

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
 )

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
NOVEMBER 9, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 1:30 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:  
County Manager Richard D. Morris  
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins  
County Attorney Tyrone Browder  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
DSS Director Stacey Elmes  
EMS Director Greg Collins  
Interim Economic Development/Planning Director David Sudderth  
Interim Health Director Wanda East  
Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall  
Tax Administrator Jake Oakley

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

Chairman Jones invited those who wished to join in the invocation to please do so.

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 November 9, 2015 Agenda.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the November 9<sup>th</sup> Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners**

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Neighbors Helping Neighbors – Bottled Water Donation
  - Read the following letter received from South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley regarding the recent bottled water donation to South Carolina (letter was sent to Rockingham County Manager Lance Metzler)
  - Dear Mr. Metzler – I want to personally thank our neighbors in Rockingham, Caswell, and Stokes Counties for their response to the historic flood in South Carolina. Your tremendous generosity has made a lasting impact on our state and her citizens. On behalf of the people of the Palmetto State, thank you for supporting Team South Carolina. God Bless Your kindness and generosity will never be forgotten!
- County Government Offices will be closed this Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veteran's Day

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Good to see everyone here today
- Glad to see representatives from the NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) at today's meeting
- Was very curious about some of Joe McNulty's comments at the last meeting
  - He referenced emergency room visits averaging around \$1,200
  - Thought that sounded a little much, so I checked with one of the satellite offices of one of the major hospitals in the area to find some perspective; found that their emergency room costs average around \$700-\$800
  - For clarity, have had comments from the King City Council and they don't totally agree with the mayor's perspective
  - Those members consider the changing of the emergency room to an urgent care clinic a step in maybe not such a good direction for some of our citizens, particularly, some of our more needy citizens in the King area
  - Just wanted to add a little perspective to that even though the mayor and the county manager stated their opinions, it does not reflect all the members of the King City Council

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Welcome everyone today
- Was in Rockingham County when all the water was coming in from the three counties; it was a united effort of the three counties
  - Very pleased to participate in that event

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Good to see everyone here today
- Attended the Governor's Task Force Meeting on Mental Health and Substance Use in Raleigh
  - Former NCACC President Ronnie Beale presented the NCACC Mental Health Engagement Task Force Report
  - Report was very well received
- Governor McCrory's Task Force Co-Chairs, NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Secretary Rick Brajer and NC Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Mark Martin, were in attendance for the meeting and took a lot of notes
- Will be attending the second meeting of the Health and Human Services Steering Committee
  - NCDHHS Secretary Brajer will be in attendance for that meeting
  - Will be updating the Board in the near future regarding what Secretary Brajer's thoughts are regarding MCO mergers

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery
- Ethics for Life "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Proverbs)

Chairman Jones commented:

- Will be attending the funeral for former U.S. Representative Howard Coble tomorrow
- Attended a NC Department of Transportation meeting last week with Planning Director David Sudderth regarding the replacement of the bridge at Moratock Park; it looks like probably about six years away
- Very pleased to receive a letter SC Governor Haley regarding the water donation; very pleased to join forces with neighboring counties to help those in need
- Want to let everyone know that we need to move very quickly today due to another meeting at 5:00 pm that the Board needs to attend

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following spoke during Public Comments:

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

**Paula Duggan**

1546 Asbury Speedway Road  
Westfield, NC

**RE: Francisco and 2035**

Ms. Duggan presented the following comments:

- Going to be very quick as I would like to pass my time to Horace Stimson who has a lot more to say
- Very pleased to see that the 2035 Comprehensive Land Use Plan is on the Board's Agenda today
  - That initiative really helped us to jump start an important planning process in Francisco
- The planning process has grown over the last year and a half to be a really robust effort
- We have more than 250 people in our network and at least 50 people are really active in putting together the projects that we are looking to accomplish in the next 12-18 months
- Just want to say that I hope, when you are thinking about Francisco community and the Francisco Elementary School, you think about how important of an asset that can be and our area can be as we are looking toward economic development and fulfilling recreational goals of the county
- Would be a great site for a park
- We are looking to do trail systems
- We have a wildflower project already underway
- Please think of us as the asset of the county that we are

**Bill Hart**

3217 Hart Road  
Lawsonville, NC

**Re: Francisco Elementary School**

Mr. Hart presented the following comments:

- Will be very quick
- Would like to defer my time to Horace Stimson

**Horace Stimson**

1931 Horseshoe Road  
Westfield, NC

**Re: Francisco Elementary School**

Mr. Stimson read the following to the Board:

"My name is Horace Stimson, Francisco, appearing at the request of the leader of the "Our Communities Initiative School Reuse Team" - Texie Jessup. She apologizes for not being here this afternoon due to unexpected family health needs.

So I am here today to confirm discussions and correspondence with all county commissioners and the staff that we would like to have discussions about the reuse of the Francisco Elementary School, joining with you to do due diligence as we explore the potential for a sustainable plan for the buildings and grounds before you accept or reject the offer of the property from the school board. Working with you, we can better understand the needs that may be relevant beyond our local thinking of Northwest Stokes and use and code issues that will impact any plan.

