

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
MARCH 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, March 9, 2015 at 1:30 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 Bullins
County Attorney Tyrone Browder
Finance Director Julia Edwards
DSS Director Stacey Elmes
Fire Marshal Brian Booe
Tax Administrator Jake Oakley

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

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 March 9, 2015 Agenda.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the March 9th Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Former Commissioner Eugene Lyons is under Hospice Care and is requesting no visitors at this time
- Budget packets will be provided to Department Heads at tomorrow's staff meeting
- Budget Guidance Work Session – Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 2:00 pm

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Would like to recognize the proposed Resolution "Farmer Appreciation Day" that the Board will be considering in the Consent Agenda
 - Would like to invite everyone to the Farmer Appreciation Day Event on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at South Stokes High School from 6:00 – 9:00 pm
 - Very good event with good food and live entertainment

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Farmer Appreciation Day is a very good, positive event for the County
- Would like to recognize the proposed Proclamation – Social Work Month – March 2015 the Board will be considering in the Consent Agenda
 - Would like to extend my appreciation to the entire Department of Social Services for their dedicated service
 - Must always realize that if it were not for departments such as Social Services and others in our county, there would be people in our county who desperately need help who would not be receiving it

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Attended CenterPoint Board Retreat/Training on Saturday
 - Stokes County was 100% represented by its board members (Pam Tillman, Stacey Elmes, along with myself)
 - Excellent training
 - Unfortunately, everyone hears all the negative news about CenterPoint and none of the positives; positives outweighs the negative about 99.9%
- CEO Betty Taylor released a press release this past week regarding the current suspension of merger negotiations with Partners
 - CenterPoint has currently suspended negotiations with Partners, does not mean that the negotiations have been terminated
 - Seems to be quite a cultural difference between the two agencies about how the merger should proceed
 - Does not mean that CenterPoint will not continue to pursue merger options
 - The State has not deviated from its desire to have 3 or 4 large merged entities
 - Will be attending a Mental Health TaskForce Meeting in Raleigh tomorrow
- CenterPoint's Board of Directors April meeting will be held at the Hawthorne Inn in Winston Salem

- Will be looking at a Best Practices Model in Winston Salem (Veterans Helping Veterans) which is a transitional housing program for homeless veterans
 - Program currently has 24 homeless veterans
 - Goal is for the homeless veterans to be self-sufficient within two years
- Stokes County resident Gary Merritt is very involved in this program
- Invite everyone to the meeting and the Veteran program

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “For the word of the Lord is right and all his works are done in truth” (Psalm)
- Attended a Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) this past week
 - NC Rural Center is now under the new direction of the NC Department of Commerce
 - PTRC Director is applying for a \$100,000 grant for small projects for the four original counties
 - PTRC Board of Directors approved that the county managers would be involved in the grant process (reviewing and recommending projects) with no input from the Board of Directors
 - Projects can range from \$10,000 to \$50,000
 - Could help with some small needed projects in the county

Chairman Jones commented:

- Recently read to students at King Elementary School which was very enjoyable
- Piedmont Triad Regional Council meeting was cancelled
- Attended a NCACC Environmental Steering Committee in Raleigh last Wednesday
 - Received a lot of good information with the main topic being “coal ash”
 - The top (fly ash) and bottom (cinders) of coal ash is inert; doesn’t have anything in it that is dangerous
 - Doing everything they can to rectify 50 to 60 years worth of accumulation which is a relief
 - Very honest and forthright report presented at the meeting
 - When it is dumped in the river, the arsenic level spikes but dissipates within a week which is very good to know
 - Not trying to downplay the issue, just want to make sure the information is out there to lessen the fear

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following spoke during public comments:

Rev. Gregory Hairston
 1070 Brookridge Drive
 Walnut Cove, NC 27052
 Re: **East Walnut Cove Park**

Rev. Hairston presented the following comments:

- Would first like to express appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for approving the grant project for the East Walnut Cove Park
- Here today to request the Board consider the request from the Park Committee to sell the timber located on the park property
- This would provide funding for the operation of the park which provides a wholesome environment for the citizens to enjoy
- The purpose is not just to raise funding but to make the park more visible from Martin Luther King Road and to incorporate more use of the park by providing walking trails once the timber is removed
- Having more visibility from Martin Luther King Road would make the park safer and hopefully deter those who might want to use the park for unlawful activities
- It is a two-folded request – providing funding and expanding the park use
- Hope the Board of Commissioners will consider the request to sell some of the surplus timber
- Would request the Board of Commissioners consider operational funding for the county parks in the upcoming 2015-16 budget
- People who volunteer to keep operations going in the parks are finding it more difficult in finding funding to keep operations going
- Would also like to thank you for seeing diversity take place within our county government
- Proud to be a lifelong resident of Stokes County
- Appreciate those of you who are commissioners, know it is not an easy task
- Very pleased with the recent grading of our schools in Stokes County

Mr. Buddy Timm

PO Box 573

Walnut Cove, NC 27052

Re: **Just Government - Marriage**

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

“My concern is for just government. Just government is by the consent of the governed, provided the government knows the difference between truth and fraud.

The same-sex unions, which some call marriage, are fraud; not truth, since truth does not change, it is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Same-sex unions have been illegal for thousands of years; since the commands of law. Marriage has been defined from the beginning, as between one man and one woman. Right and Wrong cannot logically be reasoned equal by any honest person, nor can one say definitions that are different, are the same for marriage.

Truth must conform to reality, it is unchangeable, not created by feelings or culture, nor can it be contradictory, destroying itself.

Therefore, all elected officials, should not allow the fraud of licensing same-sex unions, as marriage. The behavior of same-sex unions has been illegal in North Carolina, since North Carolina's founding.

There is a higher authority than the politically appointed, unelected federal judges; which our Declaration of Independence calls: "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God." The Laws of Nature and of Nature's God is a legal term, defined, in our Founder's law book: Blackstone's Commentary, as the "Holy Scriptures." Those Holy Scriptures, from God our Creator, define marriage as between a man and a woman.

Our elected officials should never betray the very foundation of America: those Laws of Nature and of Nature's God; those Holy Scriptures of the Bible. The book traditionally used to testify to the truth on in court, and even the President takes his oath to the Constitution on.

Our elected officials should never betray their oath to the Constitution by compromising to opinion. Can one create anything higher, in authority, than oneself? Did not the States delegate powers creating a Federal Government of limited powers? Does not the Tenth Amendment state: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the People"? Is marriage a delegated power? Are those not laws against fraud? To be or not to be a State of reserved, non-delegated powers to itself and the people, must be acted upon. It cannot be both ways. How can we have a United States of America, when the Federal tribunals are taking over State powers?

