

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
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COUNTY OF STOKES )  
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FEBRUARY 23, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, February 23, 2015, at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

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

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

Chairman Jones 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 23, 2015 Agenda.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the February 23<sup>rd</sup> Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## COMMENTS

### Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Budget Guidance Work Session
  - Next session is Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Letter of Appreciation- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
  - EMS Director Greg Collins received a thank you letter from Chief Regina Godette-Crawford, Office of Emergency Medical Services – NC Department of Health and Human Services
  - Chief Godette-Crawford expressed appreciation for allowing the Stokes County Ambulance Strike Team to cover for Rockingham County crews during the funeral of Captain William Lawrence McKinney, Jr. who passed away from a car accident on his way to work
  - Contribution made by each Stokes Ambulance Strike Team member was appreciated by Captain McKinney's family
  - Support given allowed Rockingham County Emergency Services and its employees to grieve, honor and pay their final respects to their co-worker, friend, and family
  - EMS has always been known as a family and your team's support exemplified this fact
  - Appreciate the commitment and hard work throughout the year to provide emergency medical services to the citizens and guest of our state

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Welcome everyone here tonight

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Welcome those in attendance tonight
- Always encouraged to hear a spirit of cooperation between our county and another county
- Extend apologies for missing the past meeting due to surgery
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that construction on the community college should start in June 2015 with final approvals being done now
- Would like to see if there is any help that can be provided to those who may need assistance during extreme weather conditions

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Attended CenterPoint Human Services Board of Directors' meeting
  - CenterPoint is still in negotiations with the Partners to try to make the merger possible
  - Another meeting is scheduled for this Thursday

- Will continue to keep the Board updated

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “Sing aloud unto the Lord our strength, make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob”
- Congressman Mark Walker will be in Stokes County on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

Chairman Jones commented:

- Put a Facebook posting about providing assistance, if needed, to your neighbor during these extreme weather conditions
- Would like to wish our Economic Development Director Alan Wood, who will be leaving on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, good luck in his new endeavor
- Attended the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Meeting
  - Getting ready to break ground for an Intermodal Facility in Greensboro in late April or early May; Board members are invited to attend the ground breaking

**Public Comments:**

There were no Public Comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Consent Agenda:

**Minutes**

- Minutes of January 6, 2015 - Budget Guidance Work Session
- Minutes of January 20, 2015 - Special Meeting – Jail Expansion
- Minutes of February 9, 2015 – Regular Meeting

**Emergency Management - Budget Amendment #43**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #43.

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

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
	<b>Emergency Management</b>			
100.4330.510	Equipment – Non Capitalized	\$66,106.00	\$3,221.00	\$69,327.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$66,106.00</b>	<b>\$3,221.00</b>	<b>\$69,327.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate additional funding from the Homeland Security Grant to purchase emergency response rescue vehicle and a trailer. The original funding of \$16,106.00 has already been appropriated with Budget Amendment #15 dated 10-13-14.

This will result in a **net increase of \$3,221.00** 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.

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
100.3301.262	Emergency Management	<u>\$94,692.00</u>	<u>\$3,221.00</u>	<u>\$97,913.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$94,692.00</b>	<b>\$3,221.00</b>	<b>\$97,913.00</b>

**Emergency Communications - Budget Amendment #44**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #44.

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

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
	<b>Emergency Communications</b>			
100.4325.511	Equipment – Non Capitalized	\$1,648.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,648.00
	<b>Contingency</b>			
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$87,703.00</u>	<u>\$(5,000.00)</u>	<u>\$82,703.00</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$89,351.00</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$89,351.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Contingency for the purchase of a server for the paging software.

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.

**Tax Administration Report – January 2015**

**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 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review

and consideration at the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Bill No</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Vanderbilt Mortgage	14A697200812266	\$331.35	DWMH moved before 01-01-2014
Triumph LLC	14A155928321.09	\$328.10	Equipment sold in 2013
Michael Thompson	14A156027191.09.1	<u>\$134.42</u>	Listed in Forsyth County
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$793.87</b>	

**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 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board’s review and consideration at the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

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

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

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA**

**Presentation of State of the County Health Report (SOTCH 2014)**

Health Director Scott Lenhart presented highlights and a brief summary of the State of the County Health Report (2014):

