

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
OCTOBER 12, 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, October 12, 2015 at 1:30 pm with the following members present:

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

Absent:  
Commissioner Ernest Lankford

County Personnel in Attendance:  
County Manager Richard D. Morris  
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins  
County Attorney Tyrone Browder  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
DSS Director Stacey Elmes  
Cooperative Extension Director Debbie Cox  
Interim Economic Development/Planning Director David Sudderth  
Interim Health Director Wanda East  
Sheriff Mike Marshall  
Jail Captain Eric Cone  
Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall  
Tax Administrator Jake Oakley

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

Chairman Jones noted that Commissioner Ernest Lankford would not be present for today's meeting.

Commissioner Booth 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 October 12, 2015 Agenda.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the October 12<sup>th</sup> Agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Lankford absent.

## **COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners**

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Neighbors Helping Neighbors – Bottled Water Donations
  - Stokes County has teamed up with Rockingham and Caswell Counties to collect bottled water to send to those in need in South Carolina
  - Donations of water can be dropped off at each Fire Department in the county and at the Fire Marshal's Office here at the Government Center until next Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – 12:00 noon
  - Water will be sent to South Carolina on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>
- Fire Marshal Brian Booe
  - Received a letter from Robbie Griffith, Shoals Baptist Church, which reads: To Mr. Brian Booe: Thank you again for helping our church obtain an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). You were very helpful in several conversations deciding which brand to choose and then in obtaining the unit at a reasonable cost. And most importantly, we are very grateful for your generous offer to conduct a CPR class for the 18 or so members that attended on Wednesday evening, September 30<sup>th</sup>. I continue to receive outstanding comments from those that attended regarding your knowledge and professionalism. Everyone said that you gave great information in a way they could all understand. Your dedication to this type of training is evident and much appreciated. We think you are a great asset to Stokes County.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- See you accomplished a lot at the last meeting that I was absent, was on board with almost all of it

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Good to see everyone here today and hope you all feel welcome
- Regardless of the specific reason you are here today, this is a very important part of the governmental process for our area and community, particularly for our county
- Appreciate everyone taking the time to be here
- Had a chance to exchange some ideas with Mr. Hewett prior to the meeting, (how we both viewed some things) it is nice we can have conversations to get a little better understanding of where people are on some issues and how they see things
- I think we were in the local paper to my surprise recently; I think it mentioned about reviewing options regarding certain issues
  - I tend to see that more as still just gathering information and trying to get a better understanding of the situation that we are dealing with, all aspects of it
- I would like to review our boards and commissions at some point to see how they are functioning and staffed; have an update from them to see where they are; to see if they are reporting to the board in a timely and appropriate manner, and to see how that part of our process is working

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Great to see everyone out this afternoon
- We were able to convene a NC Association of County Commissioners Board of Directors meeting in Wilmington during the weekend that we had all the rain
  - New President Glen Webb has asked me to chair the new Health and Human Services Steering Committee which will continue a focus on mental health; first meeting will be this week
  - Have a resolution on the Discussion Agenda today regarding CenterPoint Human Services (mental health) that I will speak more to at that time

Chairman Jones commented:

- Very busy the next couple of weeks with meetings
- Hope everyone is enjoying the fall colors
- Hiked at Hanging Rock State Park yesterday and noticed that we were flooded with tourists some who were Japanese, should have asked them where they were from
- This Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, Robin Bullock will be in Concert, Danbury Community Church with all profits going to the local food banks

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Chairman Jones noted that each speaker had a three-minute time limit for speaking.

**Steven Hewett**  
141 Willowbend Drive  
King, NC  
Re: **Prayer**

Mr. Hewett presented the following comments:

- Was rather disappointed in hearing that you had a meeting the other day about prayer and that it was a secret meeting that you had with people who don't even live in this county
- You invited Rev. Baity from Winston Salem (Berean Baptist Church) to come up here and be part of your secret meeting that he has no business being in
- He is not a taxpayer in this county
- He does not have anything to do in this county other than to come in here and spread his hate at this podium
- He made a comment at his church service that I attended a commissioners' meeting here and cursed people while they were speaking
- I don't believe I ever did that because if I did, you would have had me removed
- That is the kind of person that you are dealing with
- The other person, Attorney David Gibbs, who spoke at the rally in King several years ago and asked people to encourage me to leave town because I believe differently than they do
- So those are the kind of people that you are in bed with
- I would like to know why you are having secret meetings?
- Why can't they be open?
- It is interesting that he is an attorney, so that you would put it under attorney-client privilege so that you could redact these statements
- But what bothers me more is that you don't make this an inclusive county council
- You like to exclude people like myself who happens to be an Atheist who has different beliefs than yours
- I am going to quote from a Freedom from Religion Foundation letter: "pray government meetings are unnecessary, inappropriate and divisive. The best solution is to discontinue invocations altogether. Council members are free to pray privately or to worship on their own time in their own way. They do not need to worship on taxpayers' time. The council ought to not lead its power and prestige to religion by inviting religious leaders to give prayers."
- Mr. Booth, here, likes to give Jesus Christ, talk about the Bible and his religion all the time in his council meeting; it is no place for it
- I would just ask when you are making the decisions for invocations that you include everybody, but apparently, like Rev. Baity and David Gibbs like to do, they wish to exclude people
- They exclude people all the time
- In closing, if the council insist on continuing to host prayers at public meetings, they must not discriminate against any person wishing to give a prayer
- Members of minority religions and even nonreligious, must be permitted to deliver invocations
- Remember that, I fought in Afghanistan for freedom of religion
- I fought for everybody's freedom
- I am not a second-class citizen
- I am a first-class citizen just like everyone else
- Understand that, we are inclusive, not exclusive
- Remember that, I pay taxes here

- These people you invite here, don't

**E.A. "Buddy" Timm**

PO Box 573

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: **"Our Duty"**

Mr. Timm read and presented the Board of Commissioners the following:

"What is our duty to society?

Our duty is, as George Washington said in his *Farewell Address*: "...Towards the preservation of your Government and permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite, not only that you steadily discountenance irregular oppositions to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles; however, specious the pretext. One method of assault may be to effect, in the forms of the Constitution, alterations which will impair the energy of the system, and thus to undermine what cannot be directly overthrown..."

Right now, we have President Obama and former Secretary of State, Presidential Candidate Hilary Clinton promoting Federal gun control. They are both well acquainted with the Constitution and should know very well that the Second Amendment to our *Bill of Rights* is not a power delegated to the Federal Government. The Second Amendment belongs to the States and the people; where the Sheriff can do background checks and the people know you best. Even in the Fourteenth Amendment's Incorporation Theory is applied, it cannot change the original intent and original words, including – "shall not be infringed:" unless, it is expressly changed, and can be clearly read in an Amendment. Opinions lead to tyranny.

Are they not familiar with Adolf Hitler's steps to power? He promoted national health care. Next, he promoted national gun control through gun registration, to fight crime. Once the authority is given, or attained, over your Natural Rights, you are at the mercy of the government; which made gun confiscation possible.

Professor Robert Dabney, Stonewall Jackson's right hand man in the Civil War wrote: "But the South should have been impelled by the same facts to defend its institutions before the public opinion of the civilized world; for opinion is always omnipotent in the end, whatever prejudices and physical powers may oppose it. If its current is allowed to flow unchecked, its silent waters gradually undermine the sternest obstacles."

We cannot stay silent. We must discountenance the specious claims for Federal gun control. We must affect the public opinion to keep our Natural, Second Amendment Rights protected and governed by our State. We must encourage our Governor to speak up for our individual Natural and State Rights; despite the passions of the President and press; whose character was revealed by the misinformation and lies about Benghazi.

The Father of the Constitution – James Madison, wrote: "...every word of (the Constitution) decides a question between power and liberty."

Choose Liberty! Silence cannot defend it!