Silence is not the answer! The courage and boldness of Thomas Jefferson is. He wrote: "...to consider the judges as the ultimate arbiters of all constitutional questions; a very dangerous doctrine indeed, and one which would place us under the despotism of an oligarchy:" "The Constitution is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary:" and, "When powers are assumed which have not been delegated, a nullification of the act is rightful remedy."

Never, should anyone surrender to that which is not true, especially not, fraud administered.

Please fight for us, and request our Governor and General Assembly stop this fraud, which can never the truth!

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 February 23, 2015 – Regular Meeting

Information System - Budget Amendment #45

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #45.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Information System			
100.4210.351	Maint. & Repairs – Auto	\$23.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,023.00
	Contingency			
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$82,703.00</u>	<u>\$(1,000.00)</u>	<u>\$81,703.00</u>
	Totals	\$82,726.00	\$00.00	\$82,726.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Contingency to replace engine in 2002 Van.

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

Proposed Capital Ordinance – Petree Project

Clerk Darlene Bullins, at the request of Finance Director Julia Edwards, presented the following proposed Capital Ordinance for the Petree Project for the Board's review and approval:

Capital Project Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Body of the County of Stokes, North Carolina that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is for the construction of a medical and community facility in the Pine Hall area with donation from the Petree family.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

	Petree Project	
Construction	400.5919.600	\$1,250,000.00

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Petree Grant Donation	400.3821.000	\$1,250,000.00
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Section 5. The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due.

Section 7. The Finance Director is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

Section 8. The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future costs and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and to the Budget Officer and the Finance Director for direction in carrying out this project

Adopted this 9th day **March, 2015**

Ronda Jones-Chairperson

J. Leon Inman-Commissioner

Jimmy Walker-Vice Chairman

Ernest Lankford-Commissioner

James Booth-Commissioner

Darlene M. Bullins-Clerk to the Board

Proposed Resolution – Authorizing Sale of County Issued Service Side Arm – Chief Deputy Craig Carico

Clerk Darlene Bullins, at the request of Sheriff Mike Marshall, presented the following proposed Resolution for Authorization of the Sale of County Issued Service Side Arm for Chief Deputy Craig Carico for the Board's review and approval:

**Resolution authorizing sale of County issued service side arm:
(North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2.A)**

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Craig Carico is retiring from the Stokes County Sheriff's Department on April 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Craig Carico has been a dedicated fulltime law enforcement officer to the citizens of Stokes County for 25+ years; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2 (a), permits Stokes County to donate the badge worn at no cost, and to the sell service issued side arm to retiring law enforcement officers, at a price determined by the Board of Commissioners; and

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

1. The Sheriff of Stokes County is authorized to present to Chief Deputy Craig Carico his Stokes County Sheriff's Department issued badge at no cost.
2. The Sheriff of Stokes County is also authorized to sell a Smith & Wesson Model M&P 40 caliber semi-auto handgun, serial number DWJ3249 and holster at a set price of \$1.00 to Chief Deputy Craig Carico after securing a permit as required by North Carolina General Statute 14-402 or 14-409.

Adopted this the 9th day of **March 2015**.

Ronda Jones- Chairman

Jimmy Walker – Vice Chairman

J. Leon Inman - Commissioner

Ernest Lankford - Commissioner

James D. Booth – Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene Bullins – Clerk to the Board

Proposed Proclamation – Social Work Month – March 2015

Clerk Darlene Bullins, at the request of DSS Director Stacey Elmes, presented the following proposed Proclamation for Social Work Month “March 2015” for the Board’s review and approval:

**Proclamation
Social Work Month
March 2015
“Helping People Help Themselves”**

WHEREAS, the primary mission of the Social Work profession has been and is to enhance well-being and help meet the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society;

WHEREAS, Social Workers—more than any other profession—recognize that more must be done to address persistent social problems;

WHEREAS, Social Workers support diverse families in every community, understanding that individuals and communities together can bring about group change;

WHEREAS, Social Workers know from experience that discrimination of any kind limits human potential and must be eliminated;

WHEREAS, Social Workers know from experience that poverty and trauma can create lifelong social and economic disadvantages;

WHEREAS, Social Workers help people in every stage of life function better in their environments, improve their relationships with others, and solve personal and family problems;

March 9, 2015

WHEREAS, all children have the right to safe environments and quality education;

WHEREAS, dignity and care-giving for older adults help define a nation's character;

WHEREAS, access to mental health treatment and health care services saves millions of lives;

WHEREAS, research shows that all people, no matter their circumstance, at some time in their lives, may need the expertise of a skilled social worker;

WHEREAS, Social Workers celebrate the courage, hope and strength of the human spirit throughout their careers;

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of the numerous contributions made by Social Workers around the world, we, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners, proclaim the month of **March 2015** as **Social Work Month** and call upon all citizens of Stokes County to celebrate and support the Social Work profession.

Adopted this 9th day of **March, 2015**.

Chairman Ronda Jones

Vice-Chairman Jimmy Walker

Commissioner J. Leon Inman

Commissioner Ernest Lankford

Commissioner James D. Booth

Attest:

Clerk to the Board Darlene M. Bullins

Proposed Resolution – Farmer Appreciation Day – April 9, 2015

Clerk Darlene Bullins, at the request of Natural Resources, presented the following proposed Resolution for Farmer Appreciation Day – April 9, 2015:

**RESOLUTION
PROCLAIMING
FARMER APPRECIATION DAY
IN STOKES COUNTY**

Whereas, the County of Stokes, the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District, the Cooperative Extension, Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the NC Forest Service desire to host the Farmer Appreciation Day to recognize the contributions of our farmers to Stokes County; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that the county's farmers contribute greatly to Stokes County's economic base; and

Whereas, the Board believes that all county citizens benefit from farming activities in some manner; and

Whereas, the Board agrees that a Farmer Appreciation Day would show our county's support for the existing farming community and honor past activities that have contributed so much to the culture and heritage of Stokes County; and

Whereas, the Board recognizes and appreciates the local businesses within the County that provides funding for a BBQ and Chicken Dinner with live entertainment to be held at **South Stokes High School** with all Stokes County citizens invited.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT

The Stokes County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims **Thursday, April 9, 2015** as **Farmer Appreciation Day** in Stokes County and extends its appreciation and gratitude to the county's farmers for their many contributions to Stokes County.

Adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners this 9th day **March, 2015**.