- State of the County Health Report is required for accreditation
- County must have a complete community health assessment every four years, between those four (4) years, a SOTCH Report must be completed and released
- Next full community health assessment will be done in 2016

- Stokes County's unemployment rate has decreased from 10% in 2009 to 5.6% in 2014
- The poverty rate is still higher than the state average even with the decrease in the unemployment rate; reason being individuals may be working at lower paying jobs, part-time jobs, or still unemployed
- The two leading causes of death for Stokes County
  - Cancer at 22.4%
  - Heart Disease at 19.6%
- Top health concerns identified by the citizens of Stokes County
  - Cancer
  - Diabetes
  - Heart Disease
  - School Violence
  - Obesity/Overweight
- Small decrease in the number of primary care physicians in the county
  - In 2012, there were 2.3 physicians per 10,000 individuals which is now down to 1.9 physicians per 10,000 individuals
  - Had a small increase in dentists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants
- Suicide
  - North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services just released the 2015 Suicide Prevention Plan, served as a member of the Working and Consulting Group for the Prevention Plan
  - CenterPoint provided Mental Health First Aid Training to all Stokes County Schools and their counselors during 2014
  - Stokes County still has one of the highest suicide rates in the state, when compared to counties similar to Stokes County (18.5%)
  - Suicide is the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in Stokes County per state statistics
  - Stokes County has re-established the Suicide Prevention Taskforce
- Stokes County Comprehensive Land Use Plan
  - The Comprehensive Land Use Plan is currently in the final stages of approval
  - The eight (8) Key Areas this Plan will address:
    - Economic Development
    - Land Use
    - Public Infrastructure
    - Health
    - Transportation
    - Public Services
    - Environment
    - Recreation
- Emerging Issues/Environmental Health
  - Affordable Care Act (ACA)
    - Since the ACA started, Stokes County Health Department saw a twenty-one (21%) increase in clients during F/Y 2013-14
    - It is unknown how the Health Department's clinic will be impacted if the Governor expands Medicaid in North Carolina

- HealthNet Grant
  - The HealthNet Grant has been reduced from \$125,000 to \$48,900 per year
  - This reduction of funding resulted in the loss of a primary care physician
  - The HealthNet Grant is the primary source of revenue for our primary care clinic
  - Currently, there are new reimbursement fees for individuals seen under the HealthNet Grant
  - Grant has the potential of recouping more funds than the original grant if other counties do not use their funding; however, the program currently capitates at \$48,900 for Stokes County
- Environment Health
  - For F/Y 2013-14, Stokes County had eight (8) meth labs found in residential areas compared to three (3) from the previous year
  - Have not had any meth labs this fiscal year
  - Very time consuming for Environmental Health staff and the Health Director to ensure a residence is decontaminated according to North Carolina General Statutes
  - On average, there are three (3) inspections lasting a minimum of two (2) hours or more
  - There is no fee associated with these inspections
  - Cost of cleanup is the responsibility of the homeowner
- Board members were provided a copy of the complete report
- Will be glad to answer any questions regarding the report

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Seemed like a good report
- For perspective state, ideally if things could be right where you, as health director would like them to be, versus where this report says we are, how much difference is there and where are some of those differences?

Health Director Lenhart responded:

- Must look at this report on the respective side of being a rural county
- Don't have the means (revenues) like larger counties do
- Must look at realistic goals
- Would like to see dental care improved in the county
- Would like to see the suicide rate decreased in the county
- Would like to do more regarding smoking and obesity but have to be realistic regarding resources
- Definitely better than we were a couple of years ago
- Comprehensive Land Use Plan will include a health component- subdivisions will be required to have "green spaces" for walking trails
- Believe we are on the right track – making small steps with big gains

- Would like to possibly look at something at the proposed Petree Clinic regarding dental services
- Farmers Market has really helped – feel right on track with that venue
- Women’s, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program will be fully staffed in March 2015 which will increase funding for the County
- Can always improve

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Very good report that was looked at realistically as a rural county with limited resources and revenue

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Ditto Commissioner Lankford’s comments

Chairman Jones commented:

- Agreed with Director Lenhart regarding the need for more dentists in the County
- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that 6,000 Stokes County residents do not qualify for the Affordable Care Act

Health Director Scott Lenhart noted that if the Governor does increase Medicaid, it should hopefully decrease the number of residents who do not qualify for the Affordable Care Act.