**Stephen James**  
102 Kellystone Drive  
King, NC  
Re: **Steven Hewett**

Mr. James presented the following comments:

- Would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak during Public Comments
- This is the first time I have been here since Commissioner Jones was elected as the Chairman, glad to see that happen
- I came here today because I am just fed up with Steven Hewett and his nonsense
- As he has just stated that he is an Atheist, Atheists don't believe in any deity so there is no prayer issue for him
- So you guys can drop that from your agenda now
- He is a spoiled brat, jack\_\_\_ that has done everything he can to cause trouble in this County and in the City of King
- The clause in the First Amendment about establishment of religion has nothing to do with a flag, a statue, a sign, or a prayer
- Establishment Clause was brought about due to the Church of England having so much influence over the people of England and when the settlers came here they did not want the same type of thing in the United States
- He has just stated to you that he is an Atheist
- He stated that to the Winston Salem Journal in 2010 when he started the issue with the flag, also to the American Civil Liberties Union and to the Americans United for Separation of Church and State
- There is no such thing as separation of church and state
- There is nothing in the Constitution or the Bill of Rights that says somebody does not have the right to be offended
- That is what this all started over because he was offended about our flag
- Now he is offended by your prayer
- There is nothing that says that he has the right not to be offended
- I think you can move on with this issue with his very statement of being an Atheist

Chairman Jones expressed the Board's appreciation to those who spoke in Public Comments.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of September 28, 2015 - Regular Meeting

### **Health Department - Budget Amendment #24**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #24.

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>Environmental Health</b>				
100.5192.260	Department Supplies	<u>\$8,000.00</u>	<u>\$993.00</u>	<u>\$8,993.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$993.00</b>	<b>\$8,993.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The Food & Lodging Program is receiving additional funding of \$993 for completing a new summer foods inspections program. It has not been determined that this program will be available annually. At this time, these funds are deemed to be offered once this fiscal year. These funds will be used to purchase necessary departmental supplies for water testing and soil evaluations.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$993.00** 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
100.3301.234	Food and Lodging	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$993.00</u>	<u>\$993.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$993.00</b>	<b>\$993.00</b>

### **District Resource Center - Budget Amendment #19**

Budget Amendment #19 was discussed at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting and directed to be placed on the October 12<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda for consideration of approval.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
<b>District Resource Center</b>				
100.4321.511	Equipment- Non Capitalized	<u>\$2,800.00</u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$4,300.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,800.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$4,300.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate District Resource Fees for the purchase of an eight channel DVR security system for the District Resource Center building. No county funding is required. These funds are from District Resource fees for drug screenings for other agencies.

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>
100.3433.410	District Resource Center Fees	<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>

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

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

### **Economic Development Assessment Planning Committee – Update**

County Manager Rick Morris noted that Interim Economic Development/Planning Director David Sudderth, who is currently serving as Chairman of the Economic Development Assessment Planning Committee (EDAPC), will be presenting an Economic Development Assessment Planning Committee update so that the Board will know what the committee has done so far and to answer any questions the Board may have at this point in the process which will be completed sometime in the near future with a final recommendation presented.

County Manager Morris also noted that a final recommendation will be presented for the Board's consideration in time for any budgetary actions needed for the Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget.

EDAPC Chairman David Sudderth presented the following update:

- **Purpose of the EDAPC**
  - The purpose of the EDAPC, at the direction of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), is to assess the economic development function and make recommendations on how to proceed with economic development in



Stokes County following the one-year period where an Interim Economic Development Director was appointed

- The authority to conduct this assessment was spelled out in a motion made by the BOCC on March 9, 2015
- **Motion**
  - I move to approve a one-year temporary reclassification, effective March 10, 2015, per county policy, for David Sudderth's current position to add duties as Interim Economic Development Director with a salary of (Grade 82 – Step 22A) with Mr. Sudderth being directly supported in his economic development duties by the County Manager, at no change in pay, during this one-year period.
  - During the one-year period of this reclassification, the Board of County Commissioners, with the assistance of County staff will:
    - Reassess the Economic Development mission and process that is currently in place;
    - Review the ED Director's job description / duties;
    - Review the EDC Board's bylaws and mission statement, plus;
    - Review and analyze all other aspects of the economic development function in the County to include the development of metrics, which would be used to measure the success of the Economic Development Department's function.
  - After the one-year temporary reclassification period, the BOCC, if ready to do so, would have the option of moving forward with the normal hiring process for a permanent Economic Development Director or evaluate other options depending on the circumstances at the time.
- **EDAPC Board Members (Appointed by the Board of Commissioners)**
  - BOCC Chairman Ronda Jones
  - BOCC Vice Chairman Jimmy Walker
  - Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth
  - Economic Development Commission Chairman Jane Priddy-Charleville
  - Economic Development Commission Vice Chairman Worth Hampton
  - Arts Council Director Eddy McGee
  - County Manager Rick Morris
- **Progress to Date**
  - The EDAPC has met bi-monthly since the inception and has worked on specific areas which are listed below:
    - Mission Statement for Economic Development
      - "To use Stokes County's assets and strengths to make economic progress through strong support of business in the county"
    - Definition of Economic Development for Stokes County
      - The definition is the advancement of Tourism, Agriculture, Business Recruitment/Retention/Expansion, Entrepreneurship, and Education; these items represent the base definition of economic development for Stokes County
    - Proposed Organization Structure

- The proposed organizational structure is depicted on the next chart

○ **Proposed Organization Chart – Economic Development Department**

- Arts Council Director/Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Director/Administrative Assistant, and Planning & Zoning Director/Staff will report to the County Manager who then reports to the Board of County Commissioners
- Recommendation is to approve this organizational structure and to fill the vacant Economic Development Director and Economic Development Administrative Assistant positions in the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Stokes County Budget
- Administrative Assistant in Economic Development (ED) will work on tourism, marketing and information technology (website/social media/communications for all county departments) along with economic development administrative tasks
  - The proposed of the ED Administrative Assistant is far more than just someone sitting and answering the phone and doing clerical work
  - It is an essential part of the department
  - The current structure (Interim ED Director and Administrative Assistant) is what has been used during the past seven months
  - Tory Mabe has been doing the administrative assistant functions since I took the Interim ED Director position (he is handling administrative functions along with the social media and IT functions) and doing a great job
  - Tory is also handling the new app that has recently been developed for tourism
- Arts Council, Economic Development, and Planning/Zoning Departments are integral departments that work together to make economic development function
- There has been good, lengthy discussion between committee members regarding what is best for economic development for the next budget cycle
- We are trying to move forward and have lots of things “in the fire”
- The committee feels the current structure would work in the future given the hiring of the right person for the ED Director and their assistant
- Trying to promote a group effort – no one person alone can accomplish moving economic development forward
- **Summary**
  - EDAPC requests comments/questions on progress to date from the BOCC
  - EDAPC will integrate feedback from the BOCC as it moves forward
  - Future topics to be addressed will be the measurement of economic development investments and the role and value of having an Economic Development Commission
  - Target date for completion of this project is January 2016
    - Final approved recommendations from the BOCC will be used as budget guidance for the County Manager to incorporate into his budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2016-17

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Seems like to me it is already a done deal
- It has moved forward since the BOCC decided to reassess the economic development department
- You would probably be talking around \$150,000 for two positions in the department, with the former structure only having one position – the director

Interim Director Sudderth responded:

- The current structure is functioning now, it is only a recommendation for the BOCC to consider – not the final decision

Commissioner Booth continued:

- With the current structure of Planning Director Sudderth serving as the interim, it is not costing \$150,000
- Can this continue like it is – Director Sudderth serving as the interim?

Interim Director Sudderth responded:

- It is not up to me, it is the BOCC's decision
- The way I look at this, is that I am the Chairman of the Committee that is looking to replace me
- This assessment is the committee's assessment which they feel is a good way to move forward
- It is up to the BOCC to determine if this recommendation is a viable solution regarding the cost and effectiveness
- It is the Board's final decision

Commissioner Booth continued:

- With the way it is working now, I have seen it is as good or maybe better than it was
- Have seen progress regarding economic development since Director Sudderth took the position
- I am asking if this can continue as it is currently working?
- Appreciate the efforts being made

Interim Director Sudderth responded:

- I don't have an answer for that
- It will continue for five more months as what was stated in the original motion
- It would then be left up to the BOCC for the final determination regarding what is best for economic development and for the entire County

Commissioner Booth questioned Interim Director Sudderth how he felt the current structure is working and going forward?