Chairman Ronda Jones

Vice Chairman Jimmy Walker

Commissioner J. Leon Inman

Commissioner Ernest Lankford

Commissioner James D. Booth

Attest:

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

CenterPoint Human Services – Bi-Annual Update

County Manager Rick Morris welcomed the following who were here today from CenterPoint Human Services to present the Biannual Report:

- Chief Executive Officer and Area Director (CEO) Betty Taylor
- Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Ronda Outlaw
- Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Kevin Beauchamp

CFO Kevin Beauchamp presented the following financial information:

- Information being presented today is Year To Date (YTD) as of January 31, 2015

- F/Y2014-15 Allocation of Stokes County Discretionary Funds
 - Mental Health = \$77,744 (20%)
 - Intellectual and Development Disability = \$156,259 (39%)
 - Substance Abuse = \$56,000 (14%)
 - Inpatient = \$53,000 (13%)
 - Transportation = \$10,000 (3%)
 - Care Coordination = \$45,817 (11%)
 - Total = \$398,820 (100%)
- Financial Performance
 - Total Revenue
 - Annual Budget = \$166,267,509
 - Budget YTD = \$96,989,380
 - Actual YTD = \$100,279,783
 - Variance YTD = \$3,290,403
 - Percentage = 3%
 - Fund Balance Appropriation
 - Annual Budget = \$1,803,204
 - Budget YTD = \$1,051,869
 - Total
 - Annual Budget = \$168,070,713
 - Budget YTD = \$98,041,249
 - Actual YTD = \$100,279,783
 - Variance YTD = \$3,290,403
 - Percentage = 3%
 - Total Expenditures
 - Annual Budget = \$168,070,713
 - Budget YTD = \$98,041,249
 - Actual YTD = \$88,982,564
 - Variance YTD = (\$9,058,685)
 - Percentage = (-9%)
 - Revenue Less Expenditures = \$11,297,219
 - Less Risk Reserve Set Aside = \$1,602,296
 - Revenue Less Expenditures = \$9,694,923 (Medicaid Funding)
- Expense Ratio
 - CenterPoint receives Medicaid and State funding for services and administration
 - The medical and administrative expense ratios for Medicaid and State funds are tracked throughout the year
 - CenterPoint is on a fiscal year with Medicaid on a calendar year
 - Ratios measure the utilization of revenue that has been received from each funding source
 - For each ratio, the benchmark for utilization is 96%
 - Medicaid Medical Expense Ratio = 105%
 - Medicaid Administrative Expense Ratio = 118%
 - Ratio exceeded 100% due to PMPM payment for January 2015 was lower than normal due to NC Tracks issues experienced by DHHS
 - State Funding Medical Expense Ratio = 90%

- State Funding Administrative Expense Ratio = 93%
 - Starting Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2016) Medicaid and State funding will all be on the same calendar
- Current Ratio Fiscal YTD - All Funding Sources as of January 31, 2015
 - Current Assets = \$49,700,390
 - Current Liabilities = \$13,516,416
 - Current Ratio = 3.68
- Defensive Interval Fiscal YTD - All Funding Sources as of January 31, 2015
 - Current Assets = \$49,700,390
 - Current Liabilities = \$88,982,564
 - Days Being Measured = 215 (\$413,872)
 - Defensive Interval Ratio = 120.09
- Medicaid Contract Financial Benchmark Measures
 - Medical Loss Ratio was listed as Concerns for Total Expense and Medical Loss Ratio due to the lower than normal PMPM payment for January 2015 due to NC Tracks issues at DHHS
- Medicaid Income State Calendar YTD as of January 31, 2015
 - Reflects only for January 2015 with Medical starting over January 1st of each year
 - Current YTD = Loss (\$661,203) due to the lower than normal PMPM payment in January 2015 due to NC Tracks issues at DHHS
- Medicaid Claim Denial Percentages for the Period (1-1-14/1-31-15)
 - Benchmark is less than 10%
 - CenterPoint has been under that 10% for quite a while
- Days to Pay Clean Claims for Medicaid for the Period (1-1-14/1-31-15)
 - Average for January 2015 was 8.5 days

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with CFO Beauchamp that the areas of concern were due to the lower than normal PMPM payment in January 2015 due to NC Tracks issues at DHHS which should be straightened out with the February 2015 payment.

(CAO) Ronda Outlaw presented the following information:

- Stokes County Clients Served (Third Quarter 2014 thru Second Quarter 2015)

	Third QTR 2014	Fourth QTR 2014	First QTR 2015	Second QTR 2015
MH	652	713	680	666
I/DD	113	118	116	118
SA	130	133	142	125
DUAL DX	44	56	67	64
TOTAL	939	1020	1005	973

- By adding on new providers and services the trend line is headed in the right direction
- Continue to work with Department of Social Services and Health Department to increase access to mental health for their clients
 - Met with DSS Director Elmes last week to ensure that clients were being served
 - Working with Director Scott Lenhart regarding a provider being on site at the Health Department who will provide services to clients from both Public Health and DSS
- Stokes County Service Continuum
 - Gaps in services
 - Crisis Services (Facility-Based Crisis)
 - Supports (Transportation and Housing)
 - Working on gaps in services and hope to have new information in April
- Access to Care for all four counties
 - During the past 6 months have averaged from 1,800 to 2,000 requests for services from providers with an approval rate between 88-90%
- People Served
 - Total served 9,899 by CenterPoint (10/1/14-12/31/14)
 - Stokes Adults = 589
 - Stokes Children = 281
- New Services & Supports
 - Elementary School Day Treatment
 - Located at King Elementary School
 - Provider - Youth Haven
 - Implemented March 2015
 - Program working very well
 - Wellness Center Update
 - Hiring of additional staff underway to support full implementation
- Training Events
 - Mental Health First Aid (Stokes County)
 - Adult – one training – 14 people trained
 - Child – one training – 11 people trained
 - Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)
 - Scholarships available for law enforcement (training is held quarterly in Rockingham and Forsyth Counties)
 - Stokes County Sheriff's Department has reached out and is taking advantage of the available scholarships
 - DSS Meeting
 - Informational session regarding Customer Services, Care Coordination and Utilization Management
- Behavior Health Urgent Care (to be implemented by next summer)
 - 24/7 Behavioral Health Urgent Care (facility to be built)
 - Assessment and triage
 - 12 (23-hour) observation chairs

- Integrated on-site medical services
 - Peer support and recovery focus pre and post crisis
- Facility-Based Crisis Center (will be co-located with the Urgent Care Center)
 - 16-bed inpatient unit with IVC capability
 - “Drop off” capacity for CIT-trained officers
 - \$999k first year of a three year state grant allocation
 - Re-zoning approved for Ivy Street Property
 - Architectural planning implemented
 - Environmental study underway
 - RFI pending for on-site medical services
- Making a Difference
 - Statewide Recognition
 - Health Improvement Peer Program (HIPP)
 - Whole health “mind/body” wellness curriculum taught by Peer Support Specialists
 - 2014 NC Council Program of Excellence Award Winner
 - National Recognition
 - “Bring on the Data” CenterPoint presented at the National Open Minds Conference in Orlando, FL in February 2015
 - Using data to improve quality of care
 - Anti-Psychotic Medication Monitoring Project
 - Data monitoring related to preventable medical conditions (e.g. glucose and cholesterol screening)