Chairman Jones expressed appreciation to Health Director Lenhart for the presentation.

### **NCFAST Update**

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

- Department is totally focused on the next big deadline - March 31, 2015, which is when all Medicaid recertifications must be entered into NCFAST System
- DSS Director Elmes believes with the overtime and temporary staff, the department is on track to make that deadline as long as the positions are filled and temporary workers do not leave
- State is very pleased with the progress that Stokes County is making

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Very glad to hear the department is expected to make the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline and that the overtime and temporary staff are helping out



## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **East Walnut Cove Park - Surplus Property**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a request from Mr. Gregory Hairston, representative for East Walnut Cove Park:

- Mr. Hairston, on behalf of the Park, has requested the County look into the possibility of selling the timber located on the park property with profits going to help operate the park
- Would like consensus from the Board to further investigate the request, looking into General Statute requirements, amount/value of timber, etc.
- Would return to the Board with information before proceeding
- Would need to keep in mind – action taken regarding the timber would be setting a precedent with the County owning other parks within the County

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would like to visit the property before any decision is made
- Could not go before tonight's meeting due to the recent weather

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Do not have any issues with the manager looking into the request
- Would like one thing to definitely be addressed – “clear cut or select cut”
- Would also like to know how this request, if approved, would impact the aesthetics of the park grounds

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Agree with Vice Chairman Walker, would definitely like to know if it would be “clear cut or select cut”

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Concur with Vice Chairman Walker – see no issues with the manager looking into the request
- Would also like to visit the park before any decision is made
- This kind of points to a larger problem, a county owned facility that is a very important addition to a particular community that is operated by that community who is struggling to keep the park operational with other parks in the county having similar issues
- May have to look at this in a different manner; they are county owned parks

Chairman Jones commented:

- Very impressed that the community/committee is thinking “outside the box”
- Agree with other board members regarding “clear cut or select cut”

Chairman Jones requested direction from the Board regarding the request.

The Board unanimously agreed to direct Manager Morris to further look into the request.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed Manager Morris to further look into the request regarding the East Walnut Cove Park and place the item on the March 9<sup>th</sup> Agenda for further discussion.

### **Surplus Tax Foreclosed Property – Upset Bid**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the Surplus Tax Foreclosed Property – Upset Bid:

- Per NC General Statute 160A-269, an advertisement for upset bids was placed in the Stokes News along with being posting on the County's Website pertaining to the sale of tax foreclosed surplus parcel #6947-19-50-0708 (Deed/Pate 615/1299) 1.54 acres N Mill Street in Danbury
- Total outstanding taxes and legal fees as of January 5, 2015 were \$4,136.02
- Gregory Hunsucker/Janis Hunsucker submitted an initial bid of \$4,136.02 which was submitted to the Board of Commissioners on January 12, 2015
- The upset bid process started on January 15<sup>th</sup> and ended on February 11<sup>th</sup>
- County received an upset bid from Eric Cone in the amount of \$4,392.83 during the upset bid process
- At this point, the Board of Commissioners has the option of accepting or rejecting the offer from Eric Cone
- Tax Administrator Jake Oakley and Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall recommended accepting Mr. Cone's bid to purchase the property for \$4,392.83
- Started looking into the property after some of the commissioners raised some very good points regarding the parcel being located in the Town of Danbury
- Provided maps regarding the parcel to Board members
- Given all the activity that is about to happen at the Arts Council, the potential for a lot of visitors to the town, tax value being approximately \$14,000, and only receiving \$4,392.83 upset bid, feel the Board should consider rejecting the upset bid
- Water and sewer are available to the property
- One thing to keep in mind is that there is a lot of rock on the property that would have to be removed if something was ever built on the property – could be very costly to remove the rock
- The question is whether the County should hold on to the property for possibly an increase in value or use by the County
- Spoke with Tax Administrator Oakley today who agreed there would be no harm in holding on to the property at this time
- Could open the parcel back up for sale in the future

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Agree with Manager Morris' comments regarding possibly holding on to the property at this time
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that there would be no downside to holding on to the property at this time other than continuing to receive no tax revenue from the parcel