Interim Director Sudderth responded:

- Feel we are moving forward
- Feel there is more that can be done when an ED Director is hired
- We are focusing on what can be done immediately
- There other things that could be done when an ED Director is hired
- I have many jobs and do not have the time needed to give to the position long term
- I am just the person providing the update
- How this Board's moves forward will be determined in March 2016
- Currently, focusing on what we can do and moving forward with it
- There are other things that need attention that I currently can't do because of time constraints

Commissioner Booth continued:

- I understand what you are saying
- I need feedback from how it is working now before I can make a final decision
- What has fell by the wayside since you took the interim position with this new structure?

Interim Director Sudderth responded:

- ED Director needs to be more mobile than I can possibly be; I have job duties that require me to be in the office for planning and zoning
- There are times that the ED director needs to spend more time out in the county and also out of the county traveling for recruitment
- We are trying to recruit but it is not being done like a full time ED Director would be doing
- The ED Director markets Stokes County
- We decided to focus on tourism and make some immediate headway
- Feel some low hanging fruit has been captured
- There are other issues as far as industrial recruitment, business retention, etc.
- Have done some field work meeting the business owners, not nearly what I consider needs to be done
- Administrative Assistant can back up the director while he is out of the office
- This is a two- position approach, filling the vacant director and an unfilled position (administrative assistant) to move forward with economic development
- Whether it is considered functioning well now is not the purpose of the update; the update is to let you know where we are at currently in the process

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- The administrative assistant as defined in this recommendation does away with just about all outside contracting that was being done

Interim Director Sudderth responded:

- Tried to keep everything in county if possible

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Appreciate Commissioner Booth's comments

- He and I seemed to see differently on this issue
- I remember when he first ran for office, he was concerned with the administrative assistant position then and that doesn't seem to have changed
- As far as bringing us up to date, I went to the forums when Commissioners Booth, Lankford, and Jones was campaigning
- I heard you speak and heard you tell how you had been listening to the citizens and how important economic development is in our county
- Ran a quick calculation and if my math is correct, \$150,000 a year to a \$44+ million budget is less than one half of one percent, there is where it gets really interesting
- Listening to the people who have stated that they need more jobs, need more businesses, need more commercial businesses and less than one half of one percent is in question
- I don't think that has changed, people tell me today that economic development and jobs are probably the most important issues in our county; they are probably the most important in our state and in our country
- When Mr. Sudderth took over the interim economic development director, I really did not support that move; however, he has won my confidence, he has applied himself very well and given it a very good effort
- He has used his skills he has developed over the years
- Have heard nothing but good regarding what Tory is doing; seems like he is a real asset to the position
- Here is where it gets good to me, instead of questioning whether there are too many people in economic development; I pose the question "do we have enough with just a director and an administrative assistant for the entire economic development department?"
- How can I look the citizens in the eye if we are just giving it a token effort on our end?
- The committee is still working on this, I don't think it is a done deal

Chairman Jones noted that this is an update today and not for discussion and decision making and probably should not have opened it up for full discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Would like to make one last point
- Part of the reason that David is functioning as well at his current capacity is the amount of time that County Manager Morris is also putting in
- He is putting in more time at the current structure than I can conceive of him doing long term
- Don't believe the manager can continue to put in as much time as he currently is on a long-term basis
- Questioned the manager if he had missed anything?

County Manager Morris noted that he would agree with Vice Chairman Walker's comments regarding the amount of time being spent by the manager.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- So one of the reasons it is working as well as it is, the manager has stepped up to the plate and doing some very vital functions

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris and Vice Chairman Walker that the entire committee had input in what was presented by EDAPC Chairman Sudderth and that the committee would make a final recommendation at the one-year mark which would be March 2016
- Appreciate the information
- Appreciate the information being very concise and to the point
- Had confidence in Director Sudderth when the decision was made to put him in the interim position
- I think you have been able to capture some low hanging fruit, Dollar Generals for example, but those are businesses that are recruiting us

Interim Director Sudderth commented:

- Just want to reiterate that this is an update, not a final product
- Will take the feedback to the committee at the next meeting
- The committee decided that something concrete must be delivered to the BOCC in January to assess for the upcoming budget year which Manager Morris usually starts the budget process in March (FY 2016-17)
- One thing to remember is that when the economic development director 's job is posted, I can apply just like anybody else could
- This committee wants to move forward
- County Manager Morris is involved in almost everything that is done
- He is working on some things of his own that I am aware of
- The final product could change

Chairman Jones commented:

- Would like to commend Director Sudderth for the excellent job he has done since being named the Interim ED Director
- Would also like to express appreciation to Manager Morris for stepping in
- This committee has been engaged, everyone has taken part and taken interest
- This presentation today is for information only
- The committee had benchmarks to make and this presentation today was a benchmark
- This update today is for accountability, not that it is a done deal
- It is providing things to the BOCC that need to be considered
- These departments listed on the organizational chart are already and have been working together
- This is only an update, it doesn't mean we can't change it or make it better
- We have to realize that this arrangement is short term and can't continue forever
- Must keep in mind, the savings in salaries since May 2015
- It may cost some, but must remember the salary savings
- This will be coming back to you before the budget
- The committee has other things to look at
- It is good to step back and look at things

- Been involved with economic development before becoming a commissioner
- It didn't seem like it was working the way it was
- I want to see things better and if it takes a little money, it takes a little money
- Do want smart planning
- Very good presentation today
- Glad to be this far in the process

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Just want to make sure everyone knows that I am for economic development
- But looking back five years or so that the county has had an economic development director, I look at what was accomplished during that time and what has been accomplished during the last 6 months comparably
- I know that our Economic Development Department did not have anything to do with the Sheetz coming to King and the proposed Walmart coming to King
- My colleague talks about big industry coming into the County that I have not seen yet
- Have seen a few suggestions in which none worked out
- Just don't see adding more to what we had

Chairman Jones responded:

- It is going to be a lot different
- It is not definitely a done deal

County Manager Morris noted that the committee needed and welcomed feedback so that courses could be adjusted if needed.

### **Fiscal Year 2014-15 Health Department's Annual Report**

Interim Health Director Wanda East presented the following FY 2014-15 Health Department Annual Report (Executive Summary):

#### Stokes County Health Department/Family Health Center Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Executive Summary

### **Public Health Clinic**

- Number of patients seen = 4,922 patient visits. This is a 37% decrease from FY 13/14. Of these 63 patients, 514 visits to our clinic were prenatal patients that made up 21% of the patients seen; this was an increase from last fiscal year of 17%. The decrease of patients can be contributed to a number of reasons:
  - One full-time provider position has been vacant for over one year
  - Only one full-time provider is seeing patients four times a week
  - Possible impact of the Affordable Care Act. This can only be speculated at this time since the health department is short one full time provider.

- Breast Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) clients seen and assisted = 193
- Total claims billed for FY 14/15 \$405,852.30
- Have received a couple of applications that have not panned out
- On page 14 of the complete report, it details the patient encounters for Fiscal Year 2014-15 along with comparing FY 2014-15 to FY 2013-14

#### Communicable Diseases

- Number of immunizations given 1,349 shots to 830 patients
- No communicable diseases or foodborne illness investigations for Stokes County
- Chlamydia cases - 127
- Gonorrhea cases - 13
- Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever - 6 (down 8 cases from FY 14/15)
- Totals for communicable disease is located on page 24 of the complete report
- Stokes County Health Department achieved a 100% immunization rate for the county

#### Prenatal Program

- Number of patients enrolled July 2014 to June 2015 - 63
  - Number of deliveries - 35
  - Currently in program - 20
  - Patients transferred - 10
  - Patients miscarried - 6
- Providers from Baptist Hospital administer the program for the Health Department (have also helped in the clinic when needed)
- Program continues to grow

#### WIC (Women, Infants, Children)

- WIC clients seen 10,727. This is an increase of 927 clients.
- Fully staffed with a full-time Nutrition director and with the addition of a new nutritionist position allows the WIC department to increase their client totals
- WIC department is open two days a week in King and with the changes of hours, the clinic is open, 4 additional hours per week to see more patients.
- The increase of prenatal patients and newborns staying at the health department for their primary care has also contributed to this increase.