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with CAO Outlaw that the number of individuals reported served by CenterPoint were unduplicated numbers.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Appreciate the quality of services being provided by CenterPoint
- Very pleased with the announcement of the Behavior Health Urgent Care Facility-Based Crisis Center Project that is underway

Commissioner Inman commented:

- The Behavior Health Urgent Care Facility-Based Crisis Center Project that is underway will alleviate the long hours that law enforcement officers currently spend waiting for a patient to be evaluated
- Confirmed with CAO Outlaw the B3 monies which have been saved since the Medicaid Waiver (February 2013) is over \$15 million
- Need to remember that the Senate is still looking at privatization for mental health services
- B3 monies will be used for the Behavior Health Urgent Care Facility-Based Crisis Center Project

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Hearing many positives with the information being presented today
- Sounds like we are continuing to getting closer to where we need to be
- Sometimes there seems like there is a medical issue that drives the mental health issue or vice versus; questioned CAO Outlaw what attention or resources, if my observation is correct, is CenterPoint able to give to address this issue?

CAO Outlaw responded:

- Current medical director who is a psychiatrist was a former primary care physician is very interested in the medical impacts, especially with moving into integrated care
- Under his leadership, CenterPoint has developed a significant number of integrated care initiatives (approximately 14)
- Continue to work on initiatives

Vice Chairman Walker questioned CEO Taylor regarding the increase of beds and how they will benefit Stokes County residents.

CEO Betty Taylor responded:

- This is a major step in the right direction, but will not solve all the problems
- Will still contract with Old Vineyard
- Law enforcement will be available to take individuals to the 24-hour urgent care center (when opened) for immediate assessment
- If a patient also needs medical services, the patient will be transferred to a hospital emergency room where those medical services can be provided
- Those who do not have medical needs and there is a bed available in the crisis center (when opened) will be immediately be admitted for care and treatment
- Will still have to have other resources even when the new center is opened
- The new center will be a huge step in the right direction
- The new center will have off duty officers on site that can immediately receive custody of an individual eliminating the long waiting hours
- Will not be perfect, but much better
- Responding to the comment regarding medical issues, there is no funding stream that supports it (working with North Carolina Community Care Network on initiatives to help this issue)

Vice Chairman Walker questioned CEO Taylor where are we compared to your vision of where you would see us when we finally get close to the optimum?

CEO Taylor responded:

- There is no waiting list for services
- With the current funding in the system, don't think I will ever be able to stand before you and say we are there

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Questioned CEO Taylor if the Health Educator in the Health Department still serves as a liaison for mental health?

CAO Outlaw responded:

- Health Department Director Lenhart actually had the idea to provide mental health services in the Health Department for Public Health and DSS clients and is providing space for a provider to be at the Health Department
- Will put services in this part of the county, eliminating individuals from having to drive to King or who may not have transportation to King
- Open to continuing discussions with Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes regarding mental health services

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Most of my questions have been answered
- Very pleased to hear about the new facility which should help law enforcement

CEO Taylor commented:

- Expressed appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for their continued support
- Expressed appreciation to Commissioner Inman for what he is doing statewide to bring focus on these issues

Chairman Jones commented:

- Have seen many improvements
- Very appreciative for the services being provided to Stokes County residents

Chairman Jones expressed appreciation to CEO Taylor and staff for the presentation.

NCACC March Update

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

The power point presentation provided the following information:

- District Meetings
 - Meetings offer county commissioners and management staff an opportunity to learn about the latest legislative developments in Raleigh, to share information from their conversations with legislators, to network with officials from other counties and to learn about the latest NCACC programs and services that benefit counties
 - March 25th – Martin County
 - April 1st – Jackson County
 - April 2nd – Iredell County
 - April 9th – Onslow County

- April 15th – Durham County
 - April 16th – Hoke County
- Counties are asked to meet with their legislative delegation prior to the district meetings in order to provide input at the district meeting
- NCACC Strategic Plan Regional Input Sessions
 - Defining our mission for the next decade
 - Asking members about the future of county government in NC and input from our counties is essential
 - Goal is to help strengthen county government by positioning the Association to help you meet the identified challenges and trends
 - March 6th – Duplin County
 - March 10th – Orange County
 - March 17th – Buncombe County
 - March 24th – Catawba County
 - March 30th – Pitt County
- NACO Conference in Washington DC
 - Held in Washington - February 2015
 - North Carolina was well represented
- County Assembly Day – May 6, 2015 – Quorum Center, Raleigh, NC
 - To meet with and hear from state legislative leaders and meet with their state legislative representatives

Chairman Jones commented:

- Senator Shirley Randleman has notified the County that she will be unable to meet with commissioners before the District Meeting, but will be happy to meet with commissioners on County Assembly Day in May

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Had received information from Representative Holloway that he would be able to meet with commissioners before the District Meetings

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Suggested, if Representative Holloway was available, possibly do a conference call with Senator Randleman during the meeting

The Board unanimously agreed to work with Representative Holloway for a possible date.

Chairman Jones directed the Clerk to contact Representative Holloway for possible dates.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Tax Administration Report – February 2015

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following informational data for the

Current 2014 Taxes	\$19,080,388.00	\$18,651,699.38	Budget	Budget
				\$428,688.62
New Schools F-Tech Fund	\$1,272,026.00	\$1,282,609.24	\$10,583.24	
(Includes Prior 98-2013 Taxes)				
Prior Taxes				
1998-2013 Tax Years				
County Regular & Motor Vehicles	\$675,000.00	\$537,998.15		\$137,001.85

Collection Percentage
As of February 28, 2015
 Current 2014 Tax = 0.9775%

New School F-Tech
Fund = 1.0083%
Prior 1998-2013 Tax
Years (Reg and MV) = 0.7970%

EMS Current Collections
Total Collected
 (02-01-15/02-28-15)
 \$127,726.54
Total Collected
 (07-01-14/06-30-15)
 \$996,349.53
Percentage of Collection =
 66.42%
 Balance to collect = \$503,650.47

Delinquent EMS Collection
Report - Total Collected
 (02-01-15/02-28-15)
 \$29,157.10
 (07-01-14/06-30-15)
 \$140,238.85
Percentage of Collection = 87.65%
 Balance to collect = \$19,761.15

Business and Personal Property Discovery Report

Audit Dates	Accts	Total Value	Taxes Due
(02-01-15/02-28-15)	10	\$33,505.00	\$287.82
(07-01-14/06-30-15)	356	\$4,272,429.00	\$40,599.96

