinary hospital, or licensed commercial animal establishment.
- e) It shall also be unlawful for any individual moving into Stokes County who was or keeps a dog to fail to obtain a valid rabies tag and dog privilege tax tag within (30) days of moving into the County.
- f) The fee for the privilege tax tag shall be six dollars (\$6.00) per animal.
In the event the tag is lost or stolen, a replacement tag can be obtained at the animal shelter for "one and one-half dollars (\$1.50) per animal".

Section 11. Exemptions from Ordinance

Hospitals, clinics, and other premises operated by licensed veterinarians for the care and treatment of animals are exempt from the provisions of this ordinance, except Sections 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Section 12. Interference with Enforcement of Ordinance

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, hinder or molest the animal control department or its agents or animal control officers or veterinarians in the performance of any duty authorized by this ordinance, or to seek to release any animal in the custody of such agents, except as otherwise specifically provided.

ARTICLE II. RABIES CONTROL

Section 13. Compliance with State Law; Article as Supplement to State Law

- a) It shall be unlawful for any dog, cat, or (ferret) owner to fail to comply with the state laws relating to the control of rabies. (A civil penalty for non-compliance of one hundred dollars (\$100) shall be imposed if owner does not comply within 10 working days of written warning.)
- b) It is the purpose of this article to supplement the state laws by providing a procedure for the enforcement of state laws relating to rabies control, in addition to the criminal penalties provided by state law.

Section 14. Inoculation of Dogs, Cats and other Animals

- a) It shall be unlawful for an owner to fail provide current inoculation against rabies (hydrophobia) for any dog or cat four (4) months of age or older. Should it be deemed necessary by the County Health Director or the State Public Health Veterinarian that other pets be inoculated in order to prevent a threatened epidemic or to control an existing epidemic, it shall be unlawful for an owner to fail to provide current inoculation against rabies for that animal.
- b) A rabies vaccination shall be deemed current for a dog, cat, or ferret if the first two (2) doses of vaccine are administered twelve (12) months apart and each subsequent booster dose of vaccine administered at thirty-six (36) months intervals or administered as per the vaccine manufacturers recommended schedule, if it is less the required thirty-six (36) months.

Section 15. Inoculation Tag for Dogs

- a) Upon complying with the provisions of Section 14, there shall be issued to the owner of the dog inoculated a numbered metallic tag, stamped with the number and the year for which issued, and indicating that the dog has been inoculated against rabies.
- b) It shall be unlawful for any dog owner to fail to provide his dog with a collar or harness to which a current tag issued under this section is securely attached. The collar or harness, with attached tag, must be worn at all times, except during the time the dog is performing at shows, obedience trials, tracking tests, field trials, training schools or other events sanctioned and supervised by a recognized organization.
- c) It shall be unlawful for any person to use for any dog a rabies inoculation tag issued for a dog other than the one using the tag.

Section 15.1. Evidence of Inoculation of Cats and (Ferrets)

Cats and (ferrets) shall not be required to wear the metallic tag referred to in Section 15, but the owner of the cat or (ferret) shall maintain sufficient written evidence to prove that his/her cat or (ferret) has a current rabies inoculation.

Section 16. Report and Confinement of Animals Biting Persons or Showing Symptoms of Rabies

- a) Every animal which has bitten any person or which shows symptoms of rabies shall be confined immediately and shall be promptly reported to the animal control department, and thereupon shall be securely quarantined, at the direction of the animal control department, for a period of ten (10) days, and shall not be released from such quarantine except by written permission from the animal control department.
- b) Animals quarantined under this section shall be confined in a veterinary hospital or at the county animal shelter, at the expense of the owner; provided, however, that if any animal control officer determines that the owner of an animal which must be quarantined has adequate confinement facilities upon his own premises, the animal control officer shall authorize the animal to be confined on such premises, providing the animal has a current rabies vaccination. If the animal is confined on the owner's premises, the animal control officer shall revisit the premises for inspection purpose at approximately the middle of the confinement period and again at the conclusion of the confinement period.
- c) In the case of stray animals whose ownership is not known, the supervised quarantine required by this section shall be at the county animal shelter.
- d) If rabies does not develop within ten (10) days after an animal is quarantined under this section, the animal may be released from quarantine with the written permission of the animal control department. If the animal has been confined in the county animal shelter, the owner shall pay the sum equal to eight dollars (\$8.00) for each day of confinement to defray the cost of feeding, upon reclaiming the animal.