#### Environmental Health

- New well permits issued - 60 (FY 13/14 – 66)
- Number of water samples taken not related to new wells - 306
- Repair permits for septic systems - 48
- Permits issued on existing septic systems – 117
  - Slightly behind because of the recent rains
- Food establishment inspections - 446
- Meth Houses inspections - 4



### **Health Education/Promotions**

- Conducted puberty education for 5<sup>th</sup> graders at six elementary schools
- Active member of the following community committees
  - STOP Coalition
  - Stokes County Healthy Carolinians
  - Stokes County Suicide Prevention Taskforce
  - Stokes Partnership for Children LICC Committee
  - Stokes County Schools Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)
  - Family Planning Review Committee
  - Certified CPS Technician

### **Emergency Preparedness**

#### *Monthly Activities*

- GETS (Government Emergency Telecommunication Service) testing
- Radio testing
- Generator testing
- Building OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) safety inspections
- Regional Emergency Preparedness Coordinator meetings
- Review and update plans as necessary, develop and implement activities to complete gaps in Capability Assessment.

#### *Quarterly Activities*

- LEPC ( Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting attendance Surrounding County Committee
- Call downs with Corrective Action Plans
- Quarterly Narrative Reports (Progress Check data entry)
- Update employee ICS and emergency contact information
- Annual SNS (Strategic National Stockpile Plan)
- Review Fire/tornado drills
- State Emergency Preparedness Conference 2 Exercises with After Action Report/Corrective Action Plans
- Respiratory Protection Plan Fit Testing
- Review all plans/policies and make necessary changes Annual Work Plan and Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan SNS Plan
- Update Isolation and Quarantine Plan
- Update OSHA Safety Manual Sections
- Update PH Sections of County Emergency Health Department Emergency Operations Plan/COOP Pandemic Influenza Plan Sheltering And Mass Care Update PH OSHA Safety Manual Sections
- Pan Flu COOP Smallpox and Mass Vaccination Plan Crisis Communications Plan
- Required current plans
  - SNS Plan
  - Isolation and Quarantine Plan
  - OSHA Safety Manual

- PH Sections of County Emergency Health Department Emergency Operations plan/COOP
- Pandemic Influenza Plan Sheltering and Mass Care
- Smallpox and Mass Vaccination Plan
- Crisis Communications Plan

Interim Health Director East presented Board members a copy of the complete annual report.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Interim Health Director East that salaries are the main reason the Physician Extender position has been vacant for over a year.

Interim Health Director East discussed the vacant Physician Extender position with the Board.

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Interim Health Director East contracting a Physician Extender is very expensive.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Questioned Interim Health Director East, “What are the main items working well and what are the items that need some kind of attention?”

Interim Health Director East responded:

- The biggest need right now is a second provider
- Having a hard time getting appointments for an individual with only one provider
- Take a risk of losing patients when they have to wait to get an appointment
- We are losing patients everyday
- Lack of revenue
- Could also help impact accreditation because of compliance issues with insurance contracts (not seeing patients in a timely manner)

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the Physician Extender has been vacant since July 2014
- Confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the best fit would be either a Family Nurse Practitioner or a Physician Assistant (both can see all types of patients)
- Confirmed with Interim Health Director East that this Board has already increased the starting hiring salary for this position recently
- Confirmed that Interim Health Director East that the “no show” rate has improved with staff calling to remind patients of their appointments

Chairman Jones commented:

- Appreciate the great job you have done as interim
- Very good presentation
- Pay gaps are a very big concern of mine

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

### **Tax Administration Report – September 2015**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following informational data for the

#### **September Report:**

<b>Fiscal Year 2015-16</b>	<b>Budget Amt</b>	<b>Collected Amt</b>	<b>Over Budget</b>	<b>Under Budget</b>
<b>Current 2015 Taxes</b> Percentage = 0.5570%	\$20,083,177.00	\$11,186,312.61		\$8,896,864.39
<b>New Schools F-Tech Fund</b> Percentage = 0.5669%	\$1,295,689.00	\$734,464.80		\$561,224.20
<b>Prior Taxes</b> County Regular & Motor Vehicles Percentage = 0.2232%	\$675,000.00	\$150,678.57		\$524,321.43

#### **Business and Personal Property Discovery Report**

<b>Audit Dates</b>	<b>Accts</b>	<b>Total Value</b>	<b>Taxes Due</b>
(09-01-15/09-30-15)	69	\$320,865.00	\$2,732.59
(07-01-15/06-30-16)	73	\$343,923.00	\$2,932.90

#### **Motor Vehicle Release Report**

**Audit Dates**  
Assessment through NC  
Department of Motor Vehicles

#### **Garnishment Totals**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Total Accounts</b>	<b>Original Levy Amount</b>	<b>Collected Amount</b>
(09-01-15/9-30-15)	109	\$49,894.36	\$13,565.05
<b>F/Year 2015-16</b>			
(07-1-15/6-30-16)	196	\$93,223.33	\$52,302.10

#### **Interstate Collection Report**

	<b>Collection</b>	<b>Total Collected</b>
September 2015		
Cumulative Total Collected to Date	NC Debt Setoff	<b>\$235,296.42</b>
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Motor Vehicles	\$134,577.50
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Property Taxes	\$49,251.57
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	EMS	<u>\$304,362.52</u>
Collected (to date)	All Categories	<b>\$488,191.59</b>

## Collection of New State Motor Vehicle Billings

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Collection of New State Motor Vehicle Billing for the Board's review:

- Graph shows each month's collection per taxing codes: **August 2015**

### **New VTS System**

<b>Tax Code</b>	<b>Levy</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Adjustment</b>	<b>Billing</b>	<b>Net</b>
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Billed</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Made</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Collected</b>
City of King	\$19,488	\$103	-\$17	-\$878	\$18,696
King Car Fee	\$2,550	\$16	None	None	\$2,566
Walnut Cove Town	\$2,893	\$29	-\$9	-\$116	\$2,797
Danbury Town	\$106	\$2	None	-\$4	\$104
School Tax	\$13,131	\$84	-\$50	-\$522	\$12,643
King Fire	\$3,336	\$20	-\$31	-\$135	\$3,190
Rural Hall Fire	\$707	\$5	-\$3	-\$28	\$681
Walnut Cove Fire	\$2,114	\$17	-\$14	-\$83	\$2,034
General County	\$198,016	\$1,262	-\$751	-\$7,884	\$190,643
Service Fire	\$11,929	\$74	-\$29	-\$473	\$11,501
<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>\$254,270</b>	<b>\$1,612</b>	<b>(\$904)</b>	<b>(\$10,123)</b>	<b>\$244,855</b>

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

### **CUMULATIVE COLLECTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-16**

#### **NC Vehicle Tax System Summary per Tax District)**

<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	City of King/Car fee	\$43,739.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 1,105</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(1,857.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$1.68</b>	Total Net Collected	\$41,882.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Town of Walnut Cove	\$6,158.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 245</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(253.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$1.03</b>	Total Net Collected	\$5,905.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Town of Danbury	\$364.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 18</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(15.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.83</b>	Total Net Collected	\$349.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	F Tech/School Fund	\$26,187.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 9,685</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(1,100.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.11</b>	Total Net Collected	\$25,087.00

<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	King Fire District	\$7,041.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 1,477</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(303.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21</b>	Total Net Collected	\$6,738.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Rural Hall Fire District	\$1,350.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 293</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(56.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.19</b>	Total Net Collected	\$1,294.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Walnut Cove Fire Dist.	\$4,229.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 1,063</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(177.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.17</b>	Total Net Collected	\$4,052.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	General County	\$394,629.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 9,685</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(16,593.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$1.71</b>	Total Net Collected	\$378,036.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Service Fire District	\$23,363.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 5,502</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(974.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.18</b>	Total Net Collected	\$22,389.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected NCVTS through August (all tax districts)</b>		<b>\$507,060.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses for NCVTS through August (all tax districts)</b>		<b>\$ (21,328.00)</b>
<b>Total net collected for NCVTS through August (all tax districts)</b>		<b>\$485,732.00</b>
<b>Average cost per total billings through August</b>		<b>\$2.20 per bill</b>