The following has already occurred in our area of the county:

- Approval to proceed with the creation and startup funding of a 501(c) (3) nonprofit for submission and management of grants and potential responsibility of properties as the opportunities and planning determine. 100% of 50 community attendees gave unanimous approval to proceed following several hours of public discussion and many planning sessions over the summer.
- Next week, “Our Communities” will hold a second facilitated meeting to tighten the focus as to the priority projects in our community.
- Actions are being taken to further explore and accelerate broadband access (wireless hotspots, more fiber optic cable in the ground mixed with fixed based wireless) in Northwest Stokes to support emergency services, the homework gap, affordability issues, and economic development, built on your actions with Riverstreet. (Appreciate the help of Commissioner Booth to get Riverstreet to come to Stokes County)
- Discussions about either or both (1) our communities planning activities and (2) school reuse have occurred about or with the following statewide, regional, or national entities / resources.
  - The Rural Center
    - Has been a tremendous support to us in our initial thinking and how to approach things
  - Construction Professional Network
  - Preservation NC
  - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - NC Department of Commerce – Reuse
  - Appalachian Regional Commission - Reuse
  - Golden Leaf Foundation
  - State Library and Northwestern Regional Library
  - Y and Sports Teams
  - FCC – Chief of Strategy, Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at NCSU, NC Wireless, Surry and Wilkes TMCs
  - Several private organizations in Stokes County who have interest in exploring service enhancement; potential participation in a reuse plan at the Francisco School

We will up the ante, once we know we have an understanding as to how to proceed with you all.

**Mission:**

Create a center (building facilities and park) for multigenerational lifelong learning and services, including sports, on behalf of children and their families in our Northwest Stokes Communities. To make lives better; including boosting education and economic development in Stokes County...starting in our backyard.

**Next Steps** – These steps can be simultaneous; here are some things we think that would be helpful to move this forward and clearly with your help, guidance and participation

- Discussion with a couple of county commissioners who view this as an opportunity to turn a liability to an asset in concert with the county staff who have the skills and experience to help put focus as to potential use and related codes and the “Our Communities Reuse Team”.
- Discussions with candidates for services at the envisioned multigenerational center
- Engagement with a variety of resources throughout NC with whom we have in our networks to assist in this effort.
- Create a viable sustainable plan for approval.
- Obtain funding to accomplish the plan and the mission

**Timing:**

Not yet determined, but we will figure that out and it is not unrealistic to do a thorough job (had discussions with staff) by having a planning session to understand all the issues which could take 12-18 months to put responsible pieces in place that will turn a liability into an asset that we all can be proud of. It could be faster, but from my entrepreneurial and other experiences in nonprofit work, we know to do things well, it takes thoroughness and good planning”

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 October 26, 2015 - Regular Meeting
- Minutes of October 6, 2015 – Planning Meeting

**Emergency Management - Budget Amendment #27**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #27.

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>Emergency Management</b>				
100.4330.511	Equipment – Non Capitalized	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$1,105.00</u>	<u>\$1,105.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$1,105.00</b>	<b>\$1,105.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funds to purchase equipment for LEPC for hazardous materials.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$1,015.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County’s annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues

will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
100.3301.262	Emergency Management	<u>\$35,542.00</u>	<u>\$1,105.00</u>	<u>\$36,647.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$35,542.00</b>	<b>\$1,105.00</b>	<b>\$36,647.00</b>

#### **National Association of Counties (NACO) Membership Renewal – Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Commissioner Inman presented a request at the October 26, 2015 meeting to fund NACO Membership Dues for Fiscal Year 2015-16 with consideration for approval at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

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

##### **NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) – Legislative Update**

Commissioner Inman introduced NCACC Executive Director Kevin Leonard, General Counsel Amy Bason, and Outreach Associate David Nicholson who were in attendance to present a Legislative Update to the Board.

Commissioner Inman noted:

- Very pleased to have representatives from NCACC at today's meeting to provide the Board with a Legislative Update

Executive Director Kevin Leonard presented the following update:

- Very pleased to be in Stokes County today
- Very lucky in North Carolina to have so many beautiful counties such as Stokes
- Have been with NCACC for about six and a half years; just completed my first year as Executive Director
- From your perspective, you might think your association is in Raleigh, from our perspective, our Association is here
- You are our Association and that Association is across the state
- Have been encouraging staff to get out more visiting the counties
- Thank you for your public service and what you do here is Stokes County to serve the citizens

- Thanks for supporting the Association and being very active in the Association with several members of your Board serving on steering committees such as Risk Management
- Would like to mention that Stokes County is the home to this year's NCACC "County Commissioner of the Year" – Commissioner Leon Inman
- Appreciate the Board renewing the NACO membership which makes North Carolina a 100-county state which gets us more engaged on their Board in Washington
  - North Carolina is one of the most active states in the nation for NACO
- As the new director, it became apparent to me that I am only here for a while
- Hope to keep things well and maybe move it along a little farther or do a little bit better
- NCACC has hosted an annual conference since 1908 bringing commissioners together across the state
- Would like to briefly describe the Association which was started in 1908; most people think of us as an advocacy organization, but there is a lot more going on in your Association:
  - Advocacy
    - Born out of the need for advocacy
    - 100 counties working together are much better than 100 working separately going down to the General Assembly
    - Known mostly for the advocacy work at the General Assembly
    - Have had a pretty good year this year at the General Assembly – long session
    - There are a number of counties in the same situation that Stokes is in regarding broadband expansion; we see that and we will be working on your behalf at the General Assembly and in Washington regarding broadband issues
  - Risk Management
    - Appreciate Stokes' membership in the Risk Management Insurance Pool which was started in the eighties
    - Have the majority of counties across the state in worker's compensation and property/liability insurances
    - Feel we are helping counties with their insurance needs
  - Research
    - Starting something new
    - Have hired a new research director, Linda Milsaps
    - Have over twenty years of budget and tax survey data for counties specific
    - What can we do with county level data to provide analysis to you to help you make better choices for budget and policy?
    - Just unveiled "County Snapshots" at the annual conference in Pitt County this year which contains a lot of data and maps
    - Look for more information in the research area to come
  - Education and Conferences
    - The Association's Constitution mandates an annual conference