Motor Vehicle Release Report
Audit Dates
 Assessment through NC
 Department of Motor Vehicles

Department of Motor Vehicles

Garnishment Totals

Month	Total Accounts	Original Levy Amount	Collected Amount
(02-1-15/02-28-15)	131	\$22,185.01	\$20,716.54
F/Year 2014-15			
(07-1-14/6-30-15)	1,357	\$352,077.70	\$283,171.52

Monthly Delinquent Tax Collection Report

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Monthly Delinquent Tax Collection Report for February 2015:

<u>County</u>	<u>Real/Personal</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>2015</u>			
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/Credits	Write-offs	Payments	Ending Balance
2013	\$ 341,697.12	\$(125.01)	\$42.00	\$46.40	\$(0.18)	\$(27,183.28)	\$ 314,477.05
2012	\$ 177,467.57	\$(88.62)	\$42.00	\$(13.60)		\$(12,017.93)	\$ 165,389.42
2011	\$ 97,366.20	\$(89.04)	\$42.00	\$5.04		\$(6,275.58)	\$ 91,048.62
2010	\$ 64,828.18	\$(48.00)	\$361.81	\$(313.81)		\$(3,577.82)	\$ 61,250.36
2009	\$ 39,522.43			\$7.42		\$(715.36)	\$ 38,814.49
2008	\$ 29,225.72					\$(456.10)	\$ 28,769.62
2007	\$ 19,746.02					\$(42.68)	\$ 19,703.34
2006	\$ 13,032.83					\$(299.53)	\$ 12,733.30
2005	\$ 10,663.40						\$ 10,663.40
2004	\$ 10,849.09						\$ 10,849.09
2003	\$ 8,812.23						\$ 8,812.23
2002	\$ 1,179.24					\$(7.81)	\$ 1,171.43
2001	\$ 4.58						\$ 4.58
2000	\$ 251.76						\$ 251.76
1999	\$ 313.78						\$ 313.78

<u>County</u>	<u>Motor</u>		<u>February</u>	<u>2015</u>			
Year	Beginning Balance	Releases	Refunds	Debits/Credits	Write-offs	Payments	Ending Balance
2013	\$ 23,545.30			\$0.21	\$(0.87)	\$(1,662.38)	\$ 21,882.26
2012	\$ 4,359.29	\$(45.85)		\$27.18	\$(1.05)	\$(746.20)	\$ 3,593.37
2011	\$ 19,198.62			\$15.99		\$(472.41)	\$ 18,742.20
2010	\$ 21,097.12			\$15.12		\$(257.91)	\$ 20,854.33
2009	\$ 16,801.96		\$38.71	\$(38.71)		\$(189.24)	\$ 16,612.72

2008	\$	18,309.19		\$91.38	\$(91.38)	\$(0.32)	\$(343.50)	\$	17,965.37
2007	\$	16,274.77					\$(80.93)	\$	16,183.84
2006	\$	12,000.59					\$(91.45)	\$	11,909.14
2005	\$	14,884.01					\$(103.89)	\$	14,780.12
2004	\$	13,103.19					\$(131.87)	\$	12,971.32
2003	\$	13,283.73					\$(39.18)	\$	13,244.55
2002									

<u>New</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Forsyth</u>	<u>Tech</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>2015</u>	
Year	Beginning	Releases	Refunds	Debits/ Credits	Write-offs	Payments	Ending Balance
2013	\$ 25,253.85	\$(8.34)	\$2.80	\$0.31	\$(0.01)	\$(1,816.64)	\$ 23,431.97
2012	\$ 14,583.96	\$(5.91)	\$2.80	\$0.31		\$(797.44)	\$ 13,783.72
2011	\$ 7,029.58	\$(5.94)	\$2.80	\$0.34		\$(417.92)	\$ 6,608.86

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:

January 2015

New VTS System

Tax Code	Levy	Interest	Adjustment	Billing	Net
Jurisdiction	Billed	Paid	Made	Cost	Collected
City of King	\$17,290	\$151	-\$123	-\$1,087	\$16,231
King Car Fee	\$2,180	\$18	None	None	\$2,198
Walnut Cove Town	\$2,474	\$13	-\$98	-\$142	\$2,247
Danbury Town	\$443	\$21	None	-\$24	\$440
School Tax	\$10,944	\$89	-\$45	-\$604	\$10,384
King Fire	\$2,608	\$17	-\$7	-\$144	\$2,474
Rural Hall Fire	\$554	\$7	None	-\$30	\$531
Walnut Cove Fire	\$1,697	\$13	None	-\$94	\$1,616
General County	\$164,159	\$1,336	-\$671	-\$9,057	\$155,767
Service Fire	\$9,862	\$82	-\$31	-\$542	\$9,371
Total Collected	\$212,211	\$1,747	(\$975)	(\$11,724)	\$201,259

- 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	\$133,843.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 3,397	Total Expenses	<u>\$(6,490.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$1.91	Total Net Collected	\$127,353.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Town of Walnut Cove	\$18,488.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 713	Total Expenses	<u>\$(859.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$1.20	Total Net Collected	\$17,629.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Town of Danbury	\$1,910.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 109	Total Expenses	<u>\$(89.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.82	Total Net Collected	\$1,821.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	F Tech/School Fund	\$78,987.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 29,727	Total Expenses	<u>\$(3,743.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.13	Total Net Collected	\$75,244.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	King Fire District	\$20,274.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 4,494	Total Expenses	<u>\$(973.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.22	Total Net Collected	\$19,301.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Rural Hall Fire District	\$4,083.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 864	Total Expenses	<u>\$(189.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.22	Total Net Collected	\$3,894.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Walnut Cove Fire Dist.	\$12,987.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 2,410	Total Expenses	<u>\$(607.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21	Total Net Collected	\$12,380.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	General County	\$1,184,774.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 29,727	Total Expenses	<u>\$(56,163.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$1.89	Total Net Collected	\$1,128,611.00
Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system	Service Fire District	\$69,866.00
Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 17,087	Total Expenses	<u>\$(3,296.00)</u>
Average Cost per Bill = \$0.19	Total Net Collected	\$66,570.00
Total Cumulative Collected NCVTS through January (all tax districts)	\$1,525,212.00	
Total Expenses for NCVTS through January(all tax districts)	\$ 72,409.00	
Total net collected for NCVTS through January (all tax districts)	\$1,452,803.00	
Average cost per total billings through January	\$2.44 per bill	

Lowest cost billed = \$2.21 (County, School Fund, Service Fire based on 29,727 cars)

Highest cost billed = \$3.93 (County, School Fund, King City based on 3,397 cars)

