

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
 )

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
JULY 27, 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, July 27, 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 Bullins  
County Attorney Tyrone Browder  
Finance Director Julia Edwards

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order.

Chairman Jones noted that the Commissioners' Chambers and outside hallway had met capacity with several citizens in the hallway on the first floor.

Chairman Jones suggested relocating the meeting to Courtroom "A" in the Government Center.

It was the consensus of the Board to move the meeting to Courtroom "A" in order for everyone to be able to attend tonight's meeting.

Chairman Jones recessed the meeting in order to relocate to Courtroom "A" in the Government Center.

Chairman Jones called the meeting back to order and welcome 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 July 27, 2015 Agenda.

Commissioner Booth requested to add the following to tonight's Discussion Agenda:

- Request the Board consider drafting a letter for the Chairman to sign to be sent to Governor Pat McCrory in support of Senate Bill 369 – Sales Tax Fairness Act
- Need to reiterate the importance of Senate 369 to Stokes County

County Manager Rick Morris requested to add the following to tonight's Consent Agenda:

- Budget Amendment #8 – Transfer Federal Fines & Forfeitures for the purchase of investigative equipment – no county funding
- Request from Sheriff Mike Marshall

Commissioner Lankford requested that comments from the manager and the commissioners be removed from tonight's Agenda due to a long Agenda and several citizens signed up to speak during Public Comments.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion regarding the requests to amend tonight's Agenda.

The Board unanimously agreed to add Budget Amendment #8 requested by the Sheriff to the Consent Agenda.

The Board unanimously agreed to add Commissioner Booth's request (letter to Governor McCrory in Support of Senate Bill 369) to tonight's Discussion Agenda.

Vice Chairman Walker suggested keeping the comments from the manager and commissioners on tonight's Agenda, but ask each commissioner to be as brief as possible.

There were mixed feelings about deleting the comments section for the county manager

and commissioners.

Chairman Jones noted the fairest way was to allow those who wished to speak, but request those who spoke to be as brief as possible.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the July 27<sup>th</sup> Agenda as amended.

Vice Chairman Walker 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:

- There will be no Board of Commissioners' Planning Meeting on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

Commissioner Booth had no comments.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Groundbreaking Ceremony was held this morning for the community college
- Very positive event
- Very well attended
- Very exciting time for Stokes County

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Welcome those in attendance tonight
- Very pleased to see citizens taking their time for whatever reason it may be tonight

Commissioner Lankford had no comments.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Ditto Commissioner Inman's comments

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Jones noted that each speaker had three minutes for comments.

The following spoke during public comments:

**Amy Adams**  
171 Grand Blvd  
Boone, NC  
Re: **Coal Ash Health Affects**

Ms. Adams presented the following comments:

- Work for Appalachian Voices, an environmental advocacy group, that supports communities and citizens that are impacted by environmental pollution
- We have encouraged and supported those concerned about the pollution from the Belews Creek Steam Station for about three years
- During that time, I have come to admire the people of Stokes County, I dare say, I have come to love the people of Stokes County
- They are charismatic, they are caring, they are strong and gentle, they are resolute, they are determined and grounded in their faith
- They care deeply about family and the community
- They don't deserve the ongoing pollution from the threats of a coal combustion steam station; threats of contaminated air and water and the evitable health impacts that come with it
- Belews Creek spent years spurring ash into the air
- Then because of the passage of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Smokestacks Act in North Carolina, we saw the air get better only for the water to get worse
- The ash must get cleaned up
- Both state and federal rules require it
- It is upon this commission to demand the safest, the best cleanup possible
- A cleanup that does not allow Duke to simply cover and cap in place and abandon the ash and abandon Stokes County to a future of toxic pollution
- It is upon this commission to demand the best, possible cleanup for probably the best possible county in the state

**Tracey Edwards**

2271 Martin Luther King Jr Road

Walnut Cove, NC

**Re: Coal Ash Cleanup**

Ms. Edwards presented the following comments:

- I am here speaking for my community
- From a personal perspective, it has affected me and my family over years
- Have been a resident of this county all my life
- Have been exposed to this fly ash since 1974
- Coal pollution affects all major body organ systems and contributes to four or five leading causes of death in the United States – heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic respiratory disease
- I have a lot of people in my community suffering from all these illnesses
- Have lost so many family members and friends of our community due to the pollution in our area
- I live between both issues – fracking and coal ash
- That is a problem for me, my family and friends and all the residents of our community
- It is not just going to affect us locally, it is going to spread; we don't need that

- They have found that people who lived near unlined coal ash ponds have a one in fifty chance of getting cancer
- I know of a lot of people in my area that are continuously being tested for cancer
- One that lives really close to the ash pond has throat cancer, as we speak, and is currently being treated
- Others are having to get biopsies of tumors to see if it is cancer
- I have suffered three strokes and a heart attack
- In September of 2014, I lost my mother who had neurological issues with her hand and arm and no neurological doctor could tell her what caused this, but she lived in this area all her life as well
- Fracking chemicals can lead to breast cancer
- Have friends that have brain tumors and breast cancer who are very young
- I don't want my children or your children to have to suffer these issues
- I was at the community college dedication this morning; it is wonderful
- I want our residents to be able to live to attend the community college
- I want everyone to be healthy
- I want everyone to be exposed to clean water and clean air
- Stokes County is and has been an agricultural county
- We want to be able to live off our gardens, fish in the lakes, and just be healthy

**Gregory Hairston**

1070 Brookridge Drive

Walnut Cove, NC

**Re: Coal Ash and Fracking Health Affects**

Mr. Hairston presented the following comments

- Lifelong resident of Stokes County
- I, too, express my interest and concern about health related effect of these things that are happening within our county
- I feel the coal ash has directly affected many of us in our neighborhood, many of the people that I know
- I have lost two members of my family to cancer
- These health issues were unheard of a long time ago
- I think it is directly related to some of the things that have happened with Duke Power's ash and the dust
- I have also spoken to our town commissioners in regards to the fracking and what can take place in regards to our county; there is a dual effect that can take place in our county
- We can lose our county if hydraulic fracking takes place in our county
- It will disrupt the earth below, we lie on a fault line
- Can you imagine an earthquake and what affects that would have upon the dam at Belews Lake?
- If that dam were to burst, Pine Hall would be wiped out, Rockingham County would probably be wiped out
- The effect of these things we are allowing are all because of the dollar – money

- I would like to see my grandchildren live a healthy life
- I don't want to see them having to wear gas masks, things of this nature, not having water that is decent to drink
- Already have people in that territory whose wells have been declared unsafe
- All of us are mostly on well water, put both of those effects together and see the dynamic effect that would have on the citizens of this county and the generation behind us if there is no clean water
- We have a beautiful county; we have a lot to offer
- If fracking comes to Stokes County, it will destroy our county, it will destroy our roads
- It will not create jobs, they bring their people with them; so what effect does it have on us
- People will lose their insurance on their homes if fracking is done in this area
- We need for you to stand up and fight against the legislators at the state level who don't have a concern for the people that are going to be effected
- I love this county
- Would like to see you stand up as county commissioners and with us against the coal dust ash and fracking in Stokes County
- You can have an impact

Chairman Jones called time.

**Babette Scales**

1594 Pine Hall Road

Pine Hall, NC

Re: **Coal Ash**

Ms. Scales presented the following comments:

- I have spent the better part of my life in Stokes County
- I have always loved being in Stokes County
- I remember back in the seventies when Duke Power cranked up
- I remember how I had asthma attacks
- I now look back at it and how I have suffered from asthma
- I have kidney failure; I have 1 ½ leg; all due to pollution and the environment
- I don't agree with Duke Power at all
- I have seen my neighbors die of cancer and suffer with the pain of having cancer
- I have seen neighbors just trying to breath
- Many young people have oxygen
- It is sad
- We lived in a nice, quiet community
- A place where you were free to run and play, enjoy your life as such it is as a child
- We were made to grow up very quickly due to illness, due to a lot of love ones dying, wondering who would be next which still goes on today
- I think about a friend of mine who is a pastor that has a small church; he said in his church, twenty (20) members of his church have cancer

- I said what do they have in common, the water and the air
- It really needs to be fixed
- You can't buy life
- I feel that Duke Power owes us, some type of accommodation for the mess they have made
- They came into our communities
- We have got mountains of fly ash on the ground with grass growing over it as if it were dirt
- You can't tell me when it rains that stuff does not seep down into the ground and gets into the well water
- In Pine Hall, you can't drink the well water, residents have to buy their water
- What kind of mess is this for a dollar?
- We don't hold things dear any more
- Everyone is trying to get rich quick
- Everything cost something
- It really should not cost us our lives
- So as I pray for Stokes County, I will stand with you in whatever the fight is, why not, my life has already been interrupted

Chairman Jones called time.

