

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF STOKES)
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
AUGUST 24, 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, August 24, 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 Ronda Jones called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Commissioner Inman delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Jones opened the meeting by inviting the citizens in attendance to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve or amend the August 24, 2015 Agenda.

Commissioner Lankford requested to add a proposed Resolution regarding the Petitioning for Widening of NC Highway #8 to tonight's Discussion Agenda.

County Manager Rick Morris requested to add Budget Amendment #16 to tonight's Consent Agenda.

County Manager Morris commented:

- EMS Director Greg Collins has an opportunity to receive an additional \$1,829 from Homeland Security Funding that was not utilized by the other counties
- Director Collins plans to purchase an electrical box which will allow him to be able to use the generator at other locations
- Funding must be spent by August 31st

The Board unanimously agreed to add Budget Amendment #16 and the proposed Resolution to tonight's Agenda.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the August 24th Agenda with the addition of Budget Amendment #16 and the proposed Resolution regarding the Petitioning for Widening of NC Highway #8. Commissioner Booth 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 had no comments.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Attended the recent NC Association of County Commissioners' Annual Conference (NCACC) last week
 - Very good conference
 - Learned some new things, received several updates and did a lot of networking with other commissioners
- Very glad to see everyone out tonight
- Like to see people involved in the government process
- Feel government works better when citizens are involved
- Applaud you for being here tonight
- Welcome everyone here tonight

Commissioner Booth welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

Chairman Jones requested Commissioner Inman to let everyone know about the recent award he received at the NCACC Conference.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Also attended the NCACC Annual Conference in Pitt County
- Presented the recommendation from the Mental Health Task Force (Chaired the Task Force this past year) at the annual conference (Taskforce recommendation is on the NCACC website)
- Received the NCACC "Outstanding County Commissioner Award for 2014-15"
- It was quite an honor to be chosen
- There are 600 commissioners in NC and there are a lot of outstanding commissioners across the State including Stokes County and have the privilege of serving with four other outstanding commissioners
- I was very humble to receive the M.H. "Jack" Brock Outstanding County Commissioner Award
- I am very pleased to bring this award back to Stokes County

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – "Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil" (Proverbs)
- Animal Shelter
 - Attended the Friends of the Stokes Shelter's fundraiser this past weekend
 - Event raised over \$32,000 for the new adoption facility

Chairman Jones commented:

- Also attended NCACC Conference
- Very proud of Commissioner Inman

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Chairman Jones noted that each speaker had three minutes to speak.

Linda Mason

1134 Rosebud Road

Walnut Cove, NC

RE: **Fracking**

Ms. Mason presented the following comments:

- In the 26 years that I have lived in this County, I have never seen anything more frightening than the prospect of fracking coming here
- This item not being on the Agenda tonight, gives the perception that this Commission is beholding to other interests rather than the interest of all the people who came before you a month ago
- Some of you were reported as saying after that meeting that you would see what you could do

- Just a week ago, the Chatham County Commissioners did do something; they approved a two-year moratorium on fracking
- Again, this is what we are asking you to do, pass a moratorium
- I ask you to ask yourself, “What or who is holding you up from acting now on this issue?”
- I ask you to show the people of Stokes County the respect of an open and transparent discussion of this very important issue or at least to have the backbone to stand up and say that you are not going to do anything

Rita Gale Cruise

1996 Mt View Church Road

King, NC

Re: **Environmental Budget Cost**

Ms. Cruise presented the following comments:

- I want to talk briefly tonight about the county budget (budget message is on the county’s website)
- I would like to read a few things from the budget message prepared by the county manager
 - There is a dilemma of vanishing revenues and revenue sources in the next two fiscal years to try to survive until additional revenue comes in
 - The ultimate challenge is to balance the needs and the expectations of the citizens against the cost of addressing those needs financially
 - The typical budget for other counties, like Stokes County in size, is \$51 million to \$55 million
 - In Stokes County, the budget is approximately \$45 million which means there are going to have to be some taxes increased (Ad Valorem and Fire Taxes)
 - Currently, the Sheriff’s Office, E911 and EMS are at a critical need for the cost of equipment and supplies to provide the kind of things that we need for this county
 - There is an under revenue of state and federal funding and under expense for the replacement of vehicles in Stokes County
 - There is an increase in the volume of needs for the Sheriff’s Office, EMS and Jail
 - There is a mention of jail expansion which will be a cost
 - There is cost in training personnel for these departments along with the salaries being paid for these positions
 - There is an unacceptable personnel turnover in these departments
 - There is a decrease in revenue with expenses remaining the same
 - Areas of soundness are the Water/Sewer Fund and the Danbury Water Fund
 - There is a new a water and sewer project in the Meadows area with a possible revenue gap for the sewer project
- The projects that I have mentioned have to do with water which is crucial for Stokes County
- We don’t have enough money to not take this seriously, to not think about the water and how it may compromise the county as it tries to move forward
- We are at a crucial time and need to look at what our resources are – what water can be and will be to Stokes County
- Another area in the budget that is a cost is legal services
- One thing to think about is the revenue from hydraulic fracturing

- The potential benefit of revenue from fracking is one tenth of one percent, but remember there will increased costs in other areas that I have mentioned tonight

Chairman Jones called time.