- Great opportunity for networking with other colleagues
- Provides leadership training
- Partner with the Institute of Government –Local Elected Leaders Academy (LELA) along with LeaderShop for Veteran Elected Officials
- New Chairman training in January 2016
  - District meetings coming up in the Spring leading up to the General Assembly’s schedule starting in April 2016
- Very busy at the Association year round
- Appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Board today

Attorney Amy Bason presented the following update:

- Another resource is the new Association website which was launched last Friday
  - Welcome feedback
  - Hope the website will be easier to access with lots more information
- Legislature
  - One word to summarize this past session – long
  - One of the Association’s biggest challenge is to continue to educate the Legislature on what commissioners do
  - “Elected to elected” is the strongest advocacy that we have
  - Continue to monitor any potential challenges for county authority such as the recent moratorium
  - Legislative Conference was held before this past long session of the General Assembly
  - Will host a small committee meeting to review where we are regarding the legislative goals and what we need to renew
  - In theory, the short session is only to consider bills that made crossover or local bills, but sometimes other things slip in so we must remain vigilant (short session starts April 25<sup>th</sup> )
  - We will look at legislative goals that were partially accomplished and the ones that were not accomplished and try to work on those
  - Encourage commissioners to get involved in steering committees
- We are your Association
- Looking to provide a county commissioner handbook next year; would appreciate any thoughts from commissioners
- Chairman and Vice Chairman training is scheduled for January 15, 2016; going to change things up this year
- Thank you for the opportunity to serve you

Director Leonard commented:

- Want to let the Board know that David Nicholson serves the western part of the state and is ready to assist you

Chairman Jones expressed the Board’s appreciation to Director Leonard and Attorney

Bason for their updates.

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

### **Proposed Comprehensive County-Wide Land Use Plan**

Interim Economic Development/Planning Director David Sudderth presented the following information regarding the proposed Comprehensive County-Wide Land Use Plan

(Stokes County 2035):

#### **Comprehensive Land Use Plan Review (Stokes County 2035 Plan)**

- Eric Woolridge, Destination by Design, who was the principle author of the 2035 Plan, is in attendance for today's meeting and available for questions
- A copy of the draft Stokes County 2035 Comprehensive Land Use Plan was provided to the Board of County Commissioners last summer for review
- The plan was developed as a result of a grant awarded to the Stokes County Health Department
- The proposed plan covers land use, economic development, recreation, transportation and infrastructure – Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- The plan was designed to provide a strategic unified direction for the County and the three (3) municipalities: City of King, Town of Walnut Cove, and the Town of Danbury
- The design of the plan is somewhat unique in that Public Health is a basis for many of the policies and initiatives found in the plan
- County received grant funding which required only a small match from the county and municipalities
- The plan also addresses the environment and equity
- The proposed plan provides the county with a framework of ideas and designs to assist in the future development and growth of the county and its municipalities
- It will assist elected officials in making informed decisions concerning land use development, evaluating economic opportunities and deciding on public infrastructure improvements
- Today is an opportunity for the Board of Commissioners to ask questions and make suggestions before the document goes to the Stokes County Planning Board for review and recommendation
- After a recommendation from the Planning Board, (their meeting is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>) the plan will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners after a Public Hearing for consideration of adoption
- Would like to schedule the Public Hearing for December 1<sup>st</sup> with possible adoption after the Public Hearing
- The City of King, Town of Walnut Cove, and the Town of Danbury have already adopted the plan
- A Comprehensive Land Use Plan is very important when seeking grant funding
- Have reviewed the proposed document several times

- One very important thing to remember – this document can be changed if needed down the road
- This should be a growing document, not one that just sits on the shelf and collects dust

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Director Sudderth that his opinion of this document is very good
- Confirmed with Director Sudderth that this proposed plan can be changed – would go through the Planning Board first with a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners

Director Sudderth commented:

- Noted the section in the proposed plan which discusses specific ideas for the Francisco community
- This proposed plan will allow us to do this for every community in the county
- The proposed plan protects agricultural, conservation, etc.
- The proposed plan identifies business nodes, discusses branding, etc. along with providing good ideas to consider
- There was a tremendous amount of public involvement along with several public meetings
- Eric visited high schools, talked to people, used technology, etc.
- There is nothing that I can't work with in the proposed plan
- Reiterated the need for the comprehensive plan for seeking grants
- Will be starting a Comprehensive Transportation Plan in December with NC Department of Transportation to update the 2008 Comprehensive Transportation Plan, it is essential to have this document for that
- There were some questions regarding fracking as it relates to the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan
  - The number one priority for Land Use Policies is to protect natural resources
  - We have other documents, County Zoning Ordinance, that helps us do this, but protecting the natural resources is one of the priorities of the proposed plan
  - Another priority is to protect the natural and scenic beauty of the county which is economic development, recreation, tourism, land use, etc.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Have been talking about the need for a Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the past 8 to 9 years
- Very appreciative for the grant through the Health Department that allowed us to be able to have a Comprehensive Land Use Plan like the one being presented today
- This is an opportunity to identify commercial zones
- It was an opportunity for each municipality and the county to have input into the plan
- This proposed plan protects the aesthetic beauty of this county – Dan River, Sauratown Mountains

- Already have Voluntary Agricultural Districts
- Feel Eric did a great job
- Appreciate Eric and his staff sitting down and talking to citizens
- What is best in downtown King, may not be what is best for downtown Danbury and the rest of the County
- Really a great start
- Do not want to see this plan put on a shelf and gather dust
- Very good job

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Commended Eric for a very nice product
- Initiated a similar product in King while serving as Mayor; have not heard any complaints about that plan
  - Had a lot of negative comments at the start, but folks became familiar with the plan
- Have had some comments that the proposed plan might restrict their ability to use their property as they feel like the highest and best use would be
- Don't see the proposed plan restricting people using their property as they feel is the best use for their property
- Do either of you see the proposed plan restricting citizens from using their property for the best use?