Section 17. Destruction or Confinement of Animal Bitten by Rabid Animal

Animals bitten by a known rabid animal shall be immediately destroyed, unless the owner agrees to strict isolation of the animal at a veterinary hospital at the owner's expense for a period of six (6) months; or if the animal has a current rabies inoculation, revaccination shall be given (within seventy-two (72) hours.)

Section 18. Area-wide Emergency Quarantine

- a) When reports indicate a positive diagnosis of rabies, the county director of public health shall order an area-wide quarantine for such period as it deems necessary. Upon invoking of such emergency quarantine, no animal shall be taken into the streets or permitted to be in the streets during such period. During such quarantine, no animal may be taken or shipped from the county without permission of the animal control department, and each member of the animal control department and the police and sheriff's department is hereby fully authorized, during such emergency, to impound any animal found running at large in the county. During the quarantine period, the animal control department or the local health authorities shall be empowered to provide for a program of mass

immunization by the establishment of temporary emergency rabies vaccination facilities strategically located throughout the county.

- b) In the event, there are additional positive cases of rabies occurring during the period of quarantine, such period of quarantine may be extended at the discretion of the county director of public health.

Section 19. Postmortem Diagnosis

- a) If an animal dies while under observation of rabies, the head of such animal shall be submitted to the state laboratory in Raleigh for diagnosis.
- b) The carcass of any dead animal exposed to rabies shall be surrendered to the Animal Control Department. The head of such animal shall be submitted to the state laboratory in Raleigh for diagnosis.

Section 20. Unlawful Killing or Releasing of Certain Animals

It shall be unlawful for any person to kill or release any animal under observation for rabies, any animal suspected of having been exposed to rabies, or any animal biting a human, or to remove such animal from the county without written permission from the animal control department and the county director of public health.

Section 21. Failure to Surrender Animal for Quarantine or Destruction

It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to surrender any animal for quarantine or destruction as required in this article, when demand is made therefore by the animal control department.

ARTICLE III. IMPOUNDMENT

Section 22. General Provisions

- a) Any animal which appears to be lost, strayed or unwanted, or which is found to be not wearing a currently valid rabies vaccination tag, as required by state law or this ordinance, or which is found at large or not under restraint in violation of this ordinance shall be impounded by the animal control department and confined in the animal shelter in a humane manner. Impoundment of such an animal shall not relieve the owner thereof from any penalty which may be imposed for violation of this ordinance.
- b) It shall be unlawful for any owner or his agent to permit a female animal to run at-large (or be tethered or kept where more animals can breed) during estrus. Any such animal must be kept in an enclosure (that cannot be breached or have accessible openings of 1" or more) or be, at all times, under restraint or direct control of the owner or agent.
- c) (Any person violating the order set forth in subsection (b) above shall be subject to the following civil penalties:

- a. First Offense- Written Warning
- b. Second Offense - \$100 civil penalty
- c. Third Offense - \$200 civil penalty
- d. Fourth Offense - \$300 civil penalty
- e. Fifth Offense - \$400 civil penalty
- f. Sixth Offense and subsequent offense - \$500 civil penalty and seizure of the animal)

Section 23. Notice to Owner

Immediately upon impounding an animal, the animal control department shall make reasonable effort to notify the owner and inform such owner of the conditions whereby the animal may be redeemed. If the owner is unknown, notice of such impoundment shall be posted for 72 hours, or until the animal is disposed of, on a bulletin board at the animal shelter, and the time and place of the taking of such animal, together with the time and date of posting the notice shall be stated therein.

ARTICLE IV. Fees

Section 24. Redemption by Owner

The owner of an animal impounded under this article may redeem the animal and regain possession thereof within one hundred twenty (120) hours (five days) after notice of impoundment is given or posted, as required by Section 23, by complying with all applicable provisions of this ordinance and paying a redemption fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) plus a boarding fee of (ten dollars (\$10.00) for each day the animal is held at the animal shelter. The owner of an animal impounded and not redeemed within the required holding period shall be responsible for the fees incurred, whether or not the animal is claimed.