Linda Dekle

1120 Wolf Creek Road

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: Property Values/Fracking

Ms. Dekle presented the following comments:

- Read a poem written by her husband in 2009, shortly after the purchase of their home in Stokes County
- My husband and I are careful people; we do our homework
- We did it when we purchased our home, if fracking would have been a possible reality at that time in the Stokes County, as beautiful as this county is, we would have not purchased a home here
- At present, there is no control by local government over fracking
- No control which landowners will sign leases with an oil company, making some wealthy and others with just enough to buy a new car, while both devalue their neighbor's property
- According to American Banker, some mortgage lenders including NC State Employees' Credit Union, are no longer financing homes of owners who do not own or have sold their mineral rights
- According to the President of that credit union, you could end up where someone puts a drilling platform on a property and would have to tell their neighbors' their property value just went down
- There would be noise, air pollution, industrial traffic, and toxic waste disposal
- There are untold amounts of water needed for fracking and the potential for permanent water contamination
- Oil and gas companies have admitted these risks and have told the public for a decade that they can control these risks forever
- There is no way to determine how the landscape and life in this County will appear if this heavy industry comes to Stokes County
- NC Legislators have cut our local and county government off at the knees, leaving all fracking oversight up to the state
- This political move by the State has blocked any reasonable and necessary control at the local level
- We want progress, but not at the expense of so many unintended consequences of this heavy industry on this county
- We are asking you today to give Stokes County more time with a moratorium and necessary county ordinances

David Hairston

1125 Adams Ridge Road

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: **Fracking and Coal Ash**

Mr. Hairston presented the following comments:

- I am here to today to speak on fracking because it hits me personally
- This is not black or white or Republican or Democratic, this is a Stokes County problem
- We are here to ask the Commissioners to help us in addressing this issue
- I lost my father at the age of ten years old
- My mother, as single mother, bought a home in the Walnut Tree Development in Walnut Cove and raised my sister and I
- She wanted us to have a better home
- Now, it is in danger, because they drilled the core sample there and we could lose that land to pooling
- The property is the only thing that my sister and I have left, she died last year
- She put both of us through college
- I have been at Reynolds for 30 years; my sister is a US federal district attorney
- We are tonight, on behalf of all of Stokes County, to ask you to help us fight this fight
- We must get rid of the ash pond
- Stokes County has the largest ash pond in the state that no one is addressing
- Now we could be fracked which could break the dam and poison Madison and Pine Hall
- If we don't address this problem, then we are guilty of child abuse to these kids here in this room tonight
- We need to make a better life for these kids to grow up in

Mr. Rick Banasik

1169 Monte Vista Road

King, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Banasik presented the following comments:

- When fracking first became an issue, most folks positioned themselves along party lines, that is the common thing, that is the simple thing to do, it really requires little or no thinking
- If my party is against it, so am I
- If my party is for it, so am I
- The Republicans were pro big oil and the Democrats were pro the environment
- But whether you, the county commissioners, are pro fracking or anti fracking, neither you or anyone else in this room has the luxury of ignoring our experience or our better judgment, the fracking issue requires more serious evaluation
- It is not enough to taut any party line
- It doesn't really matter if you are Republican or Democrat, either way, fracking is bad for Stokes County
- It is bad for we people who live here
- The damage from fracking and fracking fluid can't be contained

- It can't be localized, chemicals will relentlessly spread through our water supply inch by inch until they are everywhere
- There will not be an oil man anywhere in sight to clean it up
- It is like a swimming pool, you can't have a peeing section and a non peeing section
- When the fracking starts, we are all going to be trying to keep our heads above water
- I am not in Washington, DC making my case, I am not in Raleigh making my case
- The folks in Raleigh and Washington don't really care about well water
- I am here in Danbury talking to you, our local elected officials, because I know that you care about Stokes County and you are willing to do what is right for Stokes County
- To the extent that contaminated water can ever be cleaned up, you and all of us here are the only ones that will ever pay to clean up the mess that is left behind
- Do we really think the EPA or Raleigh will come to our rescue?
- We will be left holding the bag when the big money interests are safely back in Dallas and New York City
- When the big oil guys get home, they will laugh all the way to the bank, enjoying the spoils of the con job they pulled on the citizens of Stokes County
- Look around, the US is swimming in oil and gas
- On Friday, I saw gas for \$2.08 per gallon
- There will be no money left for cleanup
- The money will be gone
- We are the only ones who have our best interest in mind
- We must stop this catastrophe
- We, all of us, have to do the right thing
- Fracking is not about doing the patriotic thing
- It isn't about doing the right thing for America
- Fracking isn't about Stokes County doing its small part for America
- Let's cut through the fog
- Fracking is about big oil, big money, greed, toxic waste sites, contaminated well water and disintegrating property values
- Do we really think one moment that Stokes County has the resources to clean up a toxic waste site?
- Are we so naive as to believe that frackers will set aside money for cleanup?
- Stop fracking now and make these people clean up this incredible mess

Chairman Jones called time.

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

Ms. Banasik presented the following comments:

- Townfork Creek runs through our farm

- Rick has made it clear to you folks that it no longer matters whether you are a Democratic or a Republican, whether you are pro fracking or against fracking, the bottom line is that it does not make sense here
- You have heard the issues
- We have a high layer of shale, the highest population density of any potential frack site
- We have the highest density of wells per capita
- We have earthquake risks to Belews Creek which is a 4,000 acre lake and a 4 billion gallon coal ash dump
- The risk to land values will affect your budget as land values and property taxes go down
- You know all of this, here is what you don't know
- Rick and I travel a lot, we go a lot of places around this country and a lot of places around the world
- When we tell people we are from North Carolina, do you know what they say, they say "oh"
- It is bad enough that "60 Minutes" made our state government look like a bunch of idiots in their segment on the Dan River coal ash spill with Duke Power's complicity
- It is bad enough that North Carolina is known to have three of the ten most gerrymandering districts in the country
- It is bad enough that North Carolina is the Justice Department's poster child for voting restrictions holding back voter rights
- Our legislature has been named the "most backward legislature in America when it comes to education" by the "Washington Post"
- Our state courts have overturned our legislature three times just recently
- Where does this stop?
- Is that who we are?
- Is that how we want to be known to the world?
- I can tell you right now that is what people outside of North Carolina know about us
- There is one other thing that they know about us and this is important
- This is a beautiful place to live
- We live in a beautiful state; we live in a beautiful county
- Most people, not only in America, but around the world, know that about North Carolina
- We have an obligation to protect that, that is the one thing that we definitely have going for us
- I know you think that you don't have options and that the new fracking law is controlled only at the state legislature level, but as you have heard, Anson County and Chatham County have both made progress in this
- You are worried about getting phone calls from people like Jim Womack, Jeff Reid, and your party, the legislators; these are all folks who have an agenda of their own
- The bottom line is that all these other people who are going to call you if you take action on this are people who don't have a vested interest in Stokes County
- The bottom line is that you represent us; you work for us
- So you have an obligation to do the right thing
- You don't have to put this on Attorney Browder to write anything, you can contact Southern Environmental Law Center and get it done free
- You owe it to the folks in this room, to the people in this county, to go on the record whether you are going to do something or not