Director Sudderth responded:

- Definitely, do not feel the proposed plan restricts the citizens from doing what they feel is the best use for their property
- The restrictions in the proposed plan are the same restrictions that were included in the Zoning Ordinance when it was adopted in 1983
- Land Development is always going to be questionable to some people when you have governing bodies who say yes or no to a project
- This will not restrict, if anything, it will provide more orderly development, give the Board direction
- The proposed plan mentioned the need for broadband expansion across the county

Eric Woolridge responded:

- Feel Mr. Sudderth's comments are correct, the proposed plan really provides the framework for the discussion (is something appropriate or not appropriate?)
- One thing, as a land use planner, hate to see all the rural roads taken for random commercial businesses
- Have created target areas for growth and development across the county
- The proposed plan puts the burden on the applicant to show how his proposed business will work with the Land Use Plan
- The proposed plan does not tell the commissioners what to do or how to vote; the proposed plan helps to start discussion and does have a lot of flexibility built into it

Commissioner Lankford had no comments.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Was so appreciative to receive the grant which allowed this proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- Have been pushing for such a plan for many years
- Looking forward to be able to use the plan and pass it on to other boards

The Board discussed scheduling a Public Hearing for December 1<sup>st</sup> regarding the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the scheduling of a Public Hearing at the December Planning Meeting on today's Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones directed the Clerk to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

Director Sudderth noted that this would be the only item on the Planning Agenda for December 1<sup>st</sup> (Public Hearing and Discussion/Adoption of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan).

#### **Tax Administration Report – October 2015**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following informational data for the October 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 = 0.5794%	\$20,083,177.00	\$11,637,114.51		\$8,446,062.49
<b>New Schools F-Tech Fund</b> Percentage = 0.5917%	\$1,295,689.00	\$766,615.94		\$529,073.06
<b>Prior Taxes</b> County Regular & Motor Vehicles Percentage = 0.2800%	\$675,000.00	\$188,986.48		\$486,013.52
<b>Business and Personal Property Discovery Report</b>				
<b>Audit Dates</b> (10-01-15/10-31-15)	<b>Accts</b> 63	<b>Total Value</b> \$260,247.00	<b>Taxes Due</b> \$2,417.16	
(07-01-15/06-30-16)	139	\$604,170.00	\$5,350.06	

**Motor Vehicle Release Report****Audit Dates**

Assessment through NC

Department of Motor Vehicles

**Garnishment Totals**

Month	Total Accounts	Original Levy Amount	Collected Amount
(10-1-15/10-31-15)	142	\$53,302.44	\$20,122.49
<b>F/Year 2015-16</b>			
(07-1-15/6-30-16)	196	\$146,525.77	\$72,424.59

**Interstate Collection Report**

October 2015

	Collection	Total Collected
Cumulative Total Collected to Date	NC Debt Setoff	<b>\$235,496.42</b>
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Motor Vehicles	\$134,700.65
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	Property Taxes	\$49,251.57
Cumulative Total Collected (to date)	EMS	<u>\$306,408.00</u>
Collected (to date)	All Categories	<b>\$490,360.22</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: **September 2015**

**New VTS System**

Tax Code	Levy	Interest	Adjustment	Billing	Net
Jurisdiction	Billed	Paid	Made	Cost	Collected
City of King	\$17,325	\$115	-\$4	-\$864	\$16,573
King Car Fee	\$2,385	\$18	None	None	\$2,403
Walnut Cove Town	\$2,972	\$10	None	-\$124	\$2,858
Danbury Town	\$145	\$0	None	-\$5	\$140
School Tax	\$11,659	\$83	-\$44	-\$502	\$11,196
King Fire	\$3,064	\$20	-\$18	-\$134	\$2,932
Rural Hall Fire	\$662	\$3	None	-\$29	\$636
Walnut Cove Fire	\$2,399	\$24	-\$5	-\$102	\$2,316
General County	\$176,764	\$1,239	-\$659	-\$7,606	\$169,738
Service Fire	\$10,069	\$68	-\$48	-\$431	\$9,657
<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>\$227,444</b>	<b>\$1,580</b>	<b>(\$778)</b>	<b>(\$9,797)</b>	<b>\$218,449</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 F/Y 2015-16 (NC Vehicle Tax System Summary Per Tax District**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Cumulative Collection of NC

Vehicle Tax Summary per Tax District for the Board's review:

### **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	\$63,578.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 1,611</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(2,721.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$1.69</b>	Total Net Collected	\$60,857.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Town of Walnut Cove	\$9,140.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 362</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(377.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$1.04</b>	Total Net Collected	\$8,763.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Town of Danbury	\$509.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 30</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(20.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.67</b>	Total Net Collected	\$489.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	F Tech/School Fund	\$37,885.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 13,978</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(1,602.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.12</b>	Total Net Collected	\$36,283.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	King Fire District	\$10,107.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 2,129</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(437.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21</b>	Total Net Collected	\$9,670.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Rural Hall Fire District	\$2,015.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 411</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(85.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.21</b>	Total Net Collected	\$1,930.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Walnut Cove Fire Dist.	\$6,647.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 1,590</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(279.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.18</b>	Total Net Collected	\$6,368.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	General County	\$571,973.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 13,978</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(24,199.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$1.73</b>	Total Net Collected	\$547,774.00
<b>Total Cumulative Collected to date (NCVTS) system</b>	Service Fire District	\$33,452.00
<b>Total Vehicles Billed Per Tax Code 7,881</b>	Total Expenses	<u>\$(1,405.00)</u>
<b>Average Cost per Bill = \$0.18</b>	Total Net Collected	\$32,047.00