Redemption fee	(\$25.00
(Boarding fee	(\$10.00)
Rabies vaccination	\$10.00
Tags	\$6.00

Section 24-1. Kennel Permits

Any individual who operates a breeding kennel that has five (5) or more female breeding dogs must acquire breeding permit from Animal Control Department. The fee for this breeding permit is sixty dollars \$60.00 per year. The permit allows inspection by animal control Monday-Friday (8:30 am to 5:00pm)

Section 25. Destruction or Adoption of Unredeemed Animals

- a) If an impounded animal is not redeemed by the owner within the period prescribed in Section 24, it may be destroyed in humane manner or offered for adoption by any responsible adult who is willing to comply with this ordinance. Such animal may be adopted by the first person who pays an adoption fee of fifty-six dollars (\$56.00) for dogs and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for cats for Stokes County residents. Non Stokes County residents pay fifty dollars for the adoption of dogs and cats (no county tag required). (A rabies voucher or vaccine plus a \$20 voucher for spay/neuter are included with the adoption fee.)

- b) No dog owner may be permitted to adopt his own dog under the provisions of this section, but he must comply with the provisions of Section 24, in order to reclaim a dog that has been impounded pursuant to state law or this article.
- c) The Animal Control Department shall recommend that dogs and cats adopted from the animal shelter be spayed/neutered. (A \$20 spay/neuter voucher will be provided with each adopted animal.)
- d) No animal which has been impounded by reason of its being a stray, unclaimed by its owner, shall be allowed to be adopted from the animal shelter during a period of emergency rabies quarantine invoked pursuant to Section 18, except by special authorization of the public health officials.

Section 26. Procedure with Respect to Redemption or Adoption of Unvaccinated Dog

- a) Unless proof of a current rabies vaccination can be furnished, every person who either adopts or redeems an (animal) at the animal shelter shall be given a "proof of rabies vaccination card" at the time of the redemption or adoption. This card shall be stamped with the date stating the maximum time limit allowed to take the dog to the veterinarian of such person's choice for rabies vaccination. The time limit for dogs and cats four (4) months and older will be forty-eight (48) hours, with Sundays and Holidays excluded. For puppies and kittens under four (4) months, the time limit will vary according to their age.
- b) The proof of rabies vaccination card will be completed and returned to the animal shelter by the veterinarian. If this card is not returned to the animal shelter within the time limit specified on the card, an animal control officer will be dispatched to retrieve the dog or cat.
- c) Payment for the rabies vaccination provided for in this section will be the responsibility of the person redeeming or adopting the dog or cat.
- d) (The adoption fee includes rabies vaccine or voucher.)

Section 27. Suspected Rabid Animals Not to be Redeemed or Adopted

Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, animals impounded which appear to be suffering from rabies shall not be redeemed or adopted, but shall be dealt with in accordance with Article II of this Ordinance.

Section 28. Destruction of Wounded or Diseased Animals

- a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, any animal impounded which is badly wounded or diseased (not a rabies suspect) and has no identification shall be destroyed immediately in a humane manner. If the animal has identification, the animal control department shall attempt to notify the owner before disposing of such animal, but if the owner cannot be reached readily, and the animal is suffering, the animal control department may destroy the animal at its discretion in a humane manner.

- b) If an animal is determined by the animal control officer or any law enforcement officer to pose an immediate danger to the health and safety of any person, the animal may be destroyed on-site with or without prior notification to the owner if all other means of capture have been unsuccessful, or if trying to capture the animal would put the officer in a dangerous situation.
- c) If the animal control officer and/or law enforcement officer does destroy an animal on-site, he/she shall submit a written report of the incident to the Chief Animal Control Officer within twenty-four (24) hours (weekends and holidays excluded) of the incident and shall make a good faith attempt to notify the owner of the destroyed animal. The Chief Animal Control Officer will review the incident with the County Manager.
- d) It shall be lawful for any animal control officer or law enforcement officer to humanely euthanize an injured animal on the scene when the owner of the animal is not known.