Interstate Collection Report	Collection	Total Collected
February 2015		
Cumulative Total Collected to Date	NC Debt Setoff	\$223,363.20
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Motor Vehicles	\$130,188.65
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Property Taxes	\$47,016.85
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	EMS	<u>\$263,327.12</u>
Collected (to date)	All Categories	\$440,532.62

Releases Less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases less than \$100 –

Real and Personal Property (February 2015) at the March 9th meeting for the Board's review:

**Releases Less Than
\$100 - Real/Personal
Property**

Name	Bill No	Amount
Rebecca Rubio	11A698800047880	\$49.35
	12A698800047880	\$49.35
	11A698800047880	\$49.35
	14A698800047880	\$49.35
Thomas E. Thompson	15A63032.09.1	\$76.14
Steven McHargue	14A20158.09	\$44.76
	13A2015809.1	<u>\$42.76</u>
Total		\$361.06

Refunds Less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds less than \$100 –

Real and Personal Property (February 2015) at the March 9th meeting for the Board's review:

**Refunds Less Than
\$100 - Real/Personal
Property**

Name	Bill No	Amount
Richard&Roberta Love	14A598800153199	\$49.35
	13A598800153199	\$49.35
	12A598800153199	\$49.35
	11A598800153199	\$49.35
	10A598800153199	\$46.55

Linda Darst	14A156020411.07	\$4.37
	13A156020411.07	\$4.94
	12A156020411.07	\$5.32
	11A156020411.07	\$5.80
	10A156020411.07	<u>\$6.50</u>
Total		\$270.88

Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

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

Releases more than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Davis Lawn Care	14A156049770.09.1	<u>\$284.05</u>	Correction of Listing
James Richard Davis			
Total		\$284.05	

Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

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

Refunds more than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Nancy Boyles	22373308	\$130.13	Vehicle Sold
Raymond Hurst	23067668	\$204.37	Vehicle Sold
Chad Ray Joyce LLC	14A156049210.01	<u>\$938.23</u>	Vehicle Sold
Total		\$1,272.73	

Present-Use Late Applications

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Present-Use Late Application (February 2015) at the March 9th meeting for the Board's review with a request for consideration at March 9, 2015

the March 23rd meeting:

- Taxpayer: Eddie Glenn LeVan
 - Parcel: 599500142141
 - Acreage: 24.12
 - Reason: Land (all wooded) has been in the family for many years
- Taxpayer: Robert Ridge and Nancy Ridge
 - Parcel: 598600341871
 - Acreage: 8.96
 - Reason: Owner has other adjoining farmland

Tax Administrator Oakley requested the following be placed on the March 23rd Consent

Agenda:

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100
- Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100
- Present-Use Late Applications

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Noted the great collection rate of ad valorem taxes

The Board had no issues with the February report presented by Tax Administrator Oakley.

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

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100
- Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100
- Present-Use Late Applications

Social Services Monthly Report

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

- Program Reports
 - Piedmont Triad Regional Council – On Site Monitoring Visit
 - Services Report (Social Work, Family Support Services, Administration)
- NCFAST FNS/SNAP Pending Applications – Report Date 02-27-2015
 - Total pending Apps = 107
 - Totally untimely = 12

- NCFast FNS Recertification Workload
 - Total Re-certifications in Progress = 105
- NCFast Application Processing – Traditional MAD Pending = 100
- NCFast Application Processing – Traditional Medicaid Pending = 90

Metrics

- As of February 2015:
 - Income Maintenance
 - NC FAST – In compliance – System issues with payments; system has been slow several days this month.
 - WorkFirst – Needs improvement – System issues with payments; 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
 - Informational session held on March 2, 2015 with 23 individuals attending
 - 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 – vacancy filled mid-February
 - 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 hosted a Foster and Adoptive Parenting Information Night in March
 - Had 23 individuals attending
 - New MAPP Class for being foster parents will be starting March 23rd
 - Hope to have about four families in the MAPP Class

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford questioned what types of environment are workers seeing during the Child Protection Investigations?

Director Elmes responded:

- Seeing a lot substance abuse and mental health issues

Commissioner Booth questioned where the department stood with the NCFAST.

DSS Director Elmes responded:

- February was a rough month with snow days and several days that NCFAST was very slow
- State reviewed the County's progress and was very pleased as to where the County was at in the process
- There is a slim possibility that the department will meet the March 31st deadline
- Department is trying to meet the deadline, not sure it will happen with system issues, workers absent due to sickness, etc.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Have seen an ongoing effort with the recruitment of foster parents
- Confirmed with Director Elmes there is approximately \$400-\$500 per month state compensation for each child
- Confirmed with Director Elmes that there is no indication that the amount of funding received each month is why there is a difficulty in recruiting foster parents
- Confirmed with Director Elmes that comments received indicate the amount of time needed to care for a foster child may defer individuals from taking on that responsibility

Chairman Jones confirmed there may be some possibilities for foster parents with the number of attendees at the information meeting.

Chairman Jones expressed appreciation to DSS Director for the monthly report.

Petree Project – Petree Charitable Trust – Board of Directors – Selection of Executive Director

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following information regarding the selection of an Executive for the Board of Directors of the Petree Charitable Trust:

- Per Article V – Section A (Trustees of Charitable Trust) of the Walter Ronald Petree Revocable Charitable Trust, the Board of Directors shall appoint one member to act as executive director of the Charitable Trust, whose title may be “Trustee”
- The Board of Directors shall meet not less often than annually to evaluate all requests for distributions, to determine which requests to make, and to determine which distributions should be made without a request
- The Board of Directors for the Trust will need to meet once the funding and land has been transferred to the County
- Request the Board appoint a member to serve as Executive Director

Chairman Jones opened the floor for volunteers, nominations, etc.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Have no issues with serving as Executive Director

Vice Chairman Walker nominated Chairman Ronda Jones.

Commissioner Inman nominated Commissioner Ernest Lankford.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the Selection of Executive Director on the March 23rd Action Agenda.

Petree Project – Architectural/Engineering Services

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding Architectural/Engineering Services for the Petree Project:

- Per NCGS 143-64.31, a Request for Qualifications was posted on February 13, 2015 on the County webpage announcing the need for architectural/engineer services on the Petree Project
- Statement of qualifications was received from Peterson/Gordon Architects for the Board’s review
- Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall recommends, based on Peterson/Gordon Architects past outstanding performance on previous County projects, the County move forward with contract negotiations with Peterson/Gordon Architects
- Request consensus to enter into contract negotiations with Peterson/Gordon Architects

- If approved to move forward, will present a proposed contract from Peterson/Gordon Architects at the March 23rd meeting for the Board's review

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with directing Manager Morris and staff to enter contract negotiations with Peterson/Gordon Architects.