Total Cumulative Collected NCVTS through September (all tax districts)	\$735,306.00
Total Expenses for NCVTS through September (all tax districts)	\$ (31,125.00)
Total net collected for NCVTS through September (all tax districts)	\$704,181.00
Average cost per total billings through September	\$2.23 per bill

Lowest cost billed = \$2.03 (County, School Fund, Service Fire based on 13,978 cars)  
Highest cost billed = \$3.54 (County, School Fund, King City based on 1,611 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	451	\$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	463	\$277,229.80	\$135,206.53	\$73,293.22	\$1,585.07	48.77%
Nov-15						
Dec-15						
Jan-16						
Feb-16						
Mar-16						
Apr-16						
May-16						
Jun-16						
Totals	1,680	\$990,945.50	\$522,727.72	\$237,242.45	\$8,284.75	52.75%

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 (October 2015) at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review:

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



Name	Bill No	Amount
Carol Forrester	3348-2015	\$54.61
Joshua Branscome	849277-2015	\$70.19
Randy Jones	849272-2015	\$14.78
John Wilson Pearman	242824-2015	<u>\$5.48</u>
Total		<b>\$145.06</b>

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

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (October 2015) at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

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

Name	Bill No	Amount
J W Pearman Trucking LLC	10263-2015	<u>\$154.02</u>
Total		<b>\$154.02</b>

### **Refunds More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (October 2015) at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting:

#### **Refunds More Than \$100 - Real/Personal Property**

Name	Bill No	Amount	Reason
Jordan Manuel	26516198	\$133.53	Sold vehicle
Irvin Pack	23477677	<u>\$120.38</u>	Sold vehicle
Total		<b>\$253.91</b>	

### **Exempt Property Late Application**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Exempt Property Late Application at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the November 23<sup>rd</sup>

meeting:

- Owner
  - Germanton Baptist Church  
1120 Willow Street  
Germanton, NC 2709
- Parcel
  - #693111553787
- Reason
  - Germanton Baptist Church acquired this property, which adjoins their existing tract, in 2014. The application was received on October 23, 2015.
- Per NC General Statute 105-282.1(a1) Late Application – an application may be approved by the Board of Equalization and Review or if that board is not in session, by the Board of County Commissioners
- Tax Office is recommending approval of this late application

Tax Administrator Oakley requested to the following items be placed on the November 23<sup>rd</sup>

Consent Agenda:

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100.00
- Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100.00
- Exempt Property Late Application

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the 58% collection rate is on schedule with the last couple of years with this year being a little more revenue because of the tax increase.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that the tax revenue from Duke Energy (approximately \$3 million) does not come in until the last minute – January 2016.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that there was a big boost in the projected utilities revenue due to a large amount of coal being stored at Duke Power Belews Creek.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that RJReynolds at Brook Cove is building a 6,000 sq ft building for office space at the Brook Cove location which will provide tax revenue
- Confirmed with Tax Administrator Oakley that an empty storage container, at Brook Cove, is valued the same as a full container (lost that revenue in the early nineties)

The Board had no issues with Administrator Oakley's report and placing the requested items on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Consent Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consent of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the following items on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Consent Agenda:

- Real and Personal Releases more than \$100.00
- Real and Personal Refunds more than \$100.00
- Exempt Property Late Application

### **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 and October 2015 data for all services
      - Provided updated data for September that was missing due to the information not being available by the meeting date
      - Some of the October data is missing due to information is not yet available by today's meeting date (those will be provided next month)
- FNS Quality Control Case Report
  - Provides information regarding the Quality Control Case Report (Food Stamp Case monitored)
- County Oversight Report for First Quarter – Adult Car Home Monitoring
  - NCDHHS makes sure that DSS is doing what it is supposed to do when monitoring Adult Homes in the County

### **NCFast Update:**

- NCFast Overall Timeline provided for Board members' review

### **Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)**

DSS Director Stacey Elmes presented the following information regarding LIEAP:

- Federally-funded program that provides for a one-time vendor payment to help eligible households pay their heating bills

- Priority in eligibility is given to disabled persons receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services or households in which at least one member is age 60 and older
- Applications will be taken from December 1<sup>st</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup> or until funds are exhausted
- If funds are not exhausted by February 1<sup>st</sup>, households without a disability or elderly member can be considered
- Applications for all other households will be taken from February 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> until funds are exhausted

## Metrics

- As of October 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
      - New worker is working to get paperwork to Black Mountain
    - Adoptions – In Compliance
  - Child Protective Services
    - Investigations – In Compliance
    - 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 one SW Supervisor has 8 Social Workers and the other has 6 Social Workers
- Staffing (Years of Service) – In Compliance
- Medicaid Transportation – In Compliance
- Clerical – In Compliance
- Special Observances
  - November is Family Caregivers Month
    - Respite Care for Caregivers – theme for National Family Caregivers
  - November is National Adoption Month

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth noted no “red” in this month’s report (metric chart).

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Director Elmes that she felt the Agency was on the right track with no reds and very little yellow on the metric chart.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Agree with Commissioner Booth’s observation of DSS being on the right track
- Questioned Director Elmes about her thoughts about the metric chart?

Director Elmes responded:

- Agree that the Agency is on the right track
- Main issue has been in foster care in the past
- Hopefully have some staff that will stay
- Once they are fully trained, it will make a huge difference to DSS and the children and families that we serve

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Director Elmes that going from contract to full time employees has been very beneficial.

Commissioner Lankford questioned Director Elmes how close were the Work First participants monitored?

Director Elmes responded:

- Income Maintenance Supervisor monitors the Work First Program
- Getting ready to spend some time in Surry County because currently struggling with Work First in NCFAS
- Have been told by state representatives that Surry County has a very good grasp on Work First in NCFAS

The Board had no issues with Director Elmes' report.