**Mary Kerley**  
 1150 NC 772 HWY  
 Pine Hall, NC  
 Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Kerley presented the following comments:

- I was delighted to hear last week our Commissioner Walker attended a meeting in Rockingham County at which he stated the other members of this board are opposed to fracking and are willing to work on an ordinance to help protect the citizens from fracking; that was indeed good news.
- This very board of commissioners passed a resolution against fracking in the summer of 2012, and for that we commend you
- Unfortunately, the resolution is symbolic and has no ability to protect citizens
- Lack of money is often a reason for not implementing an initiative
- I am pleased to tell you that there are several nonprofit organizations in NC with extensive legal staff who are ready, willing and able, at no charge, to assist this county in formulating an ordinance
- The attorneys with these nonprofits are expert in environmental law and are arguably the most knowledgeable about the legislation surrounding fracking
- These legal experts will also defend the county, at no cost, should there be a legal challenge to an ordinance they helped create
- One of these organizations is currently working with Rockingham County to develop an ordinance

- It would be a shocking waste of free resources not to utilize some of the best legal expertise in the state, while at the same time acting to protect Stokes County citizens
- It is common knowledge that the opinion in Danbury is that fracking will not affect the park or most of the county and that because fracking will be in Walnut Cove and Pine Hall it doesn't matter, because Walnut Cove and Pine Hall don't matter
- Residents of Walnut Cove and Pine Hall believe their communities do matter
- They also know that polluted air and contaminated ground water do not stop at the town limits
- All citizens will bear the brunt of increased taxes to pay for road repair, increased police & emergency services, and the many other problems that beset any area with fracking.
- All of Stokes County will be affected by fracking.

**Robert Phillips**

1625 Johnson Road

King, NC

RE: **Fracking**

Mr. Phillips presented the following comments:

- Would like to start out by saying “thank you” for all your hard work that went into developing our latest budget
- I know a lot of time and effort went into achieving this goal, thank you for all your efforts
- As long as we are on the subject of the budget, the foundation of any successful budget plan is sound economic planning
- With the acceptance of the Stokes 2035 Economic Development Plan, we are on the right track towards having a solid foundation for future economic growth
- The Stokes 2035 Plan, having been developed under the auspices of the Center of Disease Control, “is unique in that public health considerations serve as a cornerstone for each policy and initiative, along with public health, this plan targets efforts that mutually benefit economic development, the natural environment, and equity”
- Public Health and the Environment - It is good to see that we have adopted such a plan that puts public health and the environment at the forefront
- In May, I proposed creating a Polluting Industry Development Ordinance that was merely dismissed
- I again ask that you create such an ordinance
- This will help ensure that the division of our economic plan can be carried out
- Ordinances that protect public health and safety can be lawfully enacted that do not violate the essence of the Energy Modernization Act
- As Mary Kerley pointed out, there are plenty of available legal resources that would help in that regard
- The fracking industry is being courted heavily by the state and if we do not do something to protect ourselves then we are leaving the door open for economic and environmental ruin



- We can hardly afford what the county needs now, much less, to clean up the mess that these companies will leave behind and that mess will be substantial
- Counties all around us are working towards having similar ordinances
- Let us not be the only county in the Northwestern Piedmont that has no control over such an industry
- Representative Holloway is against fracking
- We hope that you are against it also
- Align ourselves with his judgment, join with the rest of his district and do what needs to be done
- Look at all these people here tonight, do the right thing for these people

**Calyn Wall**

1753 Sardis Church Road

Madison, NC

Re: **Coal Ash**

Ms. Wall presented the following comments:

- I am not a resident of Stokes County
- I am a resident of Rockingham County
- I am a member of Good Stewards of Rockingham
- We dealing with fracking at the moment
- I live pretty close to Belews Lake
- That dam is about 14 stories high and holds approximately 13 million tons of coal ash
- At forty years old, this dam has already been deemed as hazardous
- Duke is currently working on this by implementing a textile fabric and stone method of fixing some of the leaks and seeps that are going there
- I would like to mention that this was the same type of project that took place and failed leading to a massive coal ash spill in Kingston, TN on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 am in the morning leaving residents with no plan and no idea of what to do
- I live about 3-5 miles from Belews Lake and the idea that my home could be washed away is terrifying
- That was a reality in TN, homes washed away, land covered in toxic waste
- I moved back to tend to a fourth generation farm in my family and to care for my grandfather
- I have every intention of having a family and I should not have to worry about these things
- With that said, hydraulic fracking becoming more of a reality, as the days pass, so do my concerns grow about this issue
- It is very possible that hydraulic fracking, even at the construction sites, could break the dam (vibrations from the fracking)
- As of now, there is no emergency action plan set in place in case of such an event
- I think that should be high priority that Duke work with our commissioners in different counties to develop an action plan; I would have no idea of what to do in such an event

- That coal ash spill in TN was 39,000 tons of coal ash, which was devastating, compare that to a possible 13 million tons of coal ash that could be spilled out all over – my house is right where all this could happen
- Feel we should work on an action plan for the communities and citizens that live near the dam in case it does break
- Provided an article “Everything That Had Been Alive was Buried written after the Kingston spill

**Therese Vick**  
 4617 Pearl Road  
 Raleigh, NC  
 Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Vick presented the following comments:

- I represent Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
- I am here tonight at the invitation from my good friends, “No Fracking in Stokes” who I have had the pleasure of working with for a few years
- I travel all over the state with my work and I agree with what Amy said and had some of the warmest welcomes from the people in Stokes County
- I come tonight to talk to you about some things that are going on and happening in other counties in reference to try to regulate and protect their citizens regarding fracking
- Have a Chapter in Lee County – current county commissioners are looking at amending their current zoning ordinance to restrict sites no smaller than five acres, restrictions on noise, lights, additional buffers, bonding, etc. (provided information from the Lee County Agenda)
- Lee County has run this by the Institute of Government (provided information included in Lee County Agenda)
- Have a Chapter in Chatham County – currently considering a two-year moratorium because they are developing a land use plan (that is expected to pass)
- In 2013 Anson County, also has a Chapter, passed a five-year moratorium which stands and has not been challenged
- Urge you, if you are considering an ordinance and certainly hope you are, to consider a moratorium on any exploration of oil and gas in this county while you are looking at your options
- It does not automatically become null and void, it is quite a process
- Mining Industry Commission is in limbo right now with two different lawsuits related to the rules; there is time to do something
- I attended many of the meetings with the Mining Industry Commission (committee and full commission meetings)
- You can’t depend on DEHNR or Mining Industry Commission to protect you because they have had plenty of opportunities to write in rules regarding things such as toxic air pollution protection and they did not
- They had opportunities to have adequate setbacks
- Setbacks are 625 ft. from schools and hospitals, 625 ft. from homes which can be reduced to 400 ft. with a variance; they are not protective of public health

- They are not protective of the people in Stokes County or any other county in NC

Chairman Jones called time.

**Peggy Wert**

1440 Peewee Cromer Road

Danbury, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Wert presented the following comments:

- I believe the primary mission of government is to protect its citizens
- Rather it be to protect policy force to stop crimes, writing building codes to ensure safe structures, or setting ordinance to prevent dangerous industries from operating in our area
- So as the government of this county, I am asking you to enact ordinances that will protect the citizens from predatory industries like those that want to frack here
- Fortunately, Senate Bill 768 – the Fracking Law – does not prohibit counties from enacting ordinances for the protection of public health and safety
- It all comes down to protecting the citizens
- Duke Power has been allowed to do as it pleases for too long
- If the oil and gas industry gets a foothold here, we might as well pack up and move
- This is your job, to protect the citizens
- I have always heard Republicans say that government should be operated at the lowest level; the federal government should not tell the states what to do
- Well, our Republican led state government is trying to dictate to this county what we can or can't do
- The politicians in Raleigh don't know Stokes County nor do they care about Stokes County
- We are expendable to them
- They are only concerned with wooing a billion dollar industry so they can line their pockets
- So the second thing that I am asking you to do is to stand up to Raleigh and fight for your right to govern this county
- If the citizens of Stokes County don't want fracking, we should not be forced to accept it
- Once again, do the right thing and protect the citizens of this County

**Sterling Nicholson**

2021 Mountain Road

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Nicholson presented the following comments:

- I wholeheartedly support and stand behind you and Representative Brian Holloway's leadership for what is right for Stokes County
- It is clear that fracking is not a good fit for Stokes County

- Stokes County is a beautiful county that people flock to for recreation and enjoyment
- Parks and rivers attract many tourist dollars every year which is a vital part of our economy in our county
- There are many environmental reasons not to prevent such toxic types of industries in a populated area – among these are air pollution, water contamination, and heavy truck traffic carrying toxic chemicals
- For now, I am going to stick on the economic impact for tourism and our recreational revenues
- People come to Stokes County, for the most part, through the southern tier of the county (coming from Greensboro or Winston Salem)
- If they have to come through a fracking zone to get to Hanging Rock State Park, it would be very bad for our recreational facilities
- Can you imagine, packing the kids in the car, pack a picnic, headed up from Greensboro coming to Stokes County and when you get to Stokes County, you can smell something in the air, eyes begin to itch, throat begins to scratch, etc.
- You also encounter hundreds of fracking trucks on a two-lane, worn out road; putting your children in harm's way
- Fracking is not a good economic thing for Stokes County
- The little bit of money made will be eaten up in road taxes for road repairs, environmental cleanup, health costs, etc.
- I am asking this commission to join Representative Brian Holloway and other counties in the state that are trying to adopt ordinances with the help of Southern Environmental Defense League (free) to protect Stokes County citizens from fracking