It was consensus of the Board to direct the manager to enter into contract negotiations with Peterson/Gordon Architects.

East Walnut Cove Park – Sale of Surplus Property

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the sale of surplus property at the East Walnut Cove Park:

- Did a fact finding mission since the last meeting with Danny Stovall and Phil Handy who estimates timber on the side
- Recently met with members of the committee
- Mr. Handy estimates the value of the hardwood being approximately \$10,000 (conservative estimate)
- Lot of timber cutters are cutting timber on a 50/50 split which would generate approximately \$5,000
- If the committee would like to look at building a walking path which would require stump removal that would not likely be very expensive
- The estimate was for clear cutting the timber, not select cut
- Information is included regarding timber being considered as real property and can be sold by utilizing one of the following procedures:
 - NCGS – 160A-268 (Advertisement for seal bids)
 - NCGS – 160A-269 (Upset bids)
 - NCGS – 160A-270 (Public auction)

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- If my memory serves me right, at the last meeting, there was a preference toward select cutting the timber because the appearance would be much better in the long run with stump removal taking care of itself over the years
- It takes a long time for timber to grow back
- Worked with the forestry service selling some timber a few years back, it looked as good or maybe better once the select cut was done
- Think a park needs trees

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Visited the park
- Would not recommend clear cutting the timber, feel it will hurt the physical look of the park
- Very nice park
- Not sure it would be feasible right now to cut the timber
- There may be other options to raise funding
- Not totally opposed to cutting the timber, concerned about what it would do to the overall aesthetics of the park itself
- I am sure the people in the community are very proud of the park
- Ball field is in very good shape with the surrounding areas in good shape
- There are some pine trees that people can sit under
- Timber is located beside the ball field, not sure about the cost of building a walking trail, could be very expensive
- Recommend looking at possible grant opportunities

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Also visited the park
- Most of the timber is very small and with select cut, feel it would be a very small amount of timber to cut
- Should think about leaving 10-12 inch trees
- Can't see clear cutting the timber in a park
- There is some adjoining land that has been clear cut and can clearly see the results from clear cutting
- Believe a park should have trees
- Think it would be only about 40-45% revenue for the county
- Don't see cutting the timber for the small amount of revenue that you would get from select cut
- It is a very nice park
- Stump removal is very expensive
- Agree with Commissioner Lankford that it would be very expensive to build a trail
- Very pleased with the committee thinking out of the box for ideas for raising funds to enhance the park
- Just don't agree with clear cutting timber in a park

Vice Chairman Walker suggested getting in touch with the Forestry Service for their recommendation.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Appreciate the committee thinking outside of the box
- Don't believe there is a lot of timber there to cut
- To me, clear cutting the timber inside the park is not an option
- Love the ideas, but building a trail could get very expensive with the amount of stumps that would have to be removed

- Like the idea of the park being more visible from the main road
- Feel we need more information before making any decisions
- Want to help the park
- Appreciate the work done by volunteers keeping the park in operation for the citizens of Stokes

Vice Chairman Walker requested permission from Chairman Jones to allow Rev. Hairston to speak.

Chairman Jones allowed Rev. Hairston to speak.

Vice Chairman Walker questioned Rev. Hairston if he had any problems with the Board requesting additional information before making a decision?

Rev. Hairston responded:

- Did not have any issues with obtaining additional information
- Want to make the park useable for the citizens; currently can't use the wooded area
- Want to make the park more visible
- Want to enhance the park for the community

Chairman Jones confirmed with Rev. Hairston that part of the request is gaining square footage to use for other activities.

Commissioner Lankford questioned Rev. Hairston what his vision is regarding the wooded area if it was cleared cut?

Rev. Hairston responded:

- There are several options the committee has discussed – area for seniors, area for children, walking trail, areas for picnicking, etc.
- Getting more visible will bring in more users
- Have had some vandalism in the past that we feel was due to the park not being visible from the main road
- Once the area is cleared, there could other options

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Would like to see the county get in touch with forestry services to see what options are out there and to get a market value
- Would like to see a plan regarding what could be cut versus what could be left standing (clear cut or select cut)

Rev. Hairston responded:

- That is fine
- Just want to let the Board know that there are limited volunteers and several are senior citizens

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Just an observation, this is a county owned park
- Would like to compliment Rev. Hairston regarding his passion about this park and his community
- This park is important to eastern Walnut Cove
- We need for Rev. Hairston and others to continue to be role models for the young people in Stokes County
- Compliment Rev. Hairston for thinking outside of the box
- Going to have to do one or two things – either going to have to provide for this park or it is going to be gone
- The resources are just not there to operate the park
- Not talking about taking money out of fund balance, but looking for other options such as grants

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- There are other county parks, one in your area – Lions Park
- Questioned Rev. Hairston if there was a committee to help with fundraisers?

Rev. Hairston responded:

- There are very few people willing to volunteer their time
- There are only a few committee members left with the number continuing to decrease
- Tried to partner with the Lions Club to take some of the activities with the Little League Program – was not successful
- Recently had a Girl Scout event raised approximately \$1,000, if not for that fundraiser, the park would have been turned over to the County
- Reiterated the need for operational funding for all the county owned parks
- The committee for the East Walnut Cove Park is no longer able to keep the needed operations going at the park
- The Manager can tell you, the parks that have applied for the grants that were approved in the FY 2014-15 Budget are all in the same shape
- Suggest looking at a tax increase for park operations
- Cost of mowing is very expensive each year
- When something breaks and there is no money, guess where the money comes from? The Committee
- If the County does not start allocating operational funding for the park, it will be back in the hands of the County

Chairman Jones noted that County would try to work something out.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Agree with Chairman Jones, I have always supported the parks and will continue to support the parks
- On board in trying to find a solution

Chairman Jones expressed appreciation to all the volunteers who work to keep the park in operation.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed to the manager to follow up with the Forestry Service to evaluate the timber, for any recommendations, and look at any other options.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item back on the March 23rd Discussion Agenda.