**Lowest cost billed = \$2.00 (County, School Fund, Service Fire based on 9,685 cars)**  
**Highest cost billed = \$3.50 (County, School Fund, King City based on 1,105 cars)**

### **EMS Billing & Collections for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following EMS Billing & Collections Report for Fiscal Year 2015-16 for the Board's review:

Transports				Medicare Medicaid Non Billable*	Other Non Billable*	Collection Rate
Month	Billed	Charged	Collected			
Jul-15	481	\$264,725.10	\$141,902.31	\$44,654.00	\$5,450.71	53.02%
Aug-15	235	\$136,920.60	\$121,859.97	\$52,114.81		89.00%
Sep-15	531	\$312,070.00	\$123,758.91	\$67,180.42	\$1,248.97	39.66%
Oct-15						
Nov-15						

Dec-15  
Jan-16  
Feb-16  
Mar-16  
Apr-16  
May-16  
Jun-16

Totals 1,217 \$713,715.70 \$387,521.19 \$163,949.23 \$6,699.68 54.08%

Non Billable are contractual obligation, amount for which the patient can't be billed

Note: August – decreased billed and charged due to increase in collection on property taxes

### **Releases Less than \$100 – Real and Personal Property**

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

Real and Personal Property (September 2015) at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review:

#### **Release Less Than \$100 - Real/Personal Property**

Name	Bill No	Amount
Howard L Boles Jr	307382-2015	\$25.55
Ruby L. Jessup	297566-2015	\$16.96
Joey J Johnson	281883-2015	\$1.60
Kevin Charles Neal	283042-2015-0001	\$12.00
John A Hudson	2613-2015-0001	\$18.00
Jimmy L Jones	4176-2015-0001	<u>\$12.00</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$86.11</b>

### **Discount for Early Payments of Annual Bills**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following corrected information regarding the total discounts taken on 2015 Stokes County Annual Bills for the Board's review: (previously provided at the Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> meeting)

		2013 Tax Bills	2014 Tax Bills	2015 Tax Bills
County	G01	\$208,349.26	\$212,322.31	\$213,809.19
New School/F-Tech Fund	E01	\$ 13,888.84	\$ 14,152.99	\$ 13,792.77
Service Fire District	S01	\$ 11,742.02	\$ 11,899.41	\$ 12,702.91
King Fire District	F01	\$ 3,341.76	\$ 3,408.70	\$ 3,534.83
Walnut Cove Fire District	F03	\$ 2,099.47	\$ 2,315.81	\$ 2,235.60

Rural Hall Fire District	F02	\$ 636.10	\$ 631.19	\$ 648.62
Dogs	D01	\$ 418.01	\$ 345.48	\$ -
City of King	C01	\$ 26,312.13	\$ 26,113.76	\$ 26,086.32
Town of Danbury	C04	\$ 290.14	\$ 290.78	\$ 316.87
Town of Walnut Cove	C03	\$ 4,315.97	\$ 4,477.96	\$ 3,985.32
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$271,393.70</b>	<b>\$275,958.39</b>	<b>\$277,112.43</b>

### **2015 Values for Public Utilities**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following information from the NC Department of Revenue for the 2015 values assessed for Public Utilities (per tax district):

Tax Districts		2014 Values	2015 Values	Revenue Increase Increase/Loss
County	G01	\$ 526,918,640.00	\$ 567,058,647.00	\$ 248,868.04
New school/F-Tech Fd	E01	\$ 526,918,640.00	\$ 567,058,647.00	\$ 16,056.00
Service Fire District	S01	\$ 492,491,377.00	\$ 530,166,649.00	\$ 26,372.69
King Fire District	F01	\$ 11,130,299.00	\$ 11,979,426.00	\$ 594.39
Walnut Cove Fire Dist.	F03	\$ 10,188,291.00	\$ 11,123,771.00	\$ 654.84
Rural Hll Fire District	F02	\$ 2,720,682.00	\$ 2,729,693.00	\$ 6.31
City of King	C01	\$ 6,771,604.00	\$ 7,007,047.00	\$ 993.57
Town of Danbury	C04	\$ 859,217.00	\$ 771,704.00	\$ (236.29)
Town of Walnut Cove	C03	\$ 3,616,387.00	\$ 4,052,063.00	\$ 1,742.70

### **Request for Proration of the 2015 Annual Tax Bills (Petree Land – Donation to Stokes County**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley updated the Board with the following information regarding the request to pay taxes owed by the Petrees for the donated land: (approved at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting)

- Parcel 6694-01-16-0458 (20.42 acres) amount of bill = \$611.74
  - County paid the taxes for Mr. Petree in the amount of \$118.99
- Parcel 6694-01-05-7701 (16.12 acres) amount of bill = \$560.64
  - County paid the taxes for Mr. Petree in the amount of \$109.06
- Remaining balances were exempted according to 105-381(b)
- Mr. Petree owned the properties from January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 12<sup>th</sup> (71 days)
- Taxes relating to the time owned by Stokes County in 2015 can be exempted according to NC General Statutes 105-381(b)

Tax Administrator Oakley noted that there were no items that needed action this month.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with Administrator Oakley's report.

Tax Administrator Oakley discussed the 2015 Values for Public Utilities with the Board.

Tax Administrator Oakley provided the Board with an update regarding the new software and its transition.

Tax Administrator Oakley noted the following regarding the upcoming revaluation:

- 2016 is a very big year regarding revaluation
- Will be providing the Board with a full detailed report in January 2016 regarding the upcoming revaluation in 2017
- Trying to measure as many houses as possible for the upcoming revaluation

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Real Estate Market continues to move along in a very good pace
- Feds elected to not raise the interest rate in their last meeting which helps the buyer
- Hopefully by the end 2016, the county would have regained the 5% loss in the last revaluation
- Things are looking pretty good
- Land sale prices did not drop, they just stayed flat
- Average home sales continue to increase

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

### **Social Services Monthly Report**

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

- Program Reports
  - Services Report (Social Work Services, Family Support Services, Administration, Personnel)
    - Provides September 2015 data for all services

NCFast Update:

- The Report Workgroup continues to identify priorities for next reports to be released or updated in NCFast. NCFast, CSDW and Business Divisions are collaborating to identify additional report capabilities that could be leveraged through CSDW
- NCFast and IMB collaborated to provide the remaining 89 counties a demo of the out of the box Curam Child Welfare module. These demos started the week of September 29<sup>th</sup> and will end the week of October 5<sup>th</sup>
- NCFast Team is working with IMB to start requirements review and perform an analysis of P5 Aging and Adult Services Business System Functions (BSFs). Site



visits to small, medium, and large counties to review business workflow are being scheduled

## Metrics

- As of September 2015:
  - Income Maintenance
    - NC FAST – In Compliance
    - WorkFirst – In Compliance
    - FNS – In Compliance
    - Adult Medicaid – In Compliance
    - Family and Children’s Medicaid – In Compliance
    - Child Support – In Compliance
    - Program Integrity – In Compliance
    - Appeal Hearings and Fraud Hearings – In Compliance
  - Day Care – In Compliance
  - Foster Care
    - Foster Care Services – Needs Improvement
      - Case load numbers continue to be high/new
      - Staff still learning
    - Foster Care Home Licensing – Needs Improvement
      - MAPP training still taking place
      - New worker is working with families and learning the importance of the job
    - Adoptions – In Compliance
  - Child Protective Services
    - Investigations – Needs Improvement
      - Some work is not timely causing this to be yellow
      - Supervisor working on this issue
    - Case Management – In Compliance
    - Adult Services
      - Adult Protective Services – In Compliance
      - Guardianship– In Compliance
      - SSBG/HCCBG/Payee/Adult Day– In compliance
      - Family/Monitoring– In compliance
      - SA IH/MAC– In compliance
      - CAP DA/CAP C– In compliance
      - Intake– In compliance
      - Caseloads– In compliance
  - Supervision (Staff/Supervisor Ratio)- Needs Improvement
    - Per state statute, CPS/Foster Care Supervisors are to supervise 1-5 social workers and both SW Supervisors have more than 5 Social Workers under them
  - Staffing (Years of Service) – Need Improvement
  - Medicaid Transportation – Needs Improvement
  - Clerical – Need Improvement

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth noted that he was glad to see the red gone and the possibility of some of the yellow going to green with new staff being hired.