Section 29. Penalties

- a) **Criminal Penalties** - Persons violating this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class Three (3) Misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). Each day of a violation shall constitute a separate offense. The payment of a fine imposed in criminal proceedings does not relieve the person of liability for any taxes, fees, costs or civil penalties otherwise imposed by this ordinance.
- c) **Civil Penalties** - In addition to criminal penalties, persons who violate this ordinance shall be subject to civil penalties for each violation in the amount established by this Ordinance. Each day of a violation shall constitute a separate offense.
- c) **Citations** - The Animal Control Officer is authorized to issue criminal and civil citations to violators of this ordinance. All civil penalties must be paid within 72 hours. No impounded animal may be redeemed until all civil penalties, fees and costs are paid in full.
- d) **Civil Actions** - Civil penalties may be recovered against violators in a civil action by the County. In addition to the civil penalties, the County may recover court costs including reasonable attorney fees incurred by the County.
- e) **Equitable Remedies** - Enforcement of this ordinance may also be by appropriate equitable remedy, injunction or order of abatement issued by the District Court of Stokes County.

Section 30. Severability

If any section or part of this ordinance should be held invalid for any reason, such determination shall not affect the remaining sections or parts, and to that end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

Section 31. Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective on May 1, 1975 as adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners on April 7, 1975 and readopted on September 12, 1977, and amended on

December 16, 1985; December 21, 1987; February 7, 1994; June 21, 2001; July 1, 2004, May 24, 2010, June 27, 2012, and February 2015.

Ronda Jones, Chairman
Stokes County Board of Commissioners

ATTESTED BY: _____

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

County Manager Morris noted:

- Proposed amended ordinance was provided to the Stokes County Animal Control Advisory Council for review
- Items underlined were staff recommendations
- Items in () were recommended by the Stokes County Animal Control Advisory Council
- Chief Animal Control Office Handy, County Attorney Browder, and myself have reviewed the recommendations made by the Animal Control Advisory Council and no issues with their recommendations

Chairman Jones entertained a motion.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Animal Control Ordinance as presented with changes recommended by County staff, County Attorney, and the Animal Control Advisory Council. Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker being absent.

NC Department of Motor Vehicle Facility – License Plate Agency – Application

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented a completed application for a County operated License Plate Agency as requested by the Board of Commissioners at the January 26th meeting.

Tax Administrator Oakley noted:

- Letter attached to the application states
 - That the County is submitting the application to assure that the citizens of Stokes County continue to have the availability of a License Plate Agency in Stokes County
 - That the Stokes County Board of Commissioners is in unanimous agreement that the County is only interested in operating a License Plate Agency if the Town of Walnut Cove, NC is not awarded the contract
 - That Stokes County Board of Commissioners fully supports the efforts of the Town of Walnut Cove to receive the contract to operate a License Plate Agency

- There has been a slight change to the drawings – hallway can't be used as a lobby (per Planning and Fire Marshal) (provided the Board with a new drawing)
- Application and drawings are ready for submission
- With the change in the lobby area, the county's application will not meet the required space according to the number of annual transactions performed at the Walnut Cove location (need 400 sq. ft. for lobby space)
- It will be left up to the state to review what is in the collections area for lobby space

Chairman Jones entertained a motion.

Commissioner Lankford moved for Stokes County to submit the application for a Motor Vehicle License Plate Agency. Chairman Jones seconded the motion for discussion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the County's application does not meet the requirements for a lobby space.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- The License Plate Agency has long been a landmark in the Town of Walnut Cove
- Only way I would support this application is with the letter stating that the County is only interested in operating a License Plate Agency if the Town of Walnut Cove, NC is not awarded the contract
- Do not want the Town of Walnut Cove to think that the County is competing against them for the License Plate Agency
- This License Plate Agency belongs in the Town of Walnut Cove

The motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

Petree Modification Agreement

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the Petree Modification Agreement presented by County Manager Morris at today's meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Petree Modification Agreement. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

External Postings – Social Services and Health Department

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the external job postings presented by County Manager Morris at today's meeting.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the external postings (Social Worker II and Processing Assistant IV- two positions). Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

Adjournment

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

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

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Ronda Jones
Chairman