Fire Contracts – Service District, City of King, Town of Rural Hall & Walnut Cove Vol. Fire Department Contract Renewal

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding contract renewals for the Service District, City of King, Town of Rural Hall and Walnut Cove Vol. Fire Departments: (Fire Marshal Brian Booe was in attendance for the Agenda item)

- Noted a copy of a current contract that serves the following fire departments was included in today's Agenda:
 - Danbury Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Double Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Francisco Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Lawsonville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Pinnacle Volunteer Fire District, Inc.
 - Sauratown Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - South Stokes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Stokes-Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Walnut Cove Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
- Noted a copy of a current contract that serves the following fire department was included in today's Agenda:
 - Pilot Knob Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
- Noted a copy of a current contract serves the following Rescue Squad and EMS was included in today's Agenda:

- Pilot Mountain Rescue Squad and E.M.S. Inc.
- Noted a copy of a current contract that serves the serves the following fire department was included in today's Agenda:
 - Westfield Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
- Noted a copy of a current contract that serves the following fire department was included in today's Agenda:
 - City of King – King Fire Department, Inc.
- Noted a copy of a current contract that serves the following fire department was included in today's Agenda:
 - Town of Rural Hall – Rural Hall Fire Department, Inc.
- Recommend replacing item #10 with the following:
 - The Fire Department will maintain its current rating or better with the North Carolina Department of Insurance as well as its present nonprofit corporation status pursuant to Chapter 55A of the North Carolina General Statutes. The Fire Department shall continuously comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations. The Bylaws of the Fire Department shall have reasonable provisions enabling citizens of the District to participate in affairs of the Fire Department.
 - Requested by Fire Marshal Brian Booe
 - Should replace #10 in the following Fire Departments' Contract:
 - Service District
 - Danbury Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Double Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Francisco Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Lawsonville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Pilot Knob Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Pinnacle Volunteer Fire District, Inc.
 - Sauratown Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - South Stokes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Stokes-Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Westfield Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Walnut Cove Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Should replace #11 to the following Fire Department's Contract:
 - Town of Rural Hall – Rural Hall Fire Department, Inc.
- Recommend the following Addition :
 - In the event of dissolution of the Fire Department and/or Rescue Squad or the Department's failure to continue to render the protection and services to the District as provided in this agreement, the Department agrees that it will convey to the County or such successor organization as the County may designate all the assets of the Fire Department subject to any liens against

said property, to be used for providing fire protection and ambulance/rescue services within the District or as other provided by law.

- Requested by Fire Marshal Brian Booe
- Should be added to the following Fire Departments' Contract:
 - Service District
 - Danbury Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Double Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Francisco Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Lawsonville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Pinnacle Volunteer Fire District, Inc.
 - Sauratown Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - South Stokes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Stokes-Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Walnut Cove Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
- Recommend the following Addition:
 - Each Fire Department should have representation at the Stokes County Fire and Rescue Association Meetings where important information is disseminated
 - Requested by the Manager Morris
- Should be added to the following Fire Departments' Contract:
 - Service District
 - Danbury Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Double Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Francisco Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Lawsonville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Pilot Knob Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Pilot Mountain Rescue Squad and E.M.S. Inc.
 - Pinnacle Volunteer Fire District, Inc.
 - Sauratown Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - South Stokes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Stokes-Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
 - Westfield Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
 - Walnut Cove Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
- Town of Rural Hall – Town of Rural Hall Fire Department
- City of King, City of King Fire Department
- Fire Marshal Booe is in attendance if there are any questions regarding his requests
- My request relates to the communication regarding the recent E911 Upgrade that was provided at the Fire Association meetings with issues that rose from those not attending the Association meetings

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Fire Marshal Brian Booe commented:

- North Carolina Department of Insurance Fire Inspections are due in June 2015
- Want to have the contracts approved before the inspections in June
- The wording change for Item #10 is to match what is currently in place with the 6 mile district that was approved in 2008
- This wording also give the Fire Department a goal to lower their fire ratings
- Working with fire departments on the 9S requirements and inspections this year with plans to work on lower fire ratings next year countywide

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Fire Marshal Booe that the 6 mile district has been approved by the State
- Like the additions added to the contract
- Very pleased to see the department working with the fire departments to decrease the fire tax that would decrease the homeowner's insurance premium

Fire Marshal Booe discussed ways a department can work to lower their fire rating, dry hydrants, training, etc.

The department is sponsoring a "Chief 101 Class" that is required for all Fire Chiefs which will provide an outline on inspection requirements, and also cover other issues, equipment, etc.

Commissioner Booth noted that there were 24 watersheds in Stokes County that could be used in conjunction for the dry hydrants.

Fire Marshal Booe noted that there is a reimbursement program in place for the departments regarding the establishment of dry hydrants.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Fire Marshal Booe that the minutes of the Association meeting are emailed to all fire departments as well as the fire chiefs

Chairman Jones complimented Fire Marshal Booe on the great job he was doing as Fire Marshal.

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

Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget Work Sessions - Schedule

Chairman Jones opened the floor for possible dates and time for the upcoming 2015-16 Budget Work Sessions.

The Board discussed dates in May and June 2015

Manager Morris noted that his proposed budget would be delivered to the Board on Tuesday, May 26th at the regular meeting and a possible date for the Public Hearing could be Tuesday, June 9, 2015.

The Board unanimously agreed on the following dates and times for 2015-16 Budget Work Sessions and Public Hearing:

- Friday, May 29, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 10:00 am (Public Hearing – Courtroom “A”)
- Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Friday, June 12, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Friday, June 19, 2015 at 10:00 am

The Board unanimously agreed to invite the Board of Education for a joint budget meeting on one of the following dates:

- Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 10:00 am
- Friday, June 12, 2015 at 10:00 am

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Surplus Tax Foreclosed Property – Upset Bid

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the Surplus Tax Foreclosed Property Upset Bid that was presented at the March 9th meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to reject the upset bid of \$4,392.83 from Eric Cone.

Vice Chairman Walker seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that this motion did not mean that the property could not be placed on a future agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

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

- 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(a)(6).
- 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 G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the County pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)

Commissioner Booth moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- 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(a)(6).
- 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 G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the County pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reentered the opened session of the March 9th meeting.

Economic Development

Chairman Jones entertained a motion.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve a one-year temporary reclassification, effective March 10, 2015, per county policy, for David Sudderth's current position to add duties as Interim Economic Development Director with a salary of (Grade 82 – Step 22A) with Mr. Sudderth being directly supported in his economic development duties by the County Manager, at no change in pay, during this one year period. Commissioner Lankford included the following in his motion:

- During the one-year period of this reclassification, the Board of County Commissioners, with the assistance of County staff will:
 - Reassess the Economic Development mission and process that is currently in place
 - Review the ED Director's job description/duties
 - Review the EDC Board's bylaws and mission statement, plus
 - Review and analyze all other aspects of the economic development function in the County to include the development of metrics, which would be used to measure the success of the Economic Development Department's function.
- After the one-year temporary reclassification period, the BOCC, if ready to do so, would have the option of moving forward with the normal hiring process for a permanent ED Director or evaluate other options depending on the circumstances at the time.

Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Will not support the concept as presented because I have another concept that I feel would better serve the people of Stokes County on an interim basis
- It would include some components of the one presented and some additional steps that I think would strengthen economic development; based on that, I would have to vote "no" to not support the recommendation
- It has more to do with what I think could be added, versus the concept as presented

The motion carried (4-1) with Vice Chairman voting against the motion.

Adjournment

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

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

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Ronda Jones
Chairman