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

**Convey of Francisco Elementary School Property**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information received from Stokes

County School Attorney Fredrick G. Johnson:

- Received a letter from Attorney Johnson on behalf of the Board of Education responding to inquiries from the Board of Commissioners:
  - “urgency of getting a decision from the Commissioners on the Francisco Elementary School Property”
  - “major reasons” for such urgency
- Board of Education, after determining that the Francisco Elementary School property is no longer suitable or necessary for public use, was required by NC General Statute 115C-518 to offer the property to the Board of Commissioners prior to its disposition of the property by any of the methods authorized by statute
- That offer was conveyed to the Board of Commissioners on August 4<sup>th</sup>
- Until the Board of Commissioners elects whether or not to obtain this property, the Board of Education is not in position to pursue other alternatives for its disposition
- In the interim, the Board of Education (and, in turn, the County) continues to incur costs of insuring and maintaining the property
- A decision by the Board of Commissioners prior to the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Education would be appreciated
- Provided information to the Board which was obtained from Executive Finance Director Lanette Moore regarding the 2015-16 Francisco Expenditures
  - Total Expenditures from July 1<sup>st</sup> to October 19<sup>th</sup> = \$16,042.46
  - Total amount for Electrical for July and August = \$2,859.95
  - Expenditure information provided by Ms. Moore detailed expenditures that had been cancelled and others that were recurring expenditures

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion

Vice Chairman Walker questioned what the Engineering Fee (amount being \$6,505)

entailed that was on the Francisco Expenditure Information?

Board of Education Member Bill Hart, who was in attendance for the meeting, noted that he could answer Vice Chairman Walker's question.

The Board unanimously agreed to allow Mr. Hart to speak.

Member Hart responded:

- Engineering fees were paid to Moorefield Engineering for determining whether the building should or should not be closed; this report helped to determine closing the school

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Would like to know how expenditures could be determined regarding an annual cost if the Board decided to take over the facility on an interim basis

County Manager Morris responded:

- Would need to take the list and determine which would be recurring cost and which would be non-recurring costs
- Would think the following would be recurring costs:
  - Electrical
  - Rental –trailer
  - Permits – underground storage tank – annual fee
  - Alarm Monitoring – annual fee
  - Wastewater \$200 per quarter
- Would also like for the Board to keep in mind winterization that will be needed for the facility very soon along with insurance premiums

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- In my due diligence, insurance has been quoted at approximately \$3,000 per year

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Would definitely need estimated costs that the Board would be assuming if the Board agrees to take the facility from the Board of Education

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Would say the annual expenditure cost would be approximately \$51,000
- In doing my due diligence, there are about six different organizations that might want to participate in rental of part of the facility which will take some time to figure out
- Do not think we can wait 18 months to come up with a plan

Mr. Stimson, who spoke in Public Comments, noted that his comment regarding 18 months depends on fast the Board moves on the project.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Have a lot of questions regarding Vice Chairman Walker 's questions and what the community is saying
- Need more answers before making a decision
- Sustainability is another question that needs to be addressed
- Would like to know more about Commissioner Lankford's comments regarding potential organizations who might want to rent space in the facility

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Fully support what the community is trying to do with this facility
- Know schools are important and that schools and fire departments are anchors in a community, part of an identity for the community
- I am on board with trying to work out whatever we can to work with these folks who came here today and others to see something good happen with this facility
- We also have this thing call “balance”
- We have to balance what we would like to do, with what we have in place to use as far as resources and what decisions that can be made to help this process move along
- Want to say publicly that I am on board with trying to work something out, work with the community to see something good happen to this facility; it is just manner of how we can best do it

Commissioner Inman commented:

- As Vice Chairman Walker stated, we all want the community to retain its identity with Francisco Elementary School
- It has always been the focal point of that community
- How we can make that happen is another story
- The school system wants to know our plans before they make any further plans
- This Board does not have any plans for the facility
- By statutes, property must be offered to the County first
- It could then go to a nonprofit 501(c)(3)
- Community is engaged in the facility remaining in the community
- The decision comes down to the \$ mark; we can’t dodge that
- Need to decide if the Board of Commissioners have any funding to get the project off the ground
- Does the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education need to have a joint discussion?
- Understand the Board of Education needs to get rid of those expenses
- The County doesn’t have any plans for the facility and also doesn’t want those recurring expenses
- Want to do what is best for the community
- Understand the urgency in Attorney Johnson’s letter
- Believe we are at the same place we started – what is best for the community and the facility

Chairman Jones commented:

- Very tough decision because it is something that is very important to that community, but we have to be realistic
- This is very much like Camp Sertoma
- Vacant, older facility that is in violation of current building codes – would need to be upgraded before anyone could occupy the facility
- Not sure of what exactly would have to be done in order for someone to rent the facility



- Using Commissioner Lankford's estimate, it would cost approximately \$81,000 if it took 18 months to develop a plan for the facility which would be a big hit to the county budget
- If we don't do it, then it will be left up to the Board of Education which essentially comes back to the county
- Commend the group that has been trying to save the building
- Try not to be emotional about these things because that has gotten us in so much trouble in the past when you get too attached to a piece of property
- Need to look at costs of renovations to this facility versus building a new facility
- Lot of questions dealing with practicality that I would like answered
- Don't think anyone was expecting this situation with this year's tight budget and pay gaps
- Still have some more work to do

Mr. Stimson commented:

- That is the purpose of wanting to sit down with members of the Board to see if this is doable or should we just forgot about it

Chairman Jones commented:

- Feel that is a good idea for some of the commissioners to meet with you

Commissioner Inman commented:

- When the schools were consolidated and East Surry was built, the old Westfield School was given to the community
- The group has been very active regarding the remaining parts of the old school (part of the school was torn down)
- The gym and cafeteria still remain and provide a valuable service to the community
- It does not have to be the entire facility, need to keep that in mind
- There is probably a lot of uses for the facility, but there has to be funding in order to keep the facility up and bring it up to code
- Have discussed several options for use of the facility -- medical facility, mental health (Westfield Medical Center closed) community cannery, Forsyth Tech classes, etc.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- In the process of talking to the organizations who have expressed interest in possibly renting space in the facility
- Those organizations are interested in seeing inside the facility, which is being arranged

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Would like to know about the nonprofit 501(c)(3)

Paula Duggan, who spoke during Public Comments, suggested moving forward and scheduling a date and time for interested partners to get together.