The Board had no issues with Director Elmes' report.

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

### **Social Services – Reclassification – Social Work Supervisor II**

DSS Director Stacey Elmes presented the following information regarding the Proposed Reclassification for Social Work Supervisor II to Social Work Supervisor III:

- Social Work Supervisor II (Grade 71) to Social Work Supervisor (Grade 74)
- Position is vital to our work with children and their safety and permanence
- The following are justifications for the reclassification request:
  - Organizational balance within Child Welfare – Foster Care/Child Protective Services
  - The number of children in care has increased 30% since 2010;
  - Court related activities are requiring more time and equal supervision between Foster Care/Child Protective Services than in the past with the increase in children and monitoring responsibilities;
  - Currently, Foster Care is supervised by a Social Worker II and Child Protective Services is supervised by a Social Worker III, both areas have equivalent responsibilities for children's welfare
  - Supervisor/worker ratio (it is specified in the NC Child Welfare manual that, "Supervisor/worker ratios shall not exceed an average of one fulltime equivalent supervisory position to five fulltime equivalent social work positions");
  - We are having a child welfare audit in November
    - During preliminary discussions with the audit team, we were told that having issues like this would be an audit finding and will require improvement
    - We know that there will be other findings, but are trying to be proactive in getting organizationally balanced.
- Total amount of increase for this reclassification is \$1,844.05 with county dollars only being \$698.21
- This reclassification should have already been done

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Reiterated this reclassification will balance the supervisory positions between Foster Care and Child Protective Services
- Reiterated the small amount of county dollars = \$698.21

- These two departments must work in a very efficient way as children are moved from one section of Child Welfare to the other
- Reiterated the upcoming Child Welfare Audit in November
- Request Action Agenda at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with DSS Director Elmes that if this was approved, then both supervisors in Child Welfare would be on the same grade.

Commissioner Inman noted that he supported this reclassification and feels this is a proactive move on the County's part before the upcoming audit in Child Welfare.

The Board unanimously agreed (Commissioner Lankford absent) to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

#### **Health Department – Reclassification – Office Assistant IV**

Interim Health Director Wanda East presented the following information regarding the Proposed Reclassification for Office Assistant IV to Medical Lab Tech I:

- For the past several months, several changes have taken place within the Stokes County Health Department
- Last year, the Office Assistant IV was partially reimbursed by the Network to report on patients who had chronic illnesses such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and obesity
- This year, the grant has been reassigned to the Office of Rural Health and will be reported thru our electronic health record
- Grant funding will be awarded based on patients served; therefore, this Office Assistant IV is no longer needed in this capacity
- Currently this position, Office Assistant IV is a Grade 63
- Would request to reclassify this position to its original classification as a Medical Lab Tech I – Grade 62
- There would be a \$926 salary savings along with some benefits savings
- If the reclassification is approved, the LPN can move back to the clinic which will allow for her time to be counted toward the annual Cost Settlement which is another potential revenue to the County and her time will be allowed as billable service while attending to the patient (also revenue generating)

- While working in the lab, the LPN's time can't be counted as a FTE (full time equivalent) in the Cost Settlement, thus decreasing our settlement amount
- Request to be placed on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

County Manager Morris commented:

- Reiterated the salary savings
- Should increase the Cost Settlement revenue

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Interim Health Director East that part of this position is funded by grants and with the new reclassification, it should increase the percentage of grant funding and revenue.

Interim Health Director East explained the grant funding being used for the current title of Office Assistant IV and the reclassification title of Medical Tech Lab I.

The Board unanimously agreed (Commissioner Lankford absent) to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

### **Health Department – Accreditation Requirements**

Interim Health Director Wanda East presented the following documentation that must be approved by the Board of Commissioners for Accreditation Requirement:

- Statement Regarding Adjudications and Adoption of Rules
  - The statement is evidence that there have been no rules adopted, adjudications or appeals concerning the Stokes County Health Department since May 2012
- Administrative Policy Manual – Board of County Commissioners Adjudication
  - Purpose: BOCC Adjudication of Public Health Legal Matter
- Administrative Policy Manual – Observing Public Health and Related Laws
  - Purpose: To provide usage and access information to Stokes County Health Department staff on laws, regulations, and guidelines applicable to Public Health practices and services
- Administrative Policy Manual – Overall Operation Policy
  - Purpose: To state general policies that will guide the Board of County Commissioners in its delegation of duties

- Would request approval at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

Interim Health Director Wanda East explained the documentation provided to the Board for accreditation purposes (benchmarks for the accreditation).

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed that these documents did not need to be presented to ‘ Human Services Advisory Committee first as accreditation applies to the governing body of the Health Department which is now the Board of Commissioners.

County Manager Morris noted that the Human Services Advisory Committee will be at a future meeting with an update and a request for guidance from the Board of Commissioners.

The Board had no issues with the documentation presented by Interim Health Director East.

The Board unanimously agreed (Commissioner Lankford absent) to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

### **Health Department – Proposed SOFIA Lab Fees**

Interim Health Director Wanda East presented the following information regarding the proposed Sofia Lab Fees:

- Through a medical supply vendor (McKesson), the Health Department acquired a free lab testing machine (SOFIA)
- Have also been granted a discount rate for testing supplies
- These lab tests are usually contract out to LabCorp
- These tests can now be done “in-house” thus providing faster results to our patients
- The following proposed labs fees:
  - Strep A Test - \$10.00
  - RSV (Respiratory Virus) - \$18.00
  - FLU (A&B) - \$22.00
- Would request approval at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the cost for these services were much higher with LabCorp. (Example: Strep A Test - \$19.80 at LabCorp).

Vice Chairman Walker noted that this would also help those who do not have insurance.

Chairman Jones confirmed with Interim Health Director East that there should be no conflict with LabCorp with eliminating these services.

The Board unanimously agreed (Commissioner Lankford absent) to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

### **Proposed Jail Expansion Project**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed Jail Expansion Project: (Sheriff Mike Marshall, Jail Captain Eric Cone, and Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall were in attendance for the meeting)

- Provided the Board with a brief history of how we got to this point (overcrowding in the jail along with potential new revenue source)
- Total Estimated Project Budget (88 beds) \$5,188,818.91
- Scope to include:
  - Segregation security unit – 8 beds/single cells
  - Juvenile unit – 8 beds/single cells
  - Three minimum – medium security dorm units (24 beds each)
  - New security electronics system in existing jail
  - 1,500 sq. ft. renovations in existing jail
- Provided proposed drawings of the project
- Estimate and design are for fewer beds than discussed earlier but should meet the county's requirements without further expansion for 20+ years
- Financial Advisor Doug Carter has had some preliminary discussions with USDA regarding financing the jail expansion and the community college project along with the possibility of adding the hospital's new building (the hospital situation has changed recently and will probably not be included)
- Next step is for the Board of Commissioners to make a decision on moving forward with the project
- Would suggest the Board schedule a Special Meeting with the County's Financial Advisor Doug Carter as quickly as possible

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Chairman Jones questioned Sheriff Marshall if he had any further comments regarding the jail expansion project?

Sheriff Mike Marshall commented:

- Think Rick has covered most of the information
- It was originally 112 beds (price and space played a part in the number of beds)
- Pleased with the proposed plans

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that he was pleased with the number of beds and did not think it would impact the revenue as the projections provided to the Board were very conservative estimates.

Sheriff Mike Marshall commented:

- Have found out that with this expansion that the Stokes County Jail will be one of the few jails in the state that will be Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Compliance which is in very high demand (plan has 16 beds dedicated to PREA Compliance)
- Will be the only PREA Compliance in this district
- Opens the doors for the housing of federal prisoners
- Forsyth County is getting ready in the near future to shut down two floors for renovations
- Demand for female beds

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Appreciate all the hard work done thus far
- Also appreciate you being proactive regarding the need and revenue
- Would like to know what the debt service would be on \$5,188,818.91?