**Kyle Dalton**  
 1180 Old Cabin Trail  
 Danbury, NC  
 Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Dalton presented the following comments:

- Two things particularly struck me from the interview with State Geologist Dr. Ken Taylor in the Stokes News last week
- Both fall into the “oh no, what next” category
- The first bad news was that the organic shell material was found at depths of 98 ft. to 423 ft.
- This also happens to be at the same depth of many people's drinking water wells
- The likelihood that fracking can effect these wells just seems a “given”
- How can this even be considered as doable?
- It is insanity
- The second piece of bad news was that a Canadian company has taken an interest in our potential shell gas
- According to Dr. Taylor, this company conducts fracking operations using vertical wells and propane as the fracking fluid instead of water
- This technique uses a gel liquid propane mixed with sand and chemicals, used to frack the shell instead of water

- This is very much like napalm
- The propane and methane come roaring back up the well bore after they have been injected as mixed highly explosive gas
- On these well sites, they have 24 hours a day compressors that condense the returned propane; they are loud, they are smelly, they have toxic fumes
- It is a little like living next to a rocket launch pad
- According to a fracking expert, Dr. Anthony Ingraffea, because of the volatility of the gases from this propane frack process, they have to have almost robotic operations on the well pads because they are so risky to personnel
- There have been two explosions and fires in the past year, one was quite serious with hospitalizations
- Here is the really bad news for us here locally – many, many truckloads of this liquid propane gel is needed for each frack job
- These trucks are transporting hazardous materials, not water
- Do we want these potential “bombs” on our curvy, back roads?
- To top it off, GASFRAC, the company from Alberta, Canada that is one of the main users of this process, has recently filed for Chapter 15 Bankruptcy
- This is a volatile industry in every way
- From the materials that they use to their financial situations
- What we need to do is protect ourselves from this kind of hazardous industry while we have a chance

Chairman Jones called time.

**Jerry Holsclaw**  
 1146 Justin Road  
 Westfield, NC  
 Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Holsclaw presented the following comments:

- You are hearing tonight from a bunch of concerned citizens and I do mean concerned
- It is of the opinion that you have rolled over and played dead in responses to the threats from the state concerning the regulations of hydraulic fracking in this county
- We feel you have turned a deaf ear to the cries of the citizens for protection
- You may feel this because of NC Senate Bill 786 – Section 14 – page 14 – you can do nothing
- I ask this of each of you – Have you, yourselves read Bill 786 – Section 14?
- Or are you taking the opinions of others regarding the bill?
- Senate Bill 786 – Section 14 prevents you from prohibiting drilling, it does not prevent you from enacting ordinances protecting the rights and welfare of your citizens
- Those citizens that you have sworn to protect
- I urge you to listen tonight and if you are still afraid of Senate Bill 786 – Section 14, and are willing to do nothing but sit and watch the destruction of this county, then pack up your bedrolls and go home
- You are no defense to anyone in this county

- Provided Board members with a copy of Senate Bill 786

**Jim Mitchell**

1415 Bowen Road

Pinnacle, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Mitchell presented the following comments:

- I am a long way from where the fracking is supposed to occur, but I am still concerned
- My wife and I moved to Stokes County in the mid-seventies and started a small business on our own – nursery greenhouse that has grown, incorporated, and come to serve this county
- Because of that business, we have been able to employ 10-15 individuals on and off during the seasons
- Because of what we have in our area, we have been able to keep our plants growing – food, sunlight, and water
- Plants are just like us, we need our food and our sunlight
- We don't have water to drink, we are going to die
- You can buy bottled water to drink, have water delivered to bathe in, but I can't afford to buy water to water my plants
- Without water, my business would be gone
- We have worked hard for over 30+ years
- When you talk about one acre of water, one inch per day, you are looking at 28,000 gallons of water
- I have heard that these companies can bring water in if our water gets polluted, even install water tanks (paid by the fracking companies)
- Can you imagine water tanks coming into your communities? Just to drink water and bathe
- I am asking this Board to get some ordinances going, so if this fracking ever comes about, I hope it doesn't, we can repave roads and increase our taxes
- We can clean our roadsides when these companies go down the sides of the road putting in pipes to pump this stuff out
- We can re-grass our land
- But if we do not have water to drink, this county will be gone
- We will all have to move
- We will not need commissioners
- Have heard of multi-million dollar homes going to nothing because they sold the rights of property for fracking; that multi-million dollar house became worth about \$150,000 to \$200,000
- We have to remember Hanging Rock State Park, the river and the only county with its only mountain range – Sauratown Mountains
- It will all be gone

**Martha Hartley**  
1100 Buck Meadow Lane  
King, NC  
Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Hartley presented the following comments:

- We are all in this together; this is our shared home
- We live in a beautiful place
- Let us review for a moment
- Stokes County is a gently, rolling countryside with its own mountain range, forest and abundant wildlife
- The Dan River course is 56 miles through the county providing river habitat and attracts paddlers and fishermen
- Atop the Sauratown Mountain range is Hanging Rock State Park with hiking trails, waterfalls, camping, and recreational opportunities – a destination for nearly a half million visitors per year
- Hanging Rock is one of the top ten most visited state parks in North Carolina
- As your Economic Development Office says, the County offers stunning scenery and the closest mountains for many, large metropolitan areas
- Businesses supporting the tourism industry continue to grow
- The North Carolina Department of Commerce recorded in 2013, visitors spent \$20 billion in North Carolina which is \$55 million a day
- Agriculture is another top industry in our state
- According to NC Department of Agriculture, it contributes \$78 billion annually, more than 17% of the state's income
- The Stokes County landscape is a patchwork of family farms passed down through many generations
- There is a wealth of farming knowledge here because agriculture has been a dominant industry since the county was settled
- In addition to producing commodities, there are progressive nurseries like Mitchell's, growing numbers of sustainable small farms and varieties of value added products
- 48,000 residents call Stokes County home
- This rural county has small towns where locally owned businesses are the lifeblood of the community
- Church life, high school and youth sports, music and arts events, school, work, and outdoor activities fill everyday life
- It is a safe and peaceful county
- We are blessed
- With all this in mind, here are some questions for you to consider regarding fracking:
  - Who wants to take their family vacation in an oil field?
  - What will farmers do when ground water is contaminated?
  - When will a seismic event burst the coal ash pond at Belews Creek?

- Where will we go when our environment becomes unlivable and how will we afford to leave?
- Fracking is not energy independence and natural gas is not a transition fuel, it is carbon
- It exacerbates climate change and it distracts from renewables
- Let us not “kill the goose that lays the golden egg”, our environment is that goose

**Rita Gale Cruise**

1996 Mountain View Church Road

King, NC

Re: **Water/Environment/Conservation**

Ms. Cruise presented the following comments:

- I live in the Quaker Gap community
- There are a lot of people here tonight from the Quaker Gap community
- We have a wonderful opportunity for you to become a leader in North Carolina by creating an ordinance to stop the opportunity for fracking in Stokes County
- We are saying that we want to keep our resources, our assets, our water, our people, our plants, our mountains, our roads
- We do not want mammoth whales
- I have seen in West Virginia, Pennsylvania all of what fracking can bring
- I am saying – we do not want it here
- We don't want the foul air, the coal ash in the Dan River or the earthquakes
- My house was built in 1830, there is a story that there was an earthquake and one of the chimneys is cracked from this earthquake
- We don't want earthquakes again
- We want our water, it is our resource
- We and Stokes County should recognize the level of water because it is the one thing that we have as a resource
- Everybody else in every other county is saying – oh, we need more water
- In California, they don't have agriculture because they don't have water
- We are lucky here
- We have water
- We have clean air
- We have a wonderful place to live
- It is green, it is lush
- I recently brought ten people from other states and Europe to see Stokes County
- They thought it was wonderful
- We have a treasure
- You have the opportunity to be a leader and to say to the State of North Carolina and all the other people who want to in and mess up our rural area – “No, we are not going to allow it here in Stokes County”
- We want something better than that, we want what we have



**Michael Hartley**  
1100 Buck Meadow Lane  
King, NC  
Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Hartley presented the following comments:

- I recently read a story that was written a long time ago
- In this story, a man came out of the hunting field desperate for food and for drink
- He asked his brother to feed him
- His brother said, yes I will give you something to eat and drink for your birthright
- Subsequently, the same brother through fraud and deceit stole his older brother's blessing
- Stokes County is a blessing
- Stokes County is for the people who live in this county, a birthright
- The birthright and blessing for anybody who lives in this county is the right and the opportunity to live in a wholesome environment, in a wholesome life where their family and friends are not threatened by fraud and deceit and sharp practices
- You have an opportunity to protect this county from practices that don't even need to be enumerated
- It is well known what the dangers of coal ash are
- It is well known what the dangers of fracking are
- You see this body of people who have turned out in great number to say to you that we do not want this
- We do not want the birthright and the blessing of Stokes County to be sold for a foul mess of pottage that will end up choking us all
- Ask you to take action