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Agree with Manager Morris' suggestion to hold on to the property at this time
- Must keep in mind that the Town of Danbury has very limited parking
- Must also look at the value of the property versus what the bid currently is

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Will concur with the thought process on the table
- Available utilities on the property would add approximately \$6,000 to the value as opposed to no available utilities on the property

Chairman Jones commented:

- Also concur with the thought process on the table
- Feel this could be a very important piece of property as the Town of Danbury progresses

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Agreed that there could be some possible uses for the property in the future

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the March 9<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

### **External Posting – Animal Control**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the request to externally post the vacant Deputy Animal Control Officer:

- Deputy Animal Control Officer became vacant on February 13, 2015
- Employee retired suddenly
- Very critical position to the department
- Internal postings closed today with no applicants
- Request to move to tonight's Action Agenda in order to expedite the hiring process

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with Manager Morris' request or to move the item to tonight's

## Action Agenda.

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

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA**

#### **NC Cooperative Extension – Strategic Plan – Base Staffing Model**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following additional information regarding the NC Cooperative Extension – Strategic Plan – Base Model:

- Request for completion of a survey pertaining to each position being funded by the County (50/50) was presented at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Presented the breakdown that was presented at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting:
  - 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
  - Crops Agent – 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
- Presented the survey that was presented at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting that must be answered for each of Cooperative Extension position:
  - 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
- Would recommend the Extension Director and Administrative Assistant positions be marked “Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval due to the positions are already 50/50
- Would recommend the Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions also be marked “Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval due to the county funding for the positions is projected to be decreased
- Would request direction from the Board regarding the other two positions (Agricultural Agent and 4H Youth Development Agent) which are projected to be potential increases in the budget

Chairman Jones entertained a motion.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the manager's recommendation that the Extension Director, Administrative Assistant, Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions be marked "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval."  
Commissioner Inman seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for further discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that his recommendation is to mark the survey for the Extension Director, Administrative Assistant, Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions as "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval" due to those positions are either already 50/50 or will decrease when placed at 50/50 in the upcoming budget
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the overall projected increase is \$3,664 to make all the Cooperative Extension positions 50/50 in the upcoming budget
- Confirmed with Manager Morris by checking the "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval" it would mean there is a high probability that the recommended budget from the manager would include the 50/50 for the two positions that would have an increase

County Manager Morris commented:

- The natural question remains - what would be the impact if the County answered the survey for other two positions which is projected to be an increase as "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested; low expectation of approval"?
- That is unpredictable, but one could assume if the state does not have the 50/50 funding, there could some adjustment in the level of services to try to balance what funding they do receive from the County; that question remains to be unanswered

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that he also recommends the Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions also be marked "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval"

County Manager Morris commented:

- My reasoning for recommending the Crops Agent and the Livestock Agent positions be marked "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval" would be kind of a guarantee that the County would continue to keep the level of services with a minimal increase of County revenue
- If the County does not agree with the projected increase, maybe nothing will happen or current services could be jeopardized

- Confirmed with Extension Director Debbie Cox, who was in attendance for the meeting, that at this point, it is a guess at what the impact might be if the 50/50 is not marked as high expectation of approval in the upcoming budget

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Will approve the manager's recommendation based on his analysis

Commissioner Inman requested a clarification of the motion on the floor.

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that his motion, which he seconded, was as follows:

- Approval of the manager's recommendation that the Extension Director, Administrative Assistant, Crops Agent, and Livestock Agent positions be marked "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested in the budget; high expectation of approval"

Commissioner Inman also confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that this motion did not include the Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions.

Chairman Jones called the question.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lankford noted that the paperwork stated that survey had to be completed by April 30, 2015.

Manager Morris confirmed with Extension Director Cox that the State has requested the survey be completed as soon as possible.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion regarding the two positions that are projecting an increase in county funding for the upcoming budget.

Commissioner Lankford reiterated that he did not wish to discuss the other two positions with another budget work session scheduled for tomorrow, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions.

Commissioner Lankford moved to not discuss the Crops Agent and Livestock Agent positions at tonight's meeting and to discuss the potential increase at the next budget work session.

Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for any further discussion.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the Crops Agent and the Livestock Agent positions need to have a survey completed
- If the survey must be completed tonight, my vote would be for low expectation of approval

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would agree with Commissioner Inman's vote for low expectation of approval if there had to be a completion of the survey for the two remaining positions

Commissioner Inman moved to amend the motion to have the County Manager complete a survey for the Crops Agent and the Livestock Agent positions as "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested; low expectation of approval". Commissioner Booth seconded the amendment.

Vice Chairman Walker requested to hear Manager Morris' thoughts regarding the two positions referred to in the amendment to the original motion.

County Manager Morris responded:

- Do not have a strong recommendation, but my view is the projected increase is not a significant amount of funding and the County currently has a well-functioning department
- NC State did a lot of work over the last couple of years, doing town halls, to hear everyone's opinion before approving the strategic plan
- Do not know what the impact would be if the County does not mark a high expectation of approval in the upcoming budget
- If the County knew there would be no cut in services, marking low expectation of approval would be fine
- If the Board wishes to "roll the dice" with the potential of cutting services, the Board might want to consider high or medium expectation of approval
- Do not feel there is a right answer, seems somewhat subjective
- The Board could still approve the increase with the adoption of the budget even though low expectation of approval was marked on the survey

Commissioner Inman commented:

- The County, as well as NC State, are both in the beginning stages of approving a budget
- NC State will have a chance to respond to the County if low expectation of approval is marked

County Manager Morris agreed with Commissioner Inman's comments regarding NC State having the opportunity to respond to the County once a survey for the two positions that are projected to have an increase in county funding is returned.

Clerk Bullins confirmed with County Attorney Ty Browder that the amendment to the original motion must be voted first.

Chairman Jones called the question regarding the amendment to the motion.

The motion to amend the original motion carried unanimously.

The amended motion to have the County Manager complete a survey for the Crops Agent and the Livestock Agent positions as "Funding for the \_\_\_\_\_ position is requested; low expectation of approval" carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman Walker noted that his vote on the motion was based on the premise that the expectation of approval could be changed at a later date.

#### **Adoption of the New 2013 Digital Aerial Photography Maps**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to adopt the New 2013 Digital Aerial Photography Maps presented at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the adoption of the New 2013 Digital Aerial Photography Maps. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Site Location – Proposed Animal Adoption Facility**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the proposed site location for the proposed Animal Adoption Facility at the old Prison Camp Location presented by Manager Morris at the February 23, 2015



February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the proposed site location presented by Manager Morris located at the Old Prison Camp for the proposed Animal Adoption Facility.

Vice Chairman Walker seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for any further discussion.

Commissioner Booth questioned Manager Morris if he had any further information for the Board?

County Manager Rick Morris responded:

- Motion would designate a site at old prison camp location for the proposed Animal Adoption Facility as presented on the map provided to the Board
- Upon approval of the motion, County staff will work with Friends of Stokes Shelter to proceed with a survey to identify the amount of land needed in order for the group to apply for a rezoning permit “highway business”

Commissioner Lankford noted the permit needed to be “conditional zoning” and not “highway business”.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Proposed Resolution – Petree Revocable/Irrevocable Charitable Trust**

County Manager Rick Morris provided the Board with the following proposed Resolution prepared by County Attorney Ty Browder regarding the Petree Revocable/Irrevocable Charitable Trust:

#### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS** the Stokes County Board of Commissioners has entered into a contract dated July 1, 2014, with Walter Ronald Petree and Ann Petree Ivey, a copy of which is attached; which contract was contingent upon completion of the proposed facility design, approval of the site for water and sewer; acceptance of a deed conveying the site to the County, and receipt of the gift funds in the amount of \$1,250,000.00; and

**WHEREAS** Walter Ronald Petree has established the Walter Ronald Petree Revocable Charitable Trust, a copy of which is attached, and has released the right to amend or revoke the

trust, resulting in office of Trustee now being held by a board of directors whose members are the same as the members of the Stokes County Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS** Walter Ronald Petree is prepared to transfer the gift funds in the amount of \$1,250,000.00 to the Charitable Trust; and Walter Ronald Petree and Ann Petree Ivey are prepared to execute and deliver to the Charitable Trust a deed for the site, upon approval of the Charitable Trust by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners;

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT** the Walter Ronald Petree Charitable Trust is hereby approved; and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, pursuant to the terms of the attached contract, upon receipt by the Charitable Trust of the gift funds in the amount of \$1,250,000.00; and upon tender of a deed to the Charitable Trust for the property described in the contract; the County Manager is instructed to issue a letter of acceptance to Walter Ronald Petree in accordance with paragraph D. of Section IV of the contract.