- Please go on the record
- Don't hide behind parliamentary procedure
- Please tell us where you stand or whether or not you are going to do anything
- I know it is difficult to sit and listen to all these 3 minutes segments, but it beats the daylight out of opening your door to "60 Minutes" someday

There became an issue with people standing in the doorway and too many people in the Chambers. Citizens began complaining about available seats.

The Board unanimously agreed to move the meeting to Courtroom "A".

Chairman Jones recessed the meeting to move the meeting to Courtroom "A" due to the overcrowding in the Chambers.

Chairman Jones called the recessed meeting back to order and continued with Public Comments.

Lillie Holdsclaw

1146 Justin Road

Westfield, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Holdsclaw presented the following comments:

- May I submit to you tonight a reasoning for a Stokes County moratorium on hydraulic fracturing - methane
- We all know that it is natural, but the EPA website, regarding their overview of greenhouse gases, states that methane like carbon dioxide is a problem when you have too much
- They list methane, as the second most prevalent greenhouse gas emitted in the US behind carbon dioxide as number one
- Methane is much better than carbon dioxide at trapping radiation from the sun and as such, its impact on climate change is 25 times greater than carbon dioxide pound per pound
- Air Quality Expert Touche Howard invented the Bacharch Hi Flow Sampler (BHFS) to measure methane emissions from fracking sites
- The BHFS is used at all fracking sites in the US
- In Howard's recent abstract to the National Center for Biotechnology, National Liberty of Medicine and National Institute of Health, he states: "When tested, the particular BHFS was used in a study by the University of Texas recently, underestimated methane leaks from the fracking site by factors of 3 to 5"
- After Howard's review, he determined BHFSs with a 2012 software update were not effected
- He also noted that the companies were calibrating the instruments differently
- Some did it on daily basis, some did it once a week, some did it once a month, and some did not care
- Howard stated that the instruments needed to be calibrated daily
- When Howard notified the EPA, the EPA told him they would not be able change any regulations now, not without further testing

- How long will that take?
- We need protection now
- We can't depend on the federal government
- We can't depend on the EPA or the Congress; the President in 2005 tied their hands and they can basically do nothing with hydraulic fracturing
- We can't depend on the state who deems fracking as wonderful and we should give up our land if we are in some type of pooling situation
- That we should give up our water to whomever or wherever
- We can't depend on the companies, we know that
- Read about it, read the internet
- Talk to people in Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Wyoming, or North Dakota
- We need a moratorium now
- We are the only ones that we can depend on

Dan Wolber
 PO Box 121
 Danbury, NC
 Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Wolber presented the following comments:

- It is urgent that Stokes County join with other North Carolina counties to implement both a moratorium and a local ordinance against fracking
- The North Carolina Energy Exploration Committee has made it clear that the Walnut Tree core samples, the only samples conducted in a residential area statewide, are favorable
- State Geologist Dr. Jeff Reid, who clearly lied to the Walnut Cove Town Council, intends to market Stokes County gas resources at nation and international events as early as this fall
- Urgent, is the key word
- In recent years, Stokes County education and commissioner boards have made efforts to serve and protect all communities and citizens, making quality of life and long term goals priority
- If potential fracking beds stretch further into this county, closer to our state park, the suburbs of King, or other communities, I can only think there would be many more voices joining the informed and concerned citizens speaking here tonight
- No doubt and if and when the reality of fracking trucks are present, hopefully more citizens will not be asking why did our elected leaders not act in time
- In other words, it is time to lead and not access what is politically popular or expedient in this state or county
- The communities of Pine Hall and Walnut Tree are victims of decades of neglect, not just in regards to perhaps the worst coal ash contamination in this state, but in regards to daily inability to pour drinkable water from their kitchen sinks while paying hundred dollar a month water bills and purchasing water from a store
- This has been the daily norm for numbers of families in this county for over 20 years
- I can't imagine any other area of our county being neglected in a manner that is nothing but shameful and immortal
- What is it then that makes the southeast corner of our county apparently low priority?

- Now is the time to make these communities high priority, turn things around, and serve our good neighbors with the same respect that we should afford to all citizens of Stokes County

Ted Kitzmiller

2124 Hope Beasley Road

Sandy Ridge, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Kitzmiller presented the following comments:

- First off, definitely need a moratorium on this to do some more research and examine the problems
- Fracking is unsafe anywhere, especially around here where the shale is so shallow, people's wells are much deeper
- Wells are in the range that was reported and will be extremely dangerous for anyone to get water out of the ground
- It is not going to be that much economic benefit and at what cost?
- There will be road destruction, all the peace and quiet that is here now is going to be gone
- The toxic liquids that are put in the ground cause water destruction
- The Dan River will be impacted if they withdraw the needed water from the river
- I really don't understand why anyone in their right mind could allow this to happen and not do everything possible to stop it before it gets started
- I was at the Horizon Spill in Florida working
- Have seen what happens when energy companies don't really control what they say they can control and how bad it can be
- Have been to Raleigh a couple of times for meetings and have seen how the state ignores the people in the audience, does what they want completely and totally ignores everyone else
- Would like to make a small suggestion, consider having these meetings over in the Courtroom until this gets resolved, might save you some trouble

Linda Hicks

1130 Rock Road

Madison, NC

Re: **Fracking Moratorium**

Ms. Hicks presented the following comments:

- You all know recent preliminary reports from the drill site in Walnut Tree indicated shale deposits are present at or above our drinking water levels, not thousands of feet down as some people claim
- We are in a very serious situation with shallow deposits which can pollute our water and the threat of a coal ash pond nearby
- The report confirmed that our drinking water is in jeopardy and confirms the urgency of getting a moratorium in place with prompt drafting of an ordinance specific to fracking, it might defer fracking in our county
- Chatham County did it, why can't we?