Finance Director Edwards commented:

- To not have those figures available since this could be combined with the community college and possibly the hospital project

County Manager Rick Morris noted the debt service payment would need to be figured by the county's financial advisor, lot of variables would need to be included.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that this jail expansion is a potential revenue source.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Reiterated that this jail expansion is being proactive, not letting the Feds tell Stokes County what to build and how to pay for it

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that he is very optimistic about the revenue side of this project.

County Manager Morris noted the PREA Compliance has gotten stronger since the last discussion regarding the potential jail expansion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that he was satisfied with the 16 beds for PREA Compliance.

Commissioner Booth noted that he had spoken to the architect at the recent NCACC Conference regarding the number of beds and the limited space for building the facility.

Vice Chairman Walker questioned Sheriff Marshall what needed to be done to keep this project moving and on track and when would the expansion be completed if approved?

Sheriff Mike Marshall responded:

- Best case scenario for completion is 18 months construction time from approval date

County Manager Morris responded:

- Need to have a Special Meeting with the County's Financial Advisor Doug Carter to keep things moving

Chairman Jones suggested deciding on a date at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting for a meeting with Financial Advisor Carter.

County Manager Morris noted that he would contact Financial Advisor Carter for tentative some dates.

The Board unanimously agreed (Commissioner Lankford absent) to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.



## **Capital Equipment Purchased for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the purchase of Capital Equipment for Fiscal Year 2015-16 which was approved in the budget for Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, and Fire Marshal: (Support Services Danny Stovall was in attendance for the meeting)

- Emergency Medical Services
  - Horton Ambulance – FESCO Emergency Sales
    - 2016 Ford Type I F450 4x4 chassis with a Horton 603 ambulance module at a cost of \$183,222 (HGAC contract number #AM10-14)
    - NC General Statute 143-129 requires all expenditures over \$90,000 to be formally bid
    - NC General Statute 143-129 (e) (3) is an exemption that allows the County to purchase through competitive purchasing program such as HGAC without having to formally bid out the purchase
    - EMS Director Greg Collins and Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall along with myself recommend moving forward with purchasing of the 2016 Ford/Horton Ambulance from FESCO Emergency Sales utilizing the HGAC Contract Pricing = \$183,222
    - FY 2015-16 Budget - \$181,000
    - Funding Source – Lease Purchase Agreement
    - Purchase is over budget by \$2,222; however, this amount can be made up by redistributing a portion of our lease purchase loan amount (Refuse truck purchase was \$14,100 under budget)
- Fire Marshal/Emergency Management
  - Requested quotes the following Chevrolet dealerships:
    - Bobby Murray Chevrolet
      - NC State contract vendor did not respond to request
    - Sir Walter Chevrolet
      - NC State contract vendor did not respond to request
    - Modern Chevrolet
      - 2016 Chevrolet Suburban
        - \$43,073
      - 2016 Chevrolet 2500HD Diesel Engine
        - \$41,822.26
      - 2016 Chevrolet 2500HD Gasoline Engine
        - 34,582.66
- Funding Source: Fire Marshal – Lease Purchase Agreement
- Funding Source: Emergency Medical Services (ambulance) – Lease Purchase Agreement

- Funding Source: Emergency Management – EMPGrant/Capital Reserve (state funding)
- EMS Director Greg Collins, Fire Marshal Brian Booe, Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall and myself recommend the following:
  - Two (2) 2016 Chevrolet 2500HD trucks with gasoline engines from Modern Chevrolet at a cost of \$34,582.66 each
- Federal requirements have also increased the price of the ambulance
- Request approval at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board discussed the type of engine, four-wheel drive option, ambulance boxes, F Series, suspension, and gas versus diesel.

County Manager Morris stressed the need for a four-wheel drive (on demand four-wheel drive).

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that EMS Director Greg Collins, Supervisor Stovall, Fire Marshal Booe and the manager recommend the vehicles placed in today's Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

**Proposed Resolution – CenterPoint Human Services – Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Services – Merger**

Commissioner Leon Inman presented the following proposed Resolution regarding the possible merger between CenterPoint Human Services and Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Services:

**NORTH CAROLINA  
STOKES COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF CENTERPOINT HUMAN SERVICES AND CARDINAL INNOVATIONS HEALTHCARE SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Pat McCrory recently signed into law North Carolina House Bill 372, entitled “An Act to Transform and Reorganize North Carolina’s Medicaid and NC Health Choice Programs,” which bill privatizes the state Medicaid program; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is encouraging the consolidation of existing behavioral health managed care organizations (“MCO” or “MCOs”) in an effort to provide budget predictability and administrative efficiency while ensuring quality care to Medicaid consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, CenterPoint Human Services (“CenterPoint”), the behavioral health MCO responsible for the delivery of Medicaid and state-funded mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability services for consumers in Stokes County, held a meeting of its Board of Directors on September 24, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, CenterPoint’s Board of Directors unanimously authorized formal consolidation discussions with Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Services (“Cardinal”), the behavioral health MCO based in Kannapolis that is responsible for the delivery of Medicaid and state-funded mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability services for consumers in sixteen North Carolina counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the potential consolidation between CenterPoint and Cardinal will address the upcoming changes to the delivery of behavioral health services in the state as a result of the Medicaid reform legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners has considered the consolidation of CenterPoint and Cardinal.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners supports the consolidation of CenterPoint and Cardinal.

Adopted this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

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

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

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

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

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

Attest:

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

Commissioner Inman commented the following:

- House Bill 372 was passed in the State’s Current Budget
- Essentially, House Bill 372 is an act to transform and reorganize North Carolina’s Medicaid Program; will privatize the state’s Medicaid Program

- Heard me say many times that the state wants the MCOs/LMEs (CenterPoint and others) to consolidate from the current nine to four
- Looks like it is going to be three now
- CenterPoint had an attempt to merge with Partners which did not work out
- Looking back, feel it was a good thing that the Partners' merge did not work
- Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Services is one of the largest MCOs in the state
- Cardinal Innovations just became a 17-county MCO
- CenterPoint voted unanimously to proceed with the merger with Cardinal
- CenterPoint Board of Directors recently set down with representatives from Cardinal Innovations
- Cardinal Innovations is a quality center with 654 employees serving 2.5 million residents over their current 16-county area
- Very impressed with their operation
- Annual budget is over \$650 million
- CenterPoint will become a regional center
- Would maintain our identity
- In my opinion, our catchment area would get the same continued service and perhaps even better
- Their consumer rates show very high ratings – almost 100%
- Senator Phil Berger told one of our Board members, if you get a chance to merge with Cardinal Innovations, you had better take advantage of it
- Cardinal Innovations actually approached CenterPoint
- Davidson County Fred McClure, who sits on the Cardinal Innovations Board, approached me at the NCACC Annual Convention
- It went from trying to merge with someone who definitely did not want us to someone approaching us to merge
- In the merger, Cardinal Innovations has agreed to pay for the transfer of technical programs (estimated cost of \$4 million)
- Talks so far have gone very well
- In the resolution, you will see that House Bill 372 entitled “An Act to Transform and Reorganize North Carolina’s Medicaid and NC Health Choice Programs” which bill privatizes the state Medicaid program
- Truly believe, CenterPoint’s best bet is to merge with Cardinal Innovations
- Believe we will see good mental health services continue with the merger with Cardinal Innovations and possibly get better
- Without consolidation, CenterPoint would not exist
- Asking the Board to support the resolution which supports the merger with Cardinal Innovations
- Request the item be moved to today’s Action Agenda

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Appreciate all the work being done by Commissioner Inman

- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that there is no single county left in the state doing their own mental health
- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that mergers are headed toward only having three MCOs

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Believed from the start, CenterPoint should have been with Cardinal – Guilford, Winston Salem, Raleigh, etc. area
- We will keep same providers plus some
- Cardinal Innovations prides itself in providing quality services
- If you don't merge on your own and stay active, the State will determine where you go

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that Cardinal Innovations has a new CEO which has made some changes within the organization (first thought to be a dominated entity- my way or no way)

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Very impressed with the new CEO Richard Topping, hope to have him here at a future meeting
- CenterPoint met with the new CEO and staff this past week and received positive answers to all CenterPoint's questions

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Easy for small rural counties, like Stokes, sometimes to get push to the side
- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that the new CEO assures all the smaller catchment counties such as Davie, Stokes, and Rockingham that these counties will get the same quality services
- One concern is the Stokes Opportunity Center

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Cardinal Innovations has agreed to do the same quarterly reporting like CenterPoint currently does
- Would be able to see exactly where the dollars are being spent
- Do not believe there is any reason to think that anything would change with the Stokes Opportunity Center

Commissioner Inman commented:

- What we have with the Stokes Opportunity Center is a model across the state

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Think all my questions have been answered
- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that all counties in the catchment area are on board with the proposed merger

- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that CenterPoint will remain our mental health provider
- Confirmed with Commissioner Inman that this merger will bring Cardinal to 21 counties

Commissioner Inman noted that one thing will change and that will be that not every county in our catchment area will have a representative on the Board of Directors because of so many counties and statutory requirements.