**Ira Tilley**  
606 Irving Farm Road  
Reidsville, NC  
Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Tilley presented the following comments:

- Pleasure to be here before the commission tonight
- Attended the meeting in Eden last week and met Commissioner Walker in person
- I am proud of what I heard
- You guys spoke well of the citizenry here in Stokes County and no fracking in Stokes
- The kind words you spoke about the group and their passion about the problems here (fracking and coal ash) was very much appreciated
- I do appreciate that the Board has and is considering, just as Rockingham County is, ordinances
- We all know that we can't ban fracking
- We know state legislators, unfortunately, adopted laws that we can't outright ban fracking; we know that

- Ordinances do provide “teeth”
- I have heard the word “protection” here a lot tonight
- The citizens of Stokes County and in Rockingham County look to you folks as our leaders
- We look to our commissioners for security and protection against harmful and unhealthy things such as fracking and coal ash
- I appreciate your willingness to pursue ordinances and I hope that you will do that
- It has been a lot of things said about what can happen regarding fracking, what could happen regarding the health issues
- I want to tell what they are talking about that could happen with the fracking has already happened with the coal ash
- It have already happened and Duke Energy has admitted to that
- The water is undrinkable in a certain vicinity
- The last thing we need to do is to allow fracking to take place there next to the steam station; lets don’t do that

Chairman Jones called time.

**Scott Burdick**

1910 Flat Shoals Road

King, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Burdick presented the following comments:

- I live in the Quaker Gap community
- Feel speakers before me have spoken very well about the problems
- All issues like this are basically a cost benefit
- What is the cost and what is the benefit?
- There are always going to be negatives and positives
- It seems pretty obvious that the benefits of this mostly all go to energy companies, maybe to some politicians who are getting campaign financing from those energy companies and very little benefits are coming to Stokes County
- This is probably why they are trying to put into these bills to keep local, county commissioners from being able to ban fracking
- What are the benefits here?
- They talk jobs, there are very few jobs that are going to come to this county
- There are very few benefits of any kind that are coming here
- The costs are enormous compared to the benefits
- Everyone has spoken tonight about the costs to our roads, our infrastructure for all the holding ponds for all the waste, the noises, and down the road the possible ramifications once these companies are gone to water and all these other things
- Why is this even a question?
- It is because of the fact that benefits will go to people who are not in this county

- I really thank the commissioners for standing up and trying to do things against this even with the handcuffs that have been placed on you by politicians who are basically in the thrall of these special interest groups
- Hope you can continue to stand up for the people of Stokes County
- I have heard a lot people from both the Democrat and Republican parties, farmers, and people who have moved here from other states said that they all value water and the beauty of this area
- They also applaud you for standing up against these special interest and I hope you will continue to do that
- You are really fighting a good fight

**Linda Hicks**  
 1130 Rock Road  
 Madison, NC  
 Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Hicks presented the following comments:

- I am a registered Republican and I am a real Conservative
- I can serve water, I can serve gas, I can serve electricity - God gave them to me, but he did not tell me to waste them
- He told me to protect them so future generations can use them too
- Smart bunch of people here tonight
- I hope you open your mind and your heart
- I am not this smart, I just have a big mouth
- In this universe, our planet, Earth, appears as just a small blue dot outside the rings around Saturn
- This blue dot is a place that we call home until we reach that eternal home
- This is our home and he gave it to us
- When God created this Earth and Heaven, he said, "it is good, it is good, I made it good"
- What are we going to do?
- What are we going to do as individuals with this good Earth that God created?
- What are we going to do to preserve our homes?
- What are we going to pass on to the next generation? Your children, my children, my grandchildren and their children
- What are we going to do?
- Will we be one that is going to stand up and fight for the right thing for our children?
- Or will be ones that stand back and let people with power and money make our decision for us?
- Are we going to fight for clean air, clean water and clean earth to grow the vegetables (strawberries, blueberries, flowers,)?
- What are we going to do?
- Are we going to fight for those things or are we going to fight for the oil and gas companies?

- Fracking will affect all Stokes County citizens, not just Germanton, Walnut Cove, and Pine Hall
- Aquifer is under us all
- It is not just Walnut Cove, Pine Hall, and Germanton
- It is in King, it is in Lawsonville, it is in Westfield
- It is everywhere
- It can move to another place, so Lawsonville and King can't feel safe
- It is going to affect us all
- These three areas will get the biggest brunt; I will probably lose my house
- A house that I worked hard for
- I will lose it because it will not have any value
- How does make you feel folks? You may not be in that area to lose your house, but when you can't sell it for a dime, that is what I am going to have, that is what plenty of us here tonight are going to have
- We will be losing our water

Chairman Jones called time.

**Nancy Banasik**  
 1169 Monte Vista Road  
 King, NC  
 Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Banasik presented the following comments:

- Do you ever wonder why we are all here?
- What is all this commotion?
- I go to hearing after hearing
- There are signs in all the yards
- There is a bill that started this a year ago that has not represented the people or the state
- We have a governor suing the legislator over who can appoint people
- I rest my case, I could go on
- You have to wonder what is all the fuss about?
- The fuss is because this is a very bad idea
- No part of this makes sense for North Carolina
- It is not going to bring jobs
- It is going to cost the taxpayers a fortune
- So, what is the compelling reason that makes this keep going?
- What on earth is making some people pursue this and pursue this relentlessly?
- The bottom line is that this initiative lines the pockets of certain politicians
- Beyond that, it is a power trip for folks who want to enter a political arena and be heard and famous
- These people are preying on the uninformed citizenry of this state
- So, remember this, twenty years from now, when our children ask us why on earth did you do this?

- The only answer is that we lined the pockets of politicians and made certain people's power plays
- We know there is nothing good and no other reason why this is continuing
- I want to say that every person who is in a position of power, people like you, have an obligation to learn about this, visit a fracking site, know about this because you represent a constituency and it is your obligation to represent these people well
- With this situation, you have an opportunity to be heard
- You have an opportunity to go on the record
- You have an opportunity to be on the right side of history

**Cheryl Ferguson**

1041 Flat Shoals Road

King, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Ferguson presented the following comments:

- I am here to express my concerns about fracking because of its documented impact on water
- I urge you to adopt an ordinance to protect public health and our water
- I have family roots in Stokes County for over 140 years
- My husband and I are farmers
- We own Plum Granny Farm in Capella
- We are the only certified organic farm in Stokes County
- We have worked very hard to obtain and maintain our organic certification
- A key component of our annual organic plan is water quality
- We have done work to minimize runoff and deal with other water quality issues on our land
- We have great concerns about what fracking can do
- We are on aquifer
- We were actually named the 2015 Stokes County Conservation Farm Family for the Year
- We are concerned about fracking because of the impact to the water due to the chemicals used in fracking
- We don't even know what these chemicals are; we can't even find out what these chemicals are
- The potential harm of groundwater contamination incident concerns me greatly because the ability to remediate such underground contamination is very difficult if not impossible
- Another concern that I have is the impact of fracking to the groundwater supply
- We don't know how much total water is used in the fracking process
- Most Stokes County residents get their water from wells
- We also use wells for agricultural irrigation
- Our groundwater is already very limited and this has potential to limit it even more
- What will we do when we further strain our groundwater resources and our other resources?

- I urge you to use this opportunity that you have been given to please take action to protect our county, its people, and our ever so precious natural resources

**Mike Kerley**  
1150 HWY 772  
Pine Hall, NC  
Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Kerley declined to speak at this time.

**Wesley T. Durrell**  
511 McAlister Street  
Walnut Cove, NC  
Re: **Clean Water & Fracking**

Mr. Durrell presented the following comments:

- I am here to represent my family in Pine Hall
- Presented a jug of unfiltered water that comes from the faucet in Pine Hall
- The water in Walnut Tree in Walnut Cove looks basically the same
- You can't drink it
- You can't cook with it
- Most of the people in Pine Hall are senior citizens on fixed income
- They are mostly elderly people
- My wife's people have been in Pine Hall almost two centuries
- They have been able to drink the well water for years until recently
- The elderly people in Pine Hall can't afford to buy bottled water to drink
- Duke Energy should buy or find some way to clean up this coal ash
- South Carolina did it, why can't North Carolina do it?
- All you have to do is clean up the ponds and give people fresh water to drink
- They don't need this type of water that they currently have
- I am from Chicago, IL
- We had pollution that you could almost cut with a knife
- We had water that was bad, but still had to drink it because we had no other alternative, do not want to go through that again
- I moved here to be in a safe environment for my young boys
- They could not go to school safely in Chicago; they can go to schools safely here
- I want to see my grandkids live a safe and healthy life here in North Carolina

**Susan Krohn**  
7766 Preston Road  
Belews Creek, NC  
Re: **Fracking Impact on County**

Ms. Krohn presented the following comments:

- I am from Forsyth County

July 27, 2015

- Showed the Board of Commissioners a map of the location of her home near the coal ash pond and the recent drilling in Walnut Cove
- I do not live in Stokes County so I do not have a voice in any decision that you do or do not make
- Countless groups of people that have been out (myself included) during the past years regarding the health risks, deformation to the water, environment, land, devastation to roads, potential coal ash, toxic spill, decrease in property values have no sway over officials sworn to serve those that elected them
- I have been going to meeting after meeting during the past three years
- I have written letters
- I have signed numerous petitions
- I have often wondered why, nothing is going to change
- Would like to read you an excerpt from a very old document: "When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation"
- That statement comes from the Declaration of Independence in 1776 (13 colonies)
- My plea for everyone is to remember that our government was based on the premise "for the people, by the people and of the people"
- You, as elected officials, should be representing the people of towns, the county, and the state, not special interest groups, not big business, not corporate shareholders
- You should upholding the law in the land for those you serve
- People's lives matter
- We all matter
- Our homes matter
- Our health matters
- It is time to stand for those you serve and our rights
- Not to be swayed by empty laws created politicians supporting corporate profits rather than the great people of these towns, this county, surrounding counties, and North Carolina
- I employ you, I beg you, please say yes to the people, say no to fracking
- Other states, other counties, other people have done it and so can you
- So can we

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 July 13, 2015 - Regular Meeting

#### **Senior Services - Budget Amendment #4**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #4.

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

Account Number	Account Description Senior Services	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.5860.263	SHIIP Expense	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$2,459.00</u>	<u>\$2,459.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$2,459.00</b>	<b>\$2,459.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To re-appropriate funds from the SHIIP Grant for Senior Services to purchase supplies and equipment.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$2,459.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.366	Department of Insurance	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$2,459.00</u>	<u>\$2,459.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$2,459.00</b>	<b>\$2,459.00</b>

#### **Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #5**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #5.

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

Account Number	Account Description Sheriff's Department	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.4310.290	Miscellaneous Expense	<u>\$5,500.00</u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$7,000.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$7,000.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds for the Stokes County Explorers Post Youth Program - No County Funding.



This will result in a **net increase** of **\$1,500.00** 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>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
100.3301.413	State Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>

#### **Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #6**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #6.

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>Sheriff's Department</b>			
100.4310.290	Miscellaneous Expense	<u>\$7,000.00</u>	<u>\$780.00</u>	<u>\$7,780.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$7,000.00</b>	<b>\$780.00</b>	<b>\$7,780.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds to Miscellaneous Expense for SymbolArts to purchase badge pins - No County Funding.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$780.00** 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>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
100.3301.413	State Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$780.00</u>	<u>\$2,280.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$780.00</b>	<b>\$2,280.00</b>

#### **Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #7**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #7.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
<b>Sheriff's Department</b>				
100.4310.511	Equipment – Non-Capital	<u>\$17,325.00</u>	<u>\$1,495.00</u>	<u>\$18,820.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$17,325.00</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>	<b>\$18,820.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds to purchase investigative equipment - No County Funding.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$1,495.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.411	Federal Fines & Forfeitures	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$1,495.00</u>	<u>\$1,495.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>

#### **Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #8**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #8.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
<b>Sheriff's Department</b>				
100.4310.510	Equipment – Capital	<u>\$155,000.00</u>	<u>\$9,000.00</u>	<u>\$164,000.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$155,000.00</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>	<b>\$164,000.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds to purchase investigative equipment – No County Funding.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$9,000.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
100.3301.411	Federal Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,495.00	\$9,000.00	\$10,495.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,495.00</b>

#### **Tax Administration Report – June 2015**

#### **Release more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Release more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (June 2015) at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review and consideration at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

#### **Release more than \$100 - Real/Personal Property**

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Jonathan Schneider	24584213	\$204.45	Military – Home of Record is NY
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$204.45</b>	

#### **Tax Administration – Proposed Resolution – Annual Settlement of Fiscal Year 2014-15**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following proposed Resolution – Annual Settlement of Fiscal Year 2014-15 at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review and consideration at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	)	
	)	RESOLUTION
COUNTY OF STOKES	)	

WHEREAS, Section 105-373 of the North Carolina General Statutes provides for an annual settlement of the property taxes charged to the Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, that, in keeping with this requirement, the attached settlement summary was provided to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners by the Stokes County Tax Administrator, Jake M. Oakley;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners:

- (1) Orders the insolvent amount for 2014 be entered into the minutes as the accepted insolvent amount, and further, that said insolvent amount be credited to the Stokes County Tax Administrator in his settlement. And;
- (2) Orders the tax liens for 2014 property taxes for the purpose of collection to be recharged to the Stokes County Tax Administrator. And further;
- (3) Orders that the settlement for delinquent (prior years taxes) be entered into the minutes, and that the uncollected balance of said taxes be recharged to the Stokes County Tax Administrator for the purpose of collection. And finally;
- (4) Orders that the 2014 property tax settlement by the Stokes County Tax Administrator be accepted in accordance with Section 105-373(e) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Adopted this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronda Jones – Chairman

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Leon Inman – Commissioner

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ernest Lankford – Commissioner

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene Bullins – Clerk to the Board

**Tax Administration – Proposed Order to Collect Property Taxes – Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following proposed Order to Collect Property Taxes – Fiscal Year 2015-16 at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review and consideration at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	) ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
	) IN ACCORDANCE WITH G.S.105-321(b) FOR THE
COUNTY OF STOKES	) COLLECTION OF FY 2015-2016 PROPERTY TAXES

TO: THE STOKES COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes set forth

in the 2015 tax records filed in the Office of the Stokes County Tax Administration (General County Taxes and Educational School Fund Taxes), and in the tax bills herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise set forth. You are further authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the 2015 taxes charged and assessed as provided by law for adjustments, changes, and additions to the tax records and tax bills delivered to you which are made in accordance with law per G.S. 105-321(b). Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien on real property of the respective taxpayers in Stokes County.

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes of Special Districts (King Fire District, Rural Hall Fire District, Walnut Cove Fire District, Stokes County Service Fire District, the Town of Danbury, City of King and the Town of Walnut Cove), and in the tax bills herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise set forth. You are further authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the 2015 taxes charged and assessed as provided by law for adjustments, changes, and additions to the tax records and tax bills delivered to you which are made in accordance with law per G.S. 105-354. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien on real property of the respective taxpayers in each Special Tax District of Stokes County.

This order shall be full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to garnish wages, to attach rents, cash receipts, checking accounts, and savings accounts; levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronda Jones – Chairman

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Leon Inman – Commissioner

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ernest Lankford – Commissioner

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene Bullins – Clerk to the Board

### **Proposed Stokes County 2016 Holiday Calendar**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins presented the following proposed Stokes County 2016 Holiday Calendar at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review and consideration for approval:

<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Day of Week</b>	<b>Date</b>
New Year's Day	Friday	January 1, 2016
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 18, 2016
Good Friday	Friday	March 25, 2016
Memorial Day	Monday	May 30, 2016
Independence Day	Monday	July 4, 2016
Labor Day	Monday	September 5, 2016
Veterans Day	Friday	November 11, 2016
Thanksgiving	Thursday	November 24 2016
	Friday	November 25, 2016
Christmas	Friday	December 23, 2016
	Monday	December 26, 2016

Floating Holiday-(1) day to be used by employees during the calendar year of 2016 upon approval of supervisor. Can't be carried over to calendar year 2017.

**Proposed Resolution – Authorizing Sale of County Issues Service Side Arm – Officer Kelly Craine**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the proposed Resolution – Authorizing Sale of County Issues Service Side Arm – Officer Kelly Craine at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review and consideration at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

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

WHEREAS, Deputy Kelly Craine is retiring from the Stokes County Sheriff's Department on July 31, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Kelly Craine has been a dedicated fulltime law enforcement officer to the citizens of Stokes County for 9+ 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 Deputy Kelly Craine her 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 DWJ3243 and holster at a set price of \$1.00 to Deputy Kelly Craine after securing a permit as required by North Carolina General Statute 14-402 or 14-409.

Adopted this the 27<sup>TH</sup> day of July 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**

**Release of Closed Session Minutes**

Clerk of the Board Darlene Bullins presented the following Closed Session Minutes which had been approved by County Attorney Tyrone Browder for release at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review:

- January 12, 2015
- January 26, 2015
- February 23, 2015
- March 9, 2015
- March 23, 2015

**Lease Purchase Agreement – Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc.**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following Lease Purchase Agreement – Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad Inc. for review and consideration

of approval of July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

July 27, 2015

United Financial of North Carolina, Inc  
58 Wilkie Way  
Fletcher, NC 28732

Re: Lease Purchase Agreement between United Financial of North Carolina, Inc. and  
Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.

Dear Sirs:

I am Chairman of the County Commissioners of Stokes County.

This letter is to advise you that: **Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.** is a qualified Volunteer Fire Department, assigned to protect a specific Fire District within Stokes County.

In addition, a special ad valorem (Fire Tax) is assessed on the real property owners of this district. Said Tax is to be used exclusively to provide equipment, facilities, and training as is necessary to provide fire protection for said district. Said funds may also be used to upgrade equipment as the need arises. This tax is collected by the County and disbursed by the Finance Office to the Fire Department on a regular basis by the County Finance Officer.