- You have the opportunity to collaborate with the Southern Environment Law Center with no costs to the taxpayer, that is good
- With all respect, I can't imagine the county attorney having expertise in these issues and it would also cost the taxpayer
- I would think that he gets a retainer plus time that is use
- It is obvious that the majority of Stokes County citizens oppose fracking
- I know that you all have seen signs all over Stokes County "No Fracking"
- Clean water, clean air, and good quality of life should be the birthright of every person, no one should be at the mercy of partisan politics, at the expense of the lives of everyone
- All Stokes lives matter
- It has been said by some that we will have to weigh the environment concerns versus the economy in Stokes County
- How can we compare polluted water/air/land, unsafe roads, loss of homes, destruction of roads, and the future of our children along with other adverse economic situations?
- How can we compare all that to a few dollars that might be added to the economy?
- Is it worth it?
- My thought for the day is "All that glitters is not gold"
- Some folks say that God created natural gas and we should use it
- Well, God created the "Garden of Eden" with all its beauty but he also created that "Tree of Knowledge" and he said "leave it alone"
- We all know the rest of that story, don't we?
- We were too tempted by the gold
- Please put a moratorium on fracking until we can get some ordinances in place
- You owe us that
- Have a few young people in the audience tonight and they are seeing how government works and represents the people

Susan Gonzalez

1001 N Main Street

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: Fracking – Moratorium

Ms. Gonzalez presented the following comments:

- Would first like to say that some of my comments may not be entirely accurate after speaking with a few of the commissioners while walking over here from the chambers; understand that you are doing something
- At the July Commissioners' meeting, one of the commissioners stated that they were so glad to see so many people in attendance and that this was the way government works
- I agree with that commissioner
- The problem is, if that is the case, why aren't the commissioners responding to their citizens' request?
- There is nothing on the Agenda, as others have stated, regarding a moratorium or ordinance to protect the citizens from fracking

- I am extremely concerned about my future here in this county because of this – my health, quality of life, and property values all await your response and preparation for such a destructive industry possibly coming to our backyard
- Have a few questions to pose to the Board of Commissioners that I am concerned about:
 - In regards to our Emergency Services, would like to know if our Stokes County Emergency Services is trained and equipped to handle fires and explosions at a fracking site or a truck wreck delivering 30 or 40 tons of toxic chemicals?
 - These trucks don't have to have posted hazmat signs which means that our men and women can come across a spill and not have the faintest idea of what they are dealing with
- I have heard rumors or knowledge that emergency services crews may have to drive to Smith Reynolds Airport to retrieve a hazmat phone and drive it back to Stokes County to apply
- I am wondering how long this would take and how many people would be left without emergency services during this transport period?
- Clearly, there is enough data from all the other states that have endured this industry to tell us that the exact same set of circumstances occur everywhere it goes
- We can't say we did not know because they are the same set of circumstances – poison water, health problems, heavy truck traffic, road repairs, and loss of property values which means tax increases and added costs to municipalities
- Stokes County is not special in this regard nor would be any different
- It appears that we have no one in Raleigh who cares about our best interests nor about the folks in this county
- Instead, they are bullying and misrepresenting facts to keep local communities, our community, from protecting ourselves
- I ask you tonight, what are the commissioners' plans to protect the citizens of Stokes County?
- We are counting on you

Jim Mitchell

1415 Bowen Road

Pinnacle, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Mitchell presented the following comments:

- Going to kind of go away from what has already been said, yes we do need the moratorium
- We are in the danger of being converted from a rural area to a fracking site
- First moved to King in 1977, worked in the Agriculture Department as a pesticide inspector
- Those commercial places that sold the chemicals did not like to see me come in
- When I first started, DDT, Chlordane, such chemicals that had been being used, were being taken off the market to help keep us safe and healthy
- Now, we have learned so much about different chemicals and oil/gas and what they can do to our systems, what they can do to our environment
- And what are we talking about doing?
- These chemicals have been on the market for years and years

- The last that I heard, if we go with fracking in this county, we have got about a five-year supply
- They will come in and tear up our roads, but we can raise our taxes to rebuild our roads
- They can tear up our lawns with their pipeline, we can re-grass that, grade it off, pay for it, but it can be fixed
- My main and only concern at this time – is water
- In my greenhouse nursery, water is essential, just like it is for us everyday
- Where is our water that we need to drink each day going to come from? Bottled water?
- You will be afraid to turn on the water faucet
- What are we coming to in this county?
- We need to keep this away from Stokes County
- Know we can put a moratorium on it, you can totally stop it if you want to
- For five years of income, it will tear up our county, totally eliminate what our children can step into
- Think about what this is going to do to our county, our children, etc.
- Please see what we can do

Patti Dunlap

3270 Dodgetown Road

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Ms. Dunlap presented the following comments:

- As President of the Stokes County Historical Society, I am going to back up fracking or no fracking with a little history
- In 1753, the Moravians on their way to establish their first North Carolina settlement of Bethabara followed an Indian trading path later to become the Great Wagon Road through present day Stokes County
- The Moravian Brothring kept meticulous travel diaries on their cold, November trip
- They wrote of kind settlers who were already established here in current day Stokes County
- These early settlers scattered from present day Dodgetown, Pine Hall, Walnut Cove, and Germanton, known as the TownFork Settlement, supplied food and shelter to the weary Moravians
- There are folks in this room today who are descendants of those earliest settlers
- Why did they stay?
- My husband's family journeyed down The Great Wagon Road in the 1760's
- They came as far as Stokes County, then part of Surry, and they stayed here
- Why did they stay?
- Fast forward – 255 years
- Both of our sons came back to Stokes County after college
- They are now third generation business owners in Walnut Cove
- Why did they come back?
- The answer to these questions is simple
- We were and we are a tough and resilient people in this county
- We love Stokes County

- We love her clean rivers and her clean streams, her Saura Mountains, her fertile soil, her abundant wildlife, and her rich history
- This is from the past to the present
- Hopefully it will stay that way
- I say all this to call on you, as our representatives, to protect all that we have here
- Protect the reason our forefathers settled and stayed here
- Chatham County, as you have heard and know about, passed a two-year moratorium recently against fracking
- You, our commissioners, our representatives, you represent this great County of Stokes, you can do it too
- Please don't wait any longer

Gareath Meadows

2504 Mt View Church Rod

King, NC

Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Meadows presented the following comments:

- This is a tough act to follow
- I feel like a T Model Ford following a Mack Truck
- Thank you for this opportunity
- This is not just an opportunity for me, this is an opportunity for you
- An opportunity is when you seize the moment
- What better time could you be a supporter, an ambassador for Stokes County?
- I made the statement a while back and some thought it was a little comical
- I said something to this effect "I had rather be in Stokes County carrying a hubcap off of a T Model than riding through Mecklenburg County in a hundred thousand dollar Mercedes"
- That is how I feel about Stokes County
- There is a time for decisions
- Some decisions are not easy
- You folks as commissioners, are very equipped with making those decisions
- You have freedom, right now mentally, you have freedom to make a decision about Stokes County, but after you make that decision, you don't have the freedom, you have responsibility to do the kinds of things for Stokes County and the folks here
- If were sending out ambassadors to emphasize the attributes of Stokes County, what would you select?
- Would you select, as you have often heard, preservation, protection, and prosper?
- Yes, we want all of those
- We can have those and to a great extent, we do have those in Stokes County
- We can attest to that from the other night's meeting, couldn't we, Mr. Attorney?
- There is much more for you to do
- Ordinances, you can do those things
- You have the expertise, the knowledge, I hope you have the motivation to take the initiative
- You can do something with help and there are various institutional mechanisms that will aid and assist

Chairman Jones called time.

Carlton Alley
1375 Miller Road
Walnut Cove, NC
Re: **Fracking**

Mr. Alley presented the following comments:

- I am not here to offend anyone
- I know that the Lord created us land for us to have food to eat
- He created water for us to have water to drink
- I feel like if we go against that, we are going against the Bible because he fixed things for us
- I want to throw something at you that you will not forget and I want you to pretend
- Let say that you were watching television and they said that we were going to have a tornado , a hurricane, and an earthquake and you had someone that you could call to stop it
- We know we don't have that, just pretend
- We called them and go to bed and during the night our house is torn up, would we get upset with the people that we called that had said they could stop this and they did not?
- Absolutely, it would be a threat and a discouragement because it could mess up our family and our lives
- We have to try
- We have to be creative, real creative
- I know that Christ in God was real creative to do things the way they should be done
- I know that we know the Bible
- Appreciate the Board of Commissioners and hope you make the right decisions, pray about it
- When you go to bed at night, pretend that you are going to have a tornado, a hurricane, and that you can call someone that will stop it

Chairman Jones presented the following comments:

- Want everyone to realize that we hear every one of you
- We listen to every one of you
- Most of you don't realize that we are doing what we can behind the scenes and doing our due diligence
- We are not ignoring you
- The wheels of government do not grind as quickly as we all want them to, including us sometimes
- I know there is a great distrust with all government levels including your local
- Let me remind you that this all Republican Board, several years ago, was the first in the state to adopt a resolution against fracking
- This is the same board
- We live here, too
- We have the same concerns

- We all have children and we all have grandchildren
- We are doing the best we can
- Welcome you back if you feel the need to come
- We will listen
- If you go back into the archives of the newspaper, even during the primary, most of us addressed fracking in a way that should alleviate your fears
- We get it
- We hear you
- We are doing things as fast as we can
- Have a little faith in us, that is all I am asking

Chairman Jones recessed the meeting to allow citizens to exit the meeting.

Chairman Jones called the recessed meeting back to order.

The Board discussed moving the meeting back to the Commissioners' Chambers.

The Board unanimously agreed to move the meeting back to the Commissioners Chambers.

Chairman Jones recessed the meeting in order to move back to the Commissioners Chambers.

Chairman Jones called the recessed meeting back to order.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of August 10, 2015 – Regular Meeting

Tax Administration Report – July 2015

Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (July 2015) at the August 10th meeting for the Board's review and consideration at the August 24th meeting:

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

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Weeta Alexander	300145	\$304.59	RMVD ELD Accidentally
Annie Laura H, Nelson	309374	<u>\$245.28</u>	RMVD ELD Accidentally
Total		\$549.87	

Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (July 2015) at the August 10th meeting for the Board's review and consideration at the August 24th meeting:

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

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Gregg Boyles	16507452	\$124.09	Out of state
Johnny Davis	16505768	\$103.54	Sold
Lloyd Hicks	23935625	\$351.73	Out of State
Lloyd Hicks	27138340	\$341.12	Out of state
Dennis Robinson	24378932	<u>\$184.50</u>	Sold
Total		\$1,104.98	