Commissioner Inman reiterated that the new CEO is very impressive, very easy going and on top of situation.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- The only way, with a clear conscious, that I can support this resolution, is to see we are maintaining equal or better mental health services and have some assurance that the Stokes Opportunity Center will continue the same
- Believe there is an opportunity here with this merger
- One thing that needs to be addressed is to make sure whose who needs the service receive the service, sometimes someone who needs the help does not always know they need help or know where to go for help

Commissioner Booth noted if there is no merger, we can be assured, Stokes Opportunity Center will not continue as it currently does.

Vice Chairman Walker requested that Commissioner Inman follow up on confirming the Stokes Opportunity Center will remain the same.

Commissioner Inman assured the Board that he will affirm all services including the Stokes Opportunity Center will remain the same.

Chairman Jones noted that she would bring this up at the CenterPoint quarterly meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

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

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent) directed the Clerk to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

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

County Manager Rick Morris noted the following regarding an application received for appointment to the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee:

- Received appointment application from Donna Knight who wishes to serve on the Stokes Aging Planning Committee
- Chairman Erma Perkins has spoken to Ms. Knight and feels she will be an asset to the committee and requested appointment by the Board
- Item was placed on Discussion Agenda due to Chairman Perkins not being able to talk to Ms. Knight before the Agenda was distributed
- Board can be polled today if so desired
- This would bring total membership to 13 (bylaws states “up to 15”)

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Inman nominated Donna Knight.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

The Board discussed polling this nomination today.

Vice Chairman Walker suggested placing the item on today’s Action Agenda for polling.

The Board unanimously agreed (with Commissioner Lankford absent) to place the item on today’s Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on today’s Action Agenda.

### **Appointments – Northwestern Regional Library Board – King Public Library Representative**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information from Director John Hedrick, Northwestern Regional Library:

- Director John Hedrick request the appointment of Robert Jones to serve as the King Public Library Representative on the Northwestern Regional Library Board
- Mr. Jones will be filling an unexpired term that ended June 30, 2015

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Inman nominated Robert Jones to fill the appointment to the Northwestern Regional Library Board.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

**Appointments – Town of Walnut Cove Planning/Board of Adjustment – ETJ - Alternate**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a vacancy on the Town of Walnut Cove Planning/Board of Adjustment – ETJ Alternate:

- Mr. Lester Overby was appointed to the ETJ Alternate vacancy at the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Mr. Overby has notified staff that he does not wish to serve at this time and declined the appointment

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

There were no nominations.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board (with Commissioner Lankford absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the October 26<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

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

**Proposed Utilities Easement – Duke Energy Carolinas – Proposed Community College Facility**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the Proposed Utilities Easement – Duke Energy Carolinas – Proposed Community College Facility which was presented at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the Utilities Easement – Duke Energy Carolinas  
October 12, 2015



– Proposed Community College Facility. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Lankford absent.

**Cooperative Extension – Livestock Position for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

County Manager Rick Morris provided the Board with the following additional information regarding the Livestock position for Fiscal Year 2015-16:

- County cost for the remainder of FY 2015-16 = \$8,896 for salaries and wages with an effective date of November 1, 2015
- Would look for sharing options during the budget process

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve a full-time Livestock Agent for Cooperative Extension which was presented at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Vice Chairman Walker moved to approve a full-time Livestock Agent for Cooperative Extension. Commissioner Inman seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Finance Director Edwards that the \$8,896 would cover salaries and fringes from November 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Commissioner Booth stated that you have to consider that next year, the county will be responsible for one half of the salaries and fringes.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with County Manager Morris that there was absolutely no one else to contract with for the services.

County Manager Morris noted there are no sharing options with the surrounding counties at this time, but could be looked at any time if one becomes available and the need to just keep hoping the adjoining counties can help when there is a need.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Director Debbie Cox that the position has been vacant since March 2014.

Cooperative Extension Director Debbie Cox noted that the needs for this position keep increasing for things such as the bird flu and the recent rains.

Commissioner Booth noted that Soil and Water has been involved in training for the possibility of a flu epidemic.

Commissioner Booth noted that the State will be involved if the flu breaks out.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris, the county's budget officer, that his recommendation based on the information provided to the Board would be to hire the full-time position

County Manager Morris commented:

- According to the Ben Hall, teacher at North Stokes who spoke during recent Public Comments, Stokes County is the 30<sup>th</sup> county in the state out of 100 regarding livestock
- Doesn't seem like a good way to do business having to go around continually asking for help, favors, etc.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Feel like this is a small amount compared to the amount of revenue that this industry brings into Stokes County

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Manager Morris that the additional county tax dollars for the remainder of FY 2015-16 would be \$8,896.

Commissioner Inman noted that he could support this for the remainder of FY 2015-16, but would reassess the position, as all positions are, during the budget work session.

Commissioner Inman requested that statistics be kept during the eight-month period in order to reassess the position during the budget process for FY 2016-17.

The motion carried (3-1) with Commissioner Booth voting against the motion and Commissioner Lankford absent.

#### **Proposed Animal Control Fees -- Amendments to the Animal Control Ordinance**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the Proposed Animal Control Fees which was presented at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to amend the Ordinance Creating a Stokes County Animal Control Department, Prescribing the Duties of the Department, Regulations Regarding Animals and Providing for the Enforcement of Said Regulations to include proposed fees submitted by Manager Rick Morris at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chairman Jones seconded the motion.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- As I mentioned at the previous meeting, I am not overly comfortable raising the fees for animal control, but does seem necessary and in line with other surrounding counties
- Will support the motion

Commissioner Booth commented:

- County is currently revamping the entire department and need to look at everything

Commissioner Inman noted that this fee amendment has the full support of the county manager who has spent and is spending a lot of time at the shelter and will support his recommendation.

The motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Lankford absent.

#### **Appointments – Stokes County Fire Commission**

Chairman Jones noted the following regarding the appointment to the Stokes County Fire Commission:

- The following was nominated at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting:
  - Ericka Sowers
  - Randy Fields

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

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

Chairman Jones polled the Board:

Commissioner Booth: Randy Fields

Vice Chairman Walker: Ericka Sowers  
Chairman Jones: Randy Fields  
Commissioner Inman: Randy Fields  
Commissioner Lankford: absent

Chairman Jones noted that Randy Fields will fill the unexpired term of Billy Joe Joyce.

**Proposed Resolution – CenterPoint – Cardinal Innovations Health Services – Merger**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the proposed Resolution supporting the merger between CenterPoint Human Services and Cardinal Innovations Health Services presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Resolution Supporting the Merger between CenterPoint Human Services and Cardinal Innovations Health Services. Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Lankford absent.

**Appointments – Stokes County Aging Planning Committee**

Chairman Jones polled the Board regarding the nomination of Donna Knight presented at today's meeting:

Commissioner Booth: Donna Knight  
Vice Chairman Walker: Donna Knight  
Chairman Jones: Donna Knight  
Commissioner Inman: Donna Knight  
Commissioner Lankford: absent

Chairman Jones noted that Donna Knight had been appointed to serve on the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee.

**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)
- 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)
- 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 (4-0) with Commissioner Lankford absent.

The Board reentered the opened session of the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Adjournment**

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

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

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

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**Ronda Jones**  
**Chairman**