The **Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.** is operated and managed by the Board of Directors of the Fire Department and the Officers of said Department. The Department is currently meeting the requirements of their Fire Service Contract.

The **Northeast Stokes Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.** has made the Board of Commissioners aware of their intention to acquire a new capital asset through a Lease Purchase transaction with your firm. Please be advised that the County has no objections to this transaction.

If I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Ronda Jones  
Chairman  
Stokes County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of Budget Amendment #8. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Vice Chairman Walker absent.

July 27, 2015



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

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following NCFast Update from

DSS Director Stacey Elmes:

- Things are progressing smoothly right now
- Have hired an Income Maintenance Supervisor internally
- Have three vacant Income Maintenance Caseworker positions which have been posted externally and closes on August 4<sup>th</sup>
- Staff is really looking forward to having this additional help so they can stay caught up
- Had a Medicaid Transportation Audit today and have an audit from Martin and Starnes this coming Friday

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

There were no questions or concerns regarding Director Elmes' update.

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

### **Transfer of Ownership of Bank Street, Danbury**

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following regarding the Transfer of Ownership of Bank Street in Danbury:

- Arts Council Eddy McGee is just about to get thing moving with the ArtMarket Project
- Recently had a discussion with the Danbury Town Administrator
- The Town of Danbury has offered to cede control of Bank Street to the County (runs behind the Arts Council's and Artist's Way)
- County owns the property on both sides of the street
- Town of Danbury has made a generous offer to the County
- This will eliminate having to go to the Town if anything is ever done with the property behind the street (possible amphitheater one day)
- Need to work the details with County Attorney Browder
- Only condition that the Town requests is that legal documentation includes the following:
  - Language that speaks to maintaining a public egress onto Main Street
- Exiting onto Main Street from Camping Island Creek (west side of Artist's Way) is quite dangerous with limited sight distance
- The requested condition is one that the County would want to meet even if not requested by the Town due to the limited sight distance
- Believe it would be an advantage for the County to own the property with the upcoming ArtMarket Project and possible future projects

- Request the item be placed on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford questioned if the street would be part of the project (will have to be paved in the future)?

County Manager Morris responded:

- Do not know that there are any plans to pave the street
- Would be maintenance like the parking lots

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with County Manager Morris that his recommendation is to proceed with transferring Bank Street to the County from the Town of Danbury.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with County Manager Morris that the only downside to transferring the street would be the cost of maintaining the street, but felt it would be advantageous for the County to own the Street.

County Manager Morris noted that the road did not need repaving at this time.

It was the consensus of the Board to place the item on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

#### **Proposed Amendments – Stokes County Aging Planning Committee – Bylaws & HCCBG Allocation Policy**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Amendments to the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee's Bylaws & HCCBG Allocation Policy:

- The Stokes County Aging Planning Committee requested the following amendment to their Bylaws & Allocation Policy:
  - **Article IV – Meetings – Section #1 – Regular Meetings**
    - **Current:** Regular meetings will be held every other month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday (January, March, May, July, September, and November) or additionally as necessary
    - **Amendment:** Regular meetings will be held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday (January, March, April, May, June, August, September, October, and November) and additionally as necessary
- Request to place the item on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford questioned why the need for the change in the number of meetings being held?

Clerk Bullins noted the following:

- Believe the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee saw the need to meet more especially before the budget allocation

County Manager Morris noted that he would verify what the need was for the additional meetings.

It was the consensus of the Board to place the item on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

#### **Solid Waste – Refuse Truck Purchase**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the lease purchase of the Solid Waste Refuse Truck:

- County Manager Rick Morris, Public Works Director Mark Delehant, Landfill Supervisory Harry France and Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall met with Carolina Environmental Systems Inc, a distributor for the Heil Environmental Equipment, on July 17<sup>th</sup>
- The National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) quote (contract number 060612-ESG) for the pricing of a Mack MRU613 chassis with a Heli DuraPack 40 cubic yard refuse truck is \$250,899.24
- North Carolina General Statute 143-129 requires all expenditures over \$90,000 be formally bid; however, 143-129 (e) (3) is an exemption that allows the County to purchase through competitive purchasing programs with NJPA without having to formally bid this purchase
- County Staff recommends the County moved forward with the purchase of a 2016 Mack/Heil Refuse Truck from Carolina Environmental Systems at the quoted price of \$250,899.24
- Refuse truck was approved in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget
- Funding Source – Lease Purchase Agreement

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker questioned the need for the vehicle if the County was considering  
July 27, 2015

a compactor in the near future?

County Manager Morris responded:

- Even if the County places compactors at the two larger sites, there will still have to be a refuse truck for the smaller sites
- Planning to put the proposed Solid Waste System in the FY 2016-17 budget discussions

It was the consensus of the Board to place the item on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

**Proposed Resolution - Stepping Up Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illness in Jails**

Chairman Jones turned the Agenda item over to Commissioner Leon Inman who had requested the following proposed Resolution be placed on tonight's Discussion Agenda:

**Stepping Up Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails**

**WHEREAS**, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jails each year; and

**WHEREAS**, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in confinement facilities are three to six times higher than for the general population, with statistics showing that almost 13% of North Carolina's prison population requires some type of intervention due to mental health issues; and

**WHEREAS**, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

**WHEREAS**, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses can continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals, their families, and their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, county jails are generally an unsafe environment for those with mental health treatment needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners has undertaken a serious effort to address the local service needs of those with mental illnesses through the appointment of a special Task Force; and

**WHEREAS**, Stokes County, like all counties, takes pride in our responsibilities to protect and enhance the health, wealth, and safety of our residents in efficient, safe, and socially just ways; and

**WHEREAS**, through the Stepping Up Initiative, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Foundation are encouraging counties to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in county jails; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the **Board of Commissioners, Stokes County**,

1. That the Board of Commissioners does hereby sign on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail and commits to sharing lessons learned with other counties in North Carolina and across the country to support the Stepping Up Initiative; and
2. That the Board of Commissioners will utilize resources available through the Stepping Up Initiative and other resources provided by the Council of State Governments Justice Center to convene a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies who are committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails; and
3. That this team will utilize the comprehensive resources available through the Stepping Up Initiative to develop a plan to reduce the number of people with mental illness in the county jail for 2016-2020, consistent with the Council of State Governments Justice Center report and recommendations, to be presented to the Board of Commissioners at its first meeting in December 2015.

Passed and Approved on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015.

Commissioner Inman noted the following:

- This comes as a result of the NC Association of County Commissioners' Initiative for Mental Health (created the Mental Health Task Force)
- NC Association of County Commissioners would like for all counties to adopt the proposed resolution
- As noted in the proposed Resolution:
  - county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs and counties routinely provide treatment services to an estimated 2 million people with serious mental health illnesses booked into jails each year
  - Prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in confinement facilities are three to six times higher than for the general population, with statistics showing that almost 13% of North Carolina's prison population requires some type of intervention due to mental health issues
  - Mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders
- Sheriff's Department staff and EMS staff have recently completed Crisis Intervention Treatment

- Would respectfully request that this Board of Commissioners adopt the “Stepping Up Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails”
- Request the proposed resolution be placed on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda
- Governor McCrory is starting a statewide Mental Health Task Force that will be a collaboration between the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches of state government

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

There were no questions or concerns regarding the request to place the proposed resolution on the Consent Agenda.

It was the consensus of the Board to place the item on the August 10<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda.

#### **Appointments – Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council**

County Manager Rick Morris presented following information regarding a vacancy on the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council:

- Velmalene Leake recently resigned from the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council
- Senior Services Director Vicky East requested the following be re-appointed per Bylaws:
  - Vicky East
  - Dr. Dana Dalton
  - Ruby Griffin
  - Polly Goolsby
  - George Hairston, Jr
  - Carrol Knight
  - Judy Long
  - Louise Flynt
  - Dottie Via
  - Joe McKenzie
  - Ann McKenzie
  - Margie Bullins
  - Elwood Mabe
  - Erma Perkins
- Council requests the Board appoint a member to fill the unfinished term of Velmalene Leake
- Application has been received by Angie Bailey who is very interested in serving on the Council

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Booth nominated the following:

- Re-appointment
  - Vicky East
  - Dr. Dana Dalton
  - Ruby Griffin
  - Polly Goolsby
  - George Hairston, Jr
  - Carrol Knight
  - Judy Long
  - Louise Flynt
  - Dottie Via
  - Joe McKenzie
  - Ann McKenzie
  - Margie Bullins
  - Elwood Mabe
  - Erma Perkins
- Fill the unfinished term of Velmalene Leake
  - Angie Bailey

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

#### **Letter to Governor McCrory Regarding Senate Bill 369**

Chairman Jones turned the Agenda item over to Commissioner James Booth who had requested the item be placed on tonight's Discussion Agenda.