Commissioner Lankford noted that he wanted to finish his due diligence before meeting.

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Any group can submit proposals to this Board for consideration

Horace Stimson noted a possible meeting with Planning Director Sudderth and County Manager Morris to look at the needs and concerns regarding the facility before doing anything further.

Mr. Stimson continued:

- Need to have answers regarding the facility before going further with analysis to see what is sustainable regarding renting, providing services, etc.
- Need to consider funding for reuse of the facility
- Need to try to put some of the pieces of the puzzle together

Chairman Jones suggested having the County Manager possibly meet with the group to get additional information regarding their plans and ideas.

Vice Chairman Walker questioned Manager Morris what could help the Board determine whether it would be an advantage for the County to take over the facility and then forward to a third party or whether it could be just forwarded to a third party or parties directly from the Board of Education with the county doing whatever minimal we need to do to help this transfer take place?

County Manager Rick Morris responded:

- Don't think it would be a problem to give to a third party, but the third party would have the same problem as the County- recurring expenses that start day one
- Can't determine what code issues and sewer issues until you know exactly what you are going to do with the facility
- Someone has to be prepared to fund it
- There are also concerns like insuring an unoccupied facility which has a new set of rules
- Insurance company will probably require all the playground equipment be removed – liability issue

Vice Chairman Walker noted any additional information would be very helpful.

County Manager Morris commented:

- Will try to have a refined cost for anticipated recurring costs

- Will try to project any onetime cost that may be associated with the facility over the next year – winterization of the facility

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Noted in the engineering report, it stated approximately \$300,000 would have to have been spent before opening the school this past fall
- It also noted approximately over \$1 million would need to be spent over the next three years and \$6 million over the next five years
- It sounds like some these repairs would have to be done before any organization could occupy the building
- Lot of questions to be answered

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, agreed to place the item back on the Discussion Agenda for the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

County Manager Morris noted that he would try to refine the cost projections before the next meeting.

Commissioner Booth noted that he would like to know if the 501(c) (3) has been established.

Vice Chairman Walker noted that he would like a spokesperson from the community group at the next meeting for discussion.

Chairman Jones suggested Ms. Duggan and Mr. Stimson speak directly to the county manager regarding their group's plans.

Commissioner Inman requested that a spokesperson for the Board of Education be present for the discussion at the next meeting.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Discussion Agenda.

### **Proposed Stokes County EMS and Franchised Ambulance Provider Fee Schedule**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information from EMS Director Greg Collins requesting the following fees be adjusted for Stokes County EMS and the Franchised Ambulance Provider Fee Schedule is established:

- Per the Ordinance Governing the Franchising of Ambulance Services in Stokes County - Section 6. (Rates and Charges) Stokes County shall set the rates and fees for franchised ambulance providers operating within Stokes County
- The rates should be in accordance with Stokes County Emergency Medical Services Fees
- It has been quite some time since Stokes County has made changes to our fee schedule and we propose the following rates and fees for Stokes County EMS as well as approved franchised ambulance services within Stokes County

### Stokes County EMS

Type Call	Medicare Allowable	Current Stokes Co. Rate	Proposed Rate
BLS Non-Emergency	\$214.99	\$350.00	\$350.00
BLS Emergency	\$343.98	\$350.00	\$450.00
ALS Non-Emergency	\$257.98	\$475.00	\$475.00
ALS Emergency	\$408.47	\$475.00	\$475.00
ALS Emergency II	\$591.21	\$575.00	\$600.00
Mileage (loaded mileage)	\$7.27	\$8.00	\$9.00
Treat/No transport	\$0	\$100.00	\$100.00
Critical Treat No Transport	\$0	\$350.00	\$350.00
Paramedic Intercept	\$376.22	\$0.00	\$400.00
Wait Time (after first hour)		\$0.00	\$50.00/ ½ hr.

### Franchised Ambulance Service

Type Call	Medicare Allowable	Proposed Rate
BLS Non-Emergency	\$214.99	\$350.00
BLS Emergency	\$343.98	\$450.00
Mileage	\$7.27	\$9.00
Wait Time (after first hour)		\$50.00/ ½ hr.

- It is also requested that as Medicare allowable charges are set by the Center for Medicare Services (CMS), Stokes County should adjust their fees to optimize our rates to receive the maximum allowable reimbursement
- It is requested that the Stokes County Board of County Commissioners grant the County Manager and the Director of Emergency Services the ability to make increases to both the Stokes County EMS and Franchise Ambulance Service fees to maximize reimbursement.
- Did not do the fee adjustments during the FY 2015-16 budget as normal waiting for the franchised ambulance service to be established
- EMS Director Greg Collins is in attendance for the meeting if anyone has any questions
- Would request approval at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ready to go with the recommendation for the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda

Commissioner Inman commented:

- Confirmed with EMS Director Collins that this action will maximize the Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement for the County

EMS Director Collins noted the County was only short on one fee.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Confirmed with EMS Director Collins that the Paramedic Intercept (going from \$0 to \$400) will only be charged if the unit is on a call with a voluntary rescue squad that does not charge (non-charging ambulance services)