Emergency Management - Budget Amendment #16

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #16.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	Emergency Management			
100.4330.511	Equipment – Non Capitalized	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$1,829.00</u>	<u>\$1,829.00</u>
	Totals	\$00.00	\$1,829.00	\$1,829.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate Emergency Management Grant to purchase a Tryster Tuff Electric Box.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$1,829.00** 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
General Fund				
100.3301.262	Emergency Management	<u>\$33,713.00</u>	<u>\$1,829.00</u>	<u>\$35,542.00</u>
	Totals	\$33,713.00	\$1,829.00	\$35,542.00
Capital Reserve Fund				
201.3981.000	Transfer from General Fund	<u>\$100,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,603.00</u>	<u>\$102,603.00</u>
	Totals	\$1,00,000.00	\$2,603.00	\$102,603.00

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

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

- No significant changes
- Director Elmes reported things are in pretty good shape with the new additional staff, approved in the FY 2015-16 Budget, that reported to work today

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Taking Ownership of Bank Street, Danbury NC

County Manager Rick Morris presented a proposed Instrument of Combination and Private Street Declaration for Bank Street in the Town of Danbury which was prepared by County Attorney Tyrone Browder for the Board's review and consideration.

County Manager Morris commented:

- Proposed document will allow ownership to be the County of Stokes as agreed with the Town of Danbury
- If there are no issues with the proposed document, will send the proposed document to the Town of Danbury for their review/comments
- Request the item be placed on the September 14th Action Agenda

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no concerns with the proposed document.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on September 14th Action Agenda.

Convey the Francisco Elementary School Property to the Board of Commissioners

County Manager Rick Morris read the following letter from School Attorney Frederick Johnson to County Attorney Tyrone Browder regarding conveying the Francisco School Property to the Board of County Commissioners:

J. Tyrone Browder, Esq.

Dear Mr. Browder

As counsel to the Stokes County Board of Education, I am writing to present to you, as counsel to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners, the opportunity for the Board of Commissioners to acquire from the Board of Education, pursuant to N.C. General Statute 115C-518, the Francisco Elementary School property. As you are aware, the Board of Education, has determined that this property is no longer suitable or necessary for public school purposes; therefore, the Board of Commissioners has the first opportunity to acquire this property from the Board of Education.

The Board of Education offers to convey the Francisco Elementary School property to the Board of Commissioners without monetary consideration. This property is identified by the Stokes County Tax Office as Parcel Identification Number 6000-01-16-9974.

I respectfully request on behalf of the Board of Education that you present this matter to the Board of Commissioners to determine whether or not it desires to exercise its statutory authority to acquire ownership of the Francisco Elementary School property. I shall gladly furnish any additional information you deem necessary in order for the Board of Commissioners to take action upon this request.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Feel like, by statute, should have the first opportunity
- Personally need some time to do due diligence regarding the property
- Need to determine if it could be used for something that would benefit Stokes County people
- May have some interest for different parts of the facility
- Would recommend tabling the item until due diligence is completed by the Board of Commissioners

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Have no problem with the basic concept offered by Commissioner Lankford
- Wondering if tabling the issue for an indefinite time could create a time factor for anything?
- Any need or advantage of getting this done within a certain time period?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Feel it needs to be done as quickly as possible
- Need to know all the details of the property
- Need to know the potential uses
- Feel this Board needs to take some time to decide if this Board desires to take the property

Vice Chairman Walker questioned Commissioner Lankford what kind of information, in particular, do you feel you need to make this decision?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- The school facility could be beneficial for many different things for that community
- Can't name any specifics at this time
- Facility has several classrooms, cafeteria, gym, etc.
- I am sure there are things it could be used for, just don't have the answers right now
- That is why time is needed to research and investigate

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Francisco School has long been the "hub" of the Francisco community for 60+ years
- Know the Board of Education and school administration has tried everything possible to keep the school open
- Would like to compliment the Board of Education for trying to keep the facility open as a public school, just came a time it was not feasible to keep the school open
- Know that every option has been considered
- Have discussed some things with Board of Education Member Bill Hart
 - Mental health access is an issue in rural areas (Mental Health Taskforce discovered this goes throughout North Carolina)
 - Could CenterPoint possibly use some of that facility?
 - Health clinic – Pioneer Hospital?
 - Possibly using the facility for Forsyth Tech classes
 - Possibly use the facility for a public/private partnership
- Facility should have the opportunity to remain the "hub" if at all possible for the community
- There are many things to look at

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Agree with fellow commissioners that there is a lot of potential to consider and it is going to take some time to see what can and cannot be done

- It is a part of the community

Chairman Jones commented:

- Agree with what has been said by fellow commissioners
- Hope there can be something feasible the facility can be used for
- But being a realist, I am concerned about the fiscal impact there could possibly be if the County chooses to take the facility
- Have to really look at this in an unemotional tone which is really hard to do
- Will look into this very serious

Vice Chairman Walker questioned what this Board is going to do regarding this Agenda item?

Chairman Jones responded:

- The Board needs to do some brainstorming, possibly tabling the item

The Board discussed the amount of time needed to do the due diligence.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I am not in favor of tabling the item indefinitely
- Not sure that brings the degree of attention that this item needs
- Possibly a month

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Did not mean tabling the item indefinitely
- Did not see putting it back on the next Agenda
- Feel the Chair can put the item back on the Agenda once each commissioner is done with their due diligence

Commissioner Lankford moved to table the item for at least one month to gather information that is needed for this Board to make an informed decision on what is best for the County and the community. Vice Chairman Walker seconded the motion.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- If there any advantage for the manager and the superintendent to discuss the item or possibly the two chairs

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Feel the manager and this Board should do their homework

County Manager Morris noted that he would be glad to discuss the item with Superintendent Mendenhall.

Vice Chairman Walker suggested questions from the Board be sent to the manager and if there are no issues, all questions and answers be sent back to the entire Board.

Vice Chairman Walker noted that this could save commissioners time if their question had already been answered by the manager.

The Board had no issues directing the manager to return all answers to commissioner questions to the entire Board.

Commissioner Lankford noted that it would be left up to the Chair to place the item back on the Agenda, when all commissioners are done with their due diligence.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the September 28th Discussion Agenda if Board members are done with their due diligence.