Commissioner Booth noted the following:

- Feel the Board needs to send a letter to Governor McCrory in support of Senate Bill 369
- Would request the County Manager/Clerk compose a letter for the Chairman to sign
- Request the letter be sent to Governor McCrory and Governor McCrory's Staffer Clay Ruff

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

County Manager Rick Morris confirmed with the Board that the following information to be included:

- Support of Senate Bill 369
- Urge Governor McCrory to not veto Senate Bill 369

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- This was one of the items discussed at the recent meeting in Rockingham County which was attended by Manager Morris, Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth, and myself
- One of the Rockingham County Commissioners had heard prior to the meeting a statement from Governor McCrory that he was going to veto Senate Bill 369
- Would like to commend Commissioner Booth for placing this item on tonight's Agenda
- Not sure the letter will help, but certainly worth a try

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Also hearing in Raleigh that Governor McCrory is going to veto the bill

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Attended the recent Press Conference in Raleigh regarding Senate Bill 369
- Forty counties were represented at the Press Conference
- Eighty-three counties will benefit from Senate Bill 369

Chairman Jones commented:

- Wanted to see this happen several years ago and was told it would never happen and here we are

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- If he does veto the bill, wondering what impact this would have since there are 83 counties that would benefit from the new law

It was the consensus of the Board to direct County Manager Morris to prepare the letter for the Chairman to execute.

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

### **Proposed Offer to Purchase – Well Drilling – Meadows Area**

County Manager Rick Morris presented following regarding the following information regarding the proposed Offer to Purchase – Well Drilling in the Meadows Area:



- Mr. Bennett is doing some further additional research
- Would like to table this item until all the issues are resolved

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

It was the consensus of the Board to table the item until all issues have been resolved and then return the item to the Board for appropriate action.

**Proposed Resolution – Disposal of County Property**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the following proposed Resolution – Disposal of County Property presented at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, NCGS 153A-176 authorizes the County to dispose of real or personal property in accordance with procedures prescribed in Chapter 160A, Article 12;

WHEREAS, NCGS 160A-265 gives the Board of Commissioners the authority to dispose of real or personal property;

WHEREAS, located at 1075 Dodgetown Road Walnut Cove, NC is a metal building that needs to be removed in order for the Friends of Stokes Shelter (FOSS) a 501c non-profit to move forward with the development of a 40'x90' animal adoption facility at this location;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners declares this metal building as surplus property and approves for the Support Services Supervisor to advertised in the Stokes News seeking an individual or company to demo said building at no cost except for the exchange of salvage materials;

Adopted this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 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

Commissioner Booth moved to approve Resolution - Disposal of County Property.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Proposed Performance Agreement – CenterPoint Human Services – Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the following proposed Performance Agreement – CenterPoint Human Services – Fiscal Year 2015-16 presented at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:

**PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT**

**Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

**STOKES COUNTY**

**AND**

**CENTERPOINT HUMAN SERVICES**

This Performance Agreement Fiscal Year 2015-2016 (Agreement) between Stokes County (County) and CenterPoint Human Services (CenterPoint) (collectively the Parties) defines the operational relationship, expectations and responsibilities of the Parties. CenterPoint is the Local Management Entity – Managed Care Organization (LME-MCO) that is designated for the management of mental health, intellectual/developmental disability and substance abuse services for the residents of Stokes County and is subject to all requirements under GS §122C and the requirements of the Medicaid 1915 b/c Waiver for recipients whose county of Medicaid eligibility is Stokes County.

**Nature and Term of Agreement**

The Agreement shall be effective July 1, 2015 and shall remain in effect through June 30, 2016. If a new agreement has not been reached between the parties by July 1, 2015, the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Agreement shall remain in force, unless it has been terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

**County Responsibilities**

The County agrees to:

1. Assures the appointment of County residents to serve on the LME-MCO Board in accordance with GS §122C 118.1 and the CenterPoint Bylaws.
2. Allocate available funds to CenterPoint to support mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities and substance abuse services for County residents in accordance with service priorities established by the Division of MH/DD/SA Services of the NC Dept. of Health & Human Services, CenterPoint Board of Directors and the Stokes County Board of Commissioners.

3. Encourage and support the completion of Crisis Intervention Team training for Sheriff's Department officers.
4. Provide County facilities and support services as negotiated with CenterPoint.
5. Negotiate an annual performance agreement with CenterPoint to establish funding levels and clear expectations for the quality and quantity of services covered by this Agreement.
6. Receive, review and approve reports on the performance of CenterPoint as the manager of services.
7. Establish a plan for quarterly consultation between the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Sheriff, County Manager and CenterPoint's CEO and/or a designee regarding this Agreement and emerging community issues. Meetings will occur on the second Tuesdays of October, January, April, and July at 2:00 pm in the third floor conference room of the Administrative Building.
8. Require biannual presentations by CenterPoint's CEO, Sheriff and County Manager to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners in March and September.

### **CenterPoint Responsibilities**

CenterPoint agrees to:

1. Carry out the functions, responsibilities and duties of a multi-county LME-MCO as required by GS §122C – 115.4 & 117 for the benefit of the residents of the County and by the Medicaid 1915 b/c Waiver for recipients whose county of Medicaid eligibility is Stokes County.
2. Serve as the LME-MCO for the County and make regular quarterly reports to the County on the implementation of the Strategic Plan including the re-organization and contracting of services.
3. Conduct needs assessments, seek stakeholder input and support community planning to identify and address needs.
4. Develop and submit a complete annual budget (Budget Ordinance and Budget) to support activities as the LME-MCO and make requests for funding to the County following prescribed guidelines.
5. Provide its annual audit to the County.
6. Assure that the CEO and/or a designee meets regularly with County officials as required under County responsibilities #8 to review CenterPoint's performance under this Agreement and to discuss emerging community issues.

7. Make bi-annual presentations (as detailed below under Specific Performance Expectations #4) to the Board of Commissioners in March and September.

### **Specific Performance Expectations**

In addition to the general responsibilities outlined above, CenterPoint agrees to the following specific performance expectations.

- 1. Outpatient Services**

Maintain the current continuum of services for mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities and substance abuse services including the operation of clinics in both Walnut Cove and King to the maximum extent possible within financial constraints and licensed staff availability.

- 2. Stokes Opportunity Center**

Maintain the current level of vocational services and/or other appropriate services for individuals with mental illness and/or intellectual/developmental disabilities to the maximum extent possible within financial constraints and requirements of the Division of Medical Assistance and/or the Division of Mental Health, Intellectual Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse; pursue other funding sources for these services; and, explore alternatives that maintain current levels of service at less cost.

- 3. Continuity of Care**

Provide biannual reports on the continuity of care for all residents receiving inpatient or after-hours services.

- 4. Biannual Reports**

Provide biannual reports to the County in March and September that describe:

- a. The providers serving Stokes County residents during the period, the services provided and the location(s) of the provision of such services;
- b. The number and demographics of different County residents served during the period;
- c. The volume and type of services provided to these resident;
- d. Analysis tracking the effectiveness of services provided including complaints and outcomes;
- e. Continuity of care report (see#3 above);
- f. Consumers' level of satisfaction with services; and
- g. Families' level of satisfaction with services.

- 5. Support of Sheriff's Department**

Develop a service system that supports the Sheriff's Department including:

- a. Maintain the 1<sup>st</sup> Opinion Waiver Pilot Program at site(s) specified by the County Manager, CenterPoint, and the provider to ensure that behavioral health staff conduct assessments of County residents who the Sheriff's Department believes exhibits significant mental health and/or substance abuse issues in less than two (2) hours of arrival or as soon as feasible given current system constraints in the custody of the

Sheriff's Department at the designated site. Services are to be rendered at the jail to the maximum extent possible.

- b. Provide Crisis Intervention Team Training to Sheriff's Department officers to enable officers most effectively to deescalate and manage crisis situations.
- c. Maintain and strengthen a crisis service system to decrease reliance on Involuntary Commitment and Emergency Department reliance and to provide timely response within four (4) hours of the arrival of a County resident at an Emergency Department exhibiting significant mental health and/or substance abuse issues in the custody of the Stokes County Sheriff's Department.
  - Sheriff's Department will track all transports for psychiatric emergencies including original destination (1<sup>st</sup> Opinion), disposition and time involved;
  - Sheriff's Department will report each instance when the time to complete the 1<sup>st</sup> Opinion exceeds four (4) hours'
  - Sheriff's Department will report every case that exceeds eight (8) hours;
  - CenterPoint will review each case reported by the Sheriff's Department and will meet with the Sheriff's Department on any such case at the Sheriff's request
  - CenterPoint will review any case and meet with the Sheriff's Department on any case that either party concludes has extenuating circumstances, regardless of the time involved.

#### **6. Financial Goals**

Pursue all reasonable means to increase revenues from non-county budget sources to assist the County in providing services responsive to the behavioral health needs of County residents.

#### **7. Corrective Actions/Sanctions for Non-Performance**

It is in the best interest of the citizens of Stokes County, and especially of those receiving services from CenterPoint or its contractors, that every effort be made to achieve the levels of performance required in this Agreement. If CenterPoint does not meet the performance expectations outlined in this agreement, it will recommend a Plan of Correction to the County Manager. The Plan of Correction will include the name of the individual who is responsible to act, the activity or task to be undertaken, the outcome expected and the date by which the action should be completed. The CEO will make progress reports to the County Manager and the Board of Commissioners as required.