Adopted this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of **February 2015**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ronda Jones - Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jimmy Walker – Vice Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**J. Leon Inman - Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ernest Lankford - Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**James D. Booth – Commissioner**

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
**Darlene M. Bullins**  
**Clerk to the Board**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the proposed Resolution.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the proposed Resolution for the Petree Revocable/Irrevocable Charitable Trust. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the proposed Resolution prepared by County Attorney Browder.

The motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Rick Morris presented a brief update:

- Signed copy of the Walter Ronald Petree Revocable Charitable Trust along with a signed copy of the Resignation of Trustee/Release of Power to Amend and Revoke were included in tonight's Agenda package

- With the signing of the Resignation of Trustee by Mr. Petree, the Board of Commissioners automatically becomes the Board of Directors for the project
- The Board will need to select an Executive Director for the Board of Directors at the next meeting
- Deed has been completed by County Attorney Browder and will be mailed to Mr. Petree along with wire transfer information for the money

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Would like for the County to be thinking of something that could be done by the County to recognize the Petree Family for their kindness shown to the County – possibly some type of plaque

County Manager Morris responded:

- Mr. Petree has already indicated what he wishes to have on a plaque – information about Ms. Blackwell who previously owned the property – nothing about him
- Mr. Petree is considering coming to the next public meeting held in the community or to the ground-breaking

### **Appointments – Stokes County Community Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team**

Chairman Jones noted the following were nominated at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to serve on the Stokes County Community Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team:

- 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 Bowen
- Team Coordinator
  - Wanda East

Chairman Jones opened the floor for any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones polled the Board:

Commissioner Lankford, Commissioner Inman, Vice Chairman Walker, Commissioner Booth, and Chairman Jones approved the following appointees unanimously:

- 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 Bowen
- Team Coordinator
  - Wanda East

Chairman Jones noted that the following were appointed to serve on the Stokes County

Community Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team:

- 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 Bowen
- Wanda East

**Appointments – Stokes County Board of Adjustment**

Chairman Jones noted the following were nominated at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to serve on the Stokes County Board of Adjustment:

- Stephen Jessup - member
- Marvin Cavanaugh - member
- Arzell Montgomery – Alternate

Clerk Bullins noted that an appointment application from Jeffrey Whitaker had been placed at their location.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for any further nominations.

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Clerk Bullins that Mr. Whitaker’s application would remain on file for future appointments that became vacant.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Lankford moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Like Commissioner Inman’s suggestion regarding the application from Mr. Whitaker remaining on file for future consideration when there is an opening

- Would also like Mr. Whitaker to know that the three current members had requested to be considered for re-appointment

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones polled the Board:

- Commissioner Inman: Stephen Jessup – member, Marvin Cavanaugh – member, and Arzell Montgomery - Alternate
- Chairman Jones: Stephen Jessup – member, Marvin Cavanaugh – member, and Arzell Montgomery - Alternate
- Vice Chairman Walker: Stephen Jessup – member, Marvin Cavanaugh – member, and Arzell Montgomery - Alternate
- Commissioner Booth: Stephen Jessup – member, Marvin Cavanaugh – member, and Arzell Montgomery - Alternate
- Commissioner Lankford: Stephen Jessup – member, Marvin Cavanaugh – member, and Arzell Montgomery - Alternate

Chairman Jones noted that Stephen Jessup and Marvin Cavanaugh were unanimously re-appointed to serve as members and Arzell Montgomery was unanimously re-appointed to serve as Alternate.

**External Posting – Animal Control**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the external posting for the vacant Deputy Animal Control Officer presented at tonight’s meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the external posting for the vacant Deputy Animal Control Officer. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6).

Commissioner Inman moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6).

Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reentered the opened session of the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

### **Code Enforcement Officer**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the hiring salary for Rick Zamani as Code Enforcement Officer at a Grade 73 – Step 14A.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the hiring salary for Rick Zamani as Code Enforcement Officer at a Grade 73 – Step 14A. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **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 Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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**Darlene M. Bullins**  
**Clerk to the Board**

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**Ronda Jones**  
**Chairman**