Social Services – External Posting

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

- Current Social Worker II position in Foster Care (licensing department) closes on August 18th at 5:00 pm
- Would request to post external if no qualified applicant applies
- Would be able to advertise on August 25th instead of having to wait until September 14th for approval
- Very critical position
- Would request the item be moved to tonight's Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

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

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

Appointments – Town of Walnut Cove Planning/Board of Adjustments – ETJ Alternate

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following regarding an appointment to the Town of Walnut Cove Planning/Board of Adjustments – ETJ Alternation position:

- Received notification from the Town of Walnut Cove that Carolyn Kiger has resigned from the Town of Walnut Cove Planning/Board of Adjustment – ETJ position
- Will be advertised in the Stokes News and place on the county website

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. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the September 14th Action Agenda.

Appointments – Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding appointments to the Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee:

- Committee currently has two vacancies
 - General Public with an interest or background in Social Services
 - Licensed dentist or someone who works in the dentistry field
- Will be advertised in the Stokes News and place on the county website
- The Committee recommended Dwayne Young of Lawsonville to serve in the General Public position
- Interim Health Director Wanda East recommends Gaye Woods, who is a dental assistant, to serve in the Dentistry position

Chairman Jones opened the floor nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated the following:

- Gaye Woods – Dentistry position
- Dwayne Young – General Public

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Booth 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 the September 14th Action Agenda.

Stokes County Aging Planning Committee – Amendments to Bylaws and HCCBG Allocation Policy and Appointments to the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information received from Senior Services Director Vicky East:

- Aging Planning Committee met on August 19th
- Erma Perkins was elected as the new Chairman
- The Committee discussed the number of members as requested by the Board of Commissioners
- Chairman Perkins noted that the Committee is currently considering some additional amendments to the Bylaws and would like some additional time to discuss the recommendation by the Board of a membership of no more than nine
- Committee requested the item be put back on the Agenda once the Committee has had time to discuss the issue and/or other changes

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues returning the item to the Discussion Agenda once the Committee has had time to discuss the issues.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item back on the Discussion Agenda once the Committee had finished discussion.

Proposed Resolution – Petitioning the Widening of NC Highway #8

Chairman Jones turned the meeting over to Commissioner Lankford who had requested the addition to tonight's Agenda.

Commissioner Lankford presented the following proposed Resolution for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLUTION BY THE STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PETITIONING THE WIDENING OF NC HIGHWAY #8**

WHEREAS, the **Board of Commissioners** of the **County of Stokes** has been made aware of the urgent need for the widening of NC Highway #8 from Piney Grove Church Road SR#1496 to the Virginia State Line by the residents of the area; and

WHEREAS, NC Highway #8 is heavily traveled which creates a constant maintenance problem for NCDOT as well as a public safety issue; and

WHEREAS, NC Highway #8 is heavily traveled daily with an excess of 100 tractor trailers and tandem axle trucks for delivery and pickup to local businesses; and

WHEREAS, This section of NC Highway #8 is only 20 ft. wide where normally highways carrying this volume and type of traffic are 24 ft. wide; and

WHEREAS, The NC Highway #8 traffic of tractor trailers is expected to increase dramatically with the expansion of a local business; and

WHEREAS, NC Highway #8 is included in the Stokes County School System's Transportation Route and has heavy bus travel to an elementary school, a middle school and a high school; and

WHEREAS, Tractor trailers, fire trucks, and logging trucks have been involved in numerous accidents along this stretch of highway over the past few years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Stokes County Board of Commissioners** petitions the North Carolina Department of Transportation:

1. To extend widening of six (6) inches on each of side of NC Highway #8 from Piney Grove Church Road SR#1496 to the Virginia State Line as current resurfacing is being done
2. To place the expansion of NC Highway #8 to 12 ft. lanes from Piney Grove Church Road SR#1496 to Virginia State Line on the North Carolina Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with adequate funding
3. To place the expansion of NC Highway #8 to 12 ft. lanes from Meadows to Piney Grove Church Road #1496 on the North Carolina Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with adequate funding

Adopted this the 24th day of August, 2015.

Ronda Jones - Chairman

Jimmy Walker - Vice Chairman

J. Leon Inman - Commissioner

Ernest Lankford - Commissioner

James D. Booth - Commissioner

Attest:

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Have been working on getting a safety issue on Highway #8 completed – widening of the highway
- Two of the largest businesses in northern part of the county (logging and feed) have trucks on the highway daily
- Former Board of Commissioners adopted a Resolution regarding the widening of Highway #8 in February 2007
- Have been working on this with the NC Department of Transportation - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and putting it on the state Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) each year
- Met with state representatives and NCDOT representatives last week to discuss the urgency and safety factors regarding the widening Highway #8
- It gets taken off the TIP each year due to the lack of funding
- Current resurfacing of Highway #8 has been stopped to look into the widening of Highway #8 during the resurfacing
- Briefly discussed what the proposed resolution petitions:
 - To extend widening of six (6) inches on each of side of NC Highway #8 from Piney Grove Church Road SR#1496 to the Virginia State Line as current resurfacing is being done
 - To place the expansion of NC Highway #8 to 12 ft. lanes from Piney Grove Church Road SR#1496 to Virginia State Line on the North Carolina Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with adequate funding
 - To place the expansion of NC Highway #8 to 12 ft. lanes from Meadows to Piney Grove Church Road #1496 on the North Carolina Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with adequate funding
- Feel the first item (widening of six (6) inches on each side) will be done during this current resurfacing
- Several years ago, Highway #8 got 12 ft. lanes from Winston Salem to Meadows
- Nothing has been done since then
- Several buses travel this section of Highway to Lawsonville Elementary School, Piney Grove Middle School and North Stokes High School
- This is an urgent need

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Appreciate the information provided by Commissioner Lankford
- This is something that has been worked on for a long time – 2007
- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that funding is why the item is deleted or moved down on the TIP each year
- This is very important to this part of the County

Commissioner Inman commented:

- When you have the Legislature that has robbed the State Highway Trust Fund of all its money, you see the results – no funding available
- Stokes County is in with Winston Salem/Forsyth County who is fighting for the Northern Beltway and all those other big projects over the years
- Have a great opportunity to possibly get something done
- Recommend this proposed Resolution be moved to tonight's Action Agenda

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Agree this is the time to move on this issue

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Commissioner Inman and Commissioner Lankford, who both serve on transportation boards, that the proposed resolution contains what is needed for Highway #8.