### **Amendments**

This Agreement may be amended upon the mutual consent in writing of the County and CenterPoint.

### **Termination**

This Agreement may be terminated in compliance with GS §122C, in whole or in part, by mutual consent of the County and CenterPoint

Adopted this 27th day of July, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty P. Taylor, Esq.  
CEO/Area Director, CenterPoint Human Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronda Jones  
Chairman of Board of County Commissioners Stokes County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene Bullins  
Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners Stokes County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

This Instrument has been pre-audited in the Manner as required by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julia Edwards  
Finance Director, Stokes County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

See attachment

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tyrone Browder  
County Attorney, Stokes County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Commissioner Inman moved to approve Performance Agreement – CenterPoint Human Services – Fiscal Year 2015-16. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Commissioner Inman, who serves on the CenterPoint Board of Directors, that he saw no issue with the proposed Performance Agreement.

Vice Chairman Walker requested Commissioner Inman provide the Board with a snapshot of where the County currently is regarding mental health.

Commissioner Inman responded:

- Feel with the Performance Agreement, County is doing very well with the working relationship with CenterPoint Human Services
- Performance Agreement has been in effect for several years
- Stokes County is the only county in the four county district that has a performance agreement with CenterPoint

The motion carried unanimously.

**Proposed Contract – Recreation – Stokes Family YMCA – Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the following proposed Contract –

Recreation – Stokes Family YMCA – Fiscal Year 2015-16 presented at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:

**County of Stokes & Stokes Family YMCA**

**RECREATION CONTRACT**

This contract for Recreation Services (herein the “Contract”) is made by and between the Stokes Family YMCA herein known as the “YMCA”, and the County of Stokes, herein known as the “County”. For and in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, the parties agree as follows:

**Responsibilities of the YMCA**

The YMCA agrees to provide the following minimum services:

1. The YMCA shall administer and coordinate all current recreation and wellness programming to include Stokes County Youth Sports Programming, Summer Day Camp, Stokes County Easter Egg Hunt, other seasonal family special events, 5k event, Fitness Center operation and wellness services.
2. A Summer Youth Program shall be provided to the youth of Stokes County. This program shall be for the length of time specified each year in the Annual Budget (as herein defined). This program shall utilize school sites as well as YMCA and County facilities.
3. The YMCA shall provide recreation, wellness and social programs at a County facility, at the County’s sole expense except for long distance telephone calls, in Danbury, North Carolina. The YMCA shall maintain regular office hours and Fitness Center hours of operation in said facility.
4. Stokes County Youth Sports Programming shall be provided to the youth of Stokes County. The programming shall last a minimum of seven weeks.
5. The YMCA shall host an annual 5k event.
6. New Programs shall be offered based on need and availability, such as additional summer camps, sports, recreation and wellness programs and social events.

7. The YMCA shall assume all liability insurance coverage for all YMCA staff and program offerings.
8. The YMCA shall administer the scheduling of shelter usage and special events to be held at Moratock Park, located in Danbury, North Carolina.
9. The YMCA shall collect all fees as set by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners for use of Moratock Park facilities and remit those funds back to the County as requested by the County.
10. The YMCA shall retain all revenues generated by program offerings, except those fees generated from Moratock Park shelter usage.
11. The YMCA shall provide a Stokes County Recreation Department Committee under the authorization of the Stokes Family YMCA volunteer Board of Management. The Committee shall consist of Stokes Family YMCA volunteers, Stokes County citizens and a designated representative of the Stokes County Board of Commissioners.

### **Responsibilities of the County of Stokes**

The County of Stokes agrees to the following responsibilities:

1. The County shall maintain ownership of Moratock Park located in Danbury, North Carolina. Further, the County shall provide maintenance and repair services for Moratock Park up to and including grounds maintenance, facility maintenance, insurance and utility costs.
2. The County shall provide a facility to serve as a Program Center to the YMCA in Danbury, North Carolina or other strategically placed locations at the County's sole expense except for long distance telephone calls. The County shall maintain ownership of said facility and shall provide maintenance and repair services up to and including road maintenance, grounds maintenance, facility maintenance, insurance and utility costs.
3. The County shall provide, at its sole cost and expense, the YMCA staff in Stokes County with one (1) vehicle for travel solely within Stokes County in maintaining programs based in Stokes County and offered to Stokes County citizens.
4. The County shall allow the YMCA staff to purchase fuel at the Stokes County fueling facilities for use in the vehicle provided by the County.

### **Cost**

The County hereby agrees to pay to the YMCA an amount equal to one hundred seventeen thousand and four hundred and eighty-four dollars (\$117,484) for the contract year. This contract sum shall be paid in two (2) equal installments with the first payment due on July 31<sup>st</sup> and the second due on January 31<sup>st</sup> of the contract term.



### **Term**

The term of this contract shall be for a period of one year. This contract may be extended for additional periods upon the expressed written consent of both parties.

The Agreement shall be effective July 1, 2015 and shall remain in effect through June 30, 2016. If a new agreement has not been reached between the parties by July 1, 2015, the FY 2014-15 Agreement shall remain in force, unless it has been terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

### **Contract Termination**

Either party wishing to terminate this contract may do so upon one-hundred and eighty days written notice to the other party.

### **Hold Harmless Provision**

The YMCA hereby agrees to indemnify and hold the County harmless from all liability arising out of the provision of recreational programs and services as set forth herein.

The County agrees to indemnify and hold the YMCA harmless from all liability arising out of the provision of County maintenance and facilities.

### **Contract Date and Signatures**

This contract for services shall commence as of July 1, 2015 and terminate on June 30, 2016. Contract term extensions are provided in the section of this contract titled "Term".

---

**Curtis Hazelbaker**  
**President/CEO**  
**YMCA of Northwest North Carolina**

---

**Ronda Jones**  
**Chairman**  
**Stokes County Board of**  
**Commissioners**

---

**Attest**

---

**Attest**

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Contract – Recreation – Stokes Family YMCA – Fiscal Year 2015-16. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- This is an ongoing challenge for our county to continue to look for ways to improve recreational services
- Feel the YMCA is doing a good job in many ways
- Would like to see the YMCA look into having a facility at or near the community college
- Believe we can continue to build on what we have with the YMCA
- The money we spend providing good opportunities will pay dividends on the front end

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Proposed Contract – County Attorney Tyrone Browder – Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the proposed Contract – County Attorney Tyrone Browder – Fiscal Year 2015-16 presented at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve Contract – County Attorney Tyrone Browder – Fiscal Year 2015-16. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Proposed Agreement – NC Department of Agriculture/Consumer Services – Forestry Services for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the proposed Agreement – NC Department of Agriculture/Consumer Services – Forestry Services for Fiscal Year 2015-16 presented at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Agreement – NC Department of Agriculture/Consumer Services – Forestry Services for Fiscal Year 2015-16. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Appointments – Stokes County Water and Sewer Authority**

Chairman Jones noted the following regarding the appointment to the Stokes County Water and Sewer Authority:

- One vacancy
- Applications have been received from Rex Baker and Adam Stewart

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated Joe Del Guercio – Danbury.

Commissioner Lankford noted the following regarding Mr. Del Guercio:

- Resident of the Town of Danbury
- Very experienced in the water system
- Danbury Water user
- Feel he will make great contributions to the Water and Sewer Authority

Vice Chairman Walker nominated Rex Baker.

Vice Chairman Walker noted the following regarding Mr. Baker:

- Historically, Rex Baker has secured very good water and sewer grants

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones polled the Board:

Commissioner Lankford: Joe Del Guercio

Commissioner Inman: Joe Del Guercio

Chairman Jones: Joe Del Guercio

Vice Chairman Walker: Rex Baker

Commissioner Booth: Joe Del Guercio

Chairman Jones noted that Joe Del Guercio would fill the vacancy on the Stokes County Water and Sewer Authority.

### **Appointments – Stokes County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council**

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations for a member from the faith Community to serve on the Stokes County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

There were no nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

### **Appointment – Stokes County Aging Planning Committee**

Chairman Jones noted there were four (4) vacancies for the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

There were no nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Booth moved to close the nominations. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on August 10<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

### **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 G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)
- The Board unanimously entered into closed session to consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6).

Commissioner Lankford moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To 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)
- The Board unanimously entered into closed session 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 July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Animal Control**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to increase all current Animal Control positions by four (4) salary grades effective August 3, 2015.

Chairman Jones moved to approve an increase of all current Animal Control positions by (4) salary grades effective August 3, 2015. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried (3-2) with Commissioner Lankford and Commissioner Booth voting against the motion.

### **Health Department**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to increase the hiring salary to 86 (8A) for the Physician Extender in the Health Department.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to increase the hiring salary to 86 (8A) for the Physician Extender in the Health Department. Commissioner Inman 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 Booth moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

---

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

---

**Ronda Jones**  
**Chairman**