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Proposed Bids – Petree Project – Pine Hall Medical/Community Center

County Manager Rick Morris noted the additional information regarding the proposed bids that were submitted to the Board at the August 10th meeting:

- Support Supervisor Danny Stovall, Architect Perry Peterson, and myself visited Mr. Petree last week and provided him with all the information/funding regarding the project
- Mr. Petree was very pleased with the progress thus far
- Mr. Petree is open to discussion if any financial issues come up during the construction of the facility
- Mr. Petree is ready for the County to start thinking about another project for the area if additional funding becomes available
- Plan to have an information meeting in Pine Hall in October to discuss what is needed in the area if additional funding becomes available

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the Agenda item.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion.

Commissioner Lankford moved to award the contract for the construction of the Pine Hall Medical/Community Center to RP Murray Construction, low bidder, with a base bid of \$1,220,800.00. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that awarding RP Murray Construction the bid is his recommendation.

Chairman Jones requested Ms. Mary Kerley, liaison to Ms. Petree, to extend the Board's deepest appreciation for his generous donation.

The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Changes to Ordinance Governing the Franchising of Ambulance Services in Stokes County

Chairman Jones noted that County Manager Morris had some additional information about the proposed changes to the ordinance.

County Manager Morris noted:

- County Attorney Ty Browder has recently found out that the County is required to hold a Public Hearing before the changes can be approved
- Request the Board schedule a Public Hearing for the September 14th meeting
- Also request the Board place the item back on the September 14th Action Agenda

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with scheduling the Public Hearing for September 14th and placing the item back on the September 14th Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the September 14th Action Agenda and schedule a Public Hearing for that meeting.

Proposed Resolution – Adoption of the Northern Piedmont Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Multi-Jurisdictional)

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to adopt the following proposed Resolution -
“Adoption of the Northern Piedmont Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Multi-Jurisdictional)”
which was presented at the August 10th meeting:

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE
NORTHERN PIEDMONT REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, Stokes County is vulnerable to an array of natural hazards that can cause loss of life and damages to public and private property; and

WHEREAS, the Stokes County desires to seek ways to mitigate situations that may aggravate such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the development and implementation of a hazard mitigation plan can result in actions that reduce the long-term risk to life and property from natural hazards; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of County Commissioners to protect its citizens and property from the effects of natural hazards by preparing and maintaining a local hazard mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, it is also the intent of the Board of County Commissioners to fulfill its obligation under North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 166A: North Carolina Emergency Management Act and Section 322: Mitigation Planning, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to remain eligible to receive state and federal assistance in the event of a declared disaster affecting Stokes County; and

WHEREAS, Stokes County, in coordination with Caswell County, Davie County, Forsyth County, Rockingham County, Surry County, Yadkin County and the participating municipalities within those counties, has prepared a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan with input from the appropriate local and state officials;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency have reviewed the Northern Piedmont Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for legislative compliance and has approved the plan pending the completion of local adoption procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Stokes County hereby:

1. Adopts the Northern Piedmont Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and
2. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the proposed actions of the Plan.

Adopted on the 24th day of August 2015.

Chairman Ronda Jones

Vice Chairman Jimmy Walker

Commissioner J. Leon Inman

Commissioner Ernest Lankford
Attest:

August 24, 2015

Commissioner James D. Booth

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

Commissioner Inman moved to adopt the Resolution – “Adoption of the Northern Piedmont Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Multi-Jurisdictional)”. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Home/Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Agreement for the Provision of County-based Aging Services (Piedmont Triad Regional Council – Area Agency on Aging)

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the Proposed Home/Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Agreement for the Provision of County-based Aging Services (Piedmont Triad Regional Council – Area Agency on Aging) which was presented at the August 10th meeting.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Proposed Home/Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Agreement for the Provision of County-based Aging Services (Piedmont Triad Regional Council – Area Agency on Aging). Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Appointment – Stokes County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)

Chairman Jones noted the one vacancy for the JCPC – faith community.

Chairman Jones noted that the County had received an application from Beth Stultz-Hairston.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated Pastor Randy Cook.

Commissioner Lankford noted the following:

- Pastor Cook is very interested in working with the JCPC
- Hopes to be able to pass along information to Stokes County youth

Commissioner Inman nominated Beth Stultz-Hairston.

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 Booth: Pastor Randy Cook
Vice Chairman Walker: Beth Stultz-Hairston
Chairman Jones: Beth Stultz-Hairston
Commissioner Inman: Beth Stultz-Hairston
Commissioner Lankford: Pastor Randy Cook

Chairman Jones noted that Beth Stultz-Hairston had been appointed to serve on the JCPC in the “faith community” appointment.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Appreciate Pastor Cook’s interest for the appointment
- Would like to consider Pastor Cook if another vacancy becomes open

Social Services – External Posting

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the external posting for DSS – Social Worker II position.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to approve the external posting for DSS – Social Worker II. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Resolution – Petitioning the Widening of NC Highway #8

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the proposed Resolution - Petitioning Widening of NC Highway #8 which was presented at tonight’s meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Proposed Resolution – Petitioning Widening of NC Highway #8. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

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

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to 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 Inman moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to 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).

Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reentered the opened session of the August 24th meeting.

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 Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Ronda Jones
Chairman