EMS Director Collins commented:

- Have not been able to bill for this type of service
- Medicare will allow billing of the Paramedic Intercept
- Would probably only use 4 to 5 times a year
- Currently getting no revenue for this service, will be additional revenue for the county

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

### **Proposed Franchise Agreement – LifeStar Emergency Services**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Franchise Agreement With LifeStar Emergency Services, LLC to operate a non-emergency ground ambulance service within Stokes County:

#### **FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH LIFESTAR EMERGENCY SERVICES, LLC**

**THIS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between Stokes County, a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as “County”; and LifeStar Emergency Services, LLC, hereinafter referred to as “LifeStar”;**

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, Stokes County adopted an Ordinance Governing the Franchising of Ambulance Services in Stokes County; and

**WHEREAS**, Stokes County has determined a need for nonemergency ambulance service within Stokes County in order to assure the provision of an adequate and continuing level of ambulance services to residents of Stokes County, and to preserve, protect and promote the public health, safety and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, LifeStar Emergency Services, LLC has submitted to Stokes County an application for an ambulance franchise; and Stokes County has determined that LifeStar meets state standards and the standards required by the Ordinance Governing the Franchising of Ambulance Services in Stokes County; and

**WHEREAS**, Stokes County has agreed to grant to LifeStar Emergency Services, LLC, a non-exclusive franchise to operate a non-emergency ground ambulance service within Stokes County, subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth;

**NOW THEREFORE**, Stokes County hereby grants to LifeStar Emergency Services, LLC, a non-exclusive franchise to operate a non-emergency ground ambulance service within Stokes County, in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

1. LifeStar may provide non-emergency ground ambulance services within the boundaries of Stokes County, or provide services that begin within Stokes County and terminate outside the County, or begin outside the County and terminate within the boundaries of the County.
2. LifeStar may provide emergency services only when specifically authorized by the Stokes County Emergency Services Director.
3. LifeStar shall operate as support response or backup for the Stokes County Emergency Services Department during a catastrophe or emergency when requested and deemed necessary by the Stokes County Emergency Services Director or his/her designee.
4. LifeStar shall respond in a timely manner to all service requests authorized within Stokes County pursuant to this Agreement; and maintain the resources, including personnel, equipment and vehicles within Stokes County to timely respond.
5. LifeStar shall at all times be licensed to operate the ambulance service under the laws of the State of North Carolina, including those relating to certification as to equipment, vehicles, and personnel. LifeStar shall at all times comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including the provisions of Article 7 of Chapter 131 E of the North Carolina General Statutes to the extent they apply.
6. LifeStar shall at all times maintain workers' compensation, vehicle, business and general liability and property damage insurance coverage relating to the operations and personnel of the

ambulance service as reasonably required by Stokes County. Certificates of insurance shall be provided when requested by the County.

7. LifeStar shall charge only such fees for ambulance services as are approved by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners for such services within the County.

8. This Franchise Agreement includes, and is subject to all the terms and conditions of an operational agreement detailing the specific standard operating procedures of LifeStar, which agreement shall be executed by LifeStar and the Stokes County Emergency Services Director. Said agreement is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. The Stokes County Emergency Services Director shall approve the name of the franchise operator or service within Stokes County that is publicized and identified on its vehicles. Emergency and nonemergency transportation services are defined for the purposes of this ambulance franchise ordinance.

9. This franchise is non-transferable and shall be subject to suspension, revocation or termination by the Board of County Commissioners or the County Manager pursuant to the provisions of Section 10 of the Stokes County Franchise Ordinance Governing Ambulance Services in Stokes County, in the event of (a) the violation of any of the conditions and restrictions contained herein; or (b) breach of the operational agreement as approved by LifeStar and the Stokes County Emergency Services Director; or (c) abandonment of the franchise or discontinuance of the exercise of the franchise privileges granted.

10. LifeStar shall permit access by representatives of Stokes County at all reasonable times to the premises, personnel, equipment and records of LifeStar, to verify compliance with the conditions and restrictions of this franchise agreement. LifeStar shall at all times maintain and make available records relating to the franchise and operations, including but not limited to permits, personnel information and certifications, equipment, agreements, and insurance coverage.

11. This Franchise Agreement is subject to all terms and conditions set forth in the Ordinance Governing the Franchising of Ambulance Services in Stokes County.

12. This Franchise Agreement shall be effective upon its execution by the duly authorized Manager of LifeStar, and is granted for a period of two (2) years, beginning on said date.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 on behalf of Stokes County:

**STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman of the Board** **Clerk to the Board**

The terms and conditions of this Franchise Agreement are agreed to and accepted this \_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

## **LIFESTAR EMERGENCY SERVICES, LLC**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Manager

County Manager Rick Morris noted:

- Have had several meetings regarding the proposed franchise agreement
- Has been approved by the County Attorney
- Have met with LifeStar regarding the proposed franchise agreement
- Franchise Agreement will get LifeStar Emergency Services going as our convalescent carrier
- Franchise Agreement will allow LifeStar Emergency Services to operate a non-emergency ground ambulance service in Stokes County
- EMS Director Greg Collins is in attendance for the meeting to answer any questions
- Would request approval at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with EMS Director Collins that there would be no fees paid by the county to LifeStar for their services and would receive only revenue from the calls they run

EMS Director Collins commented:

- County will lose revenue for no longer providing convalescent services, but the County is currently not providing our citizens with adequate paramedic level service because they have units tied up with nonemergency calls
- County will not subsidize LifeStar
- The County will pick up revenue from the emergency calls that are being run by other county EMS Services such as Forsyth and Rockingham
- Overall projection for loss of revenue is approximately \$200,000 for convalescent care
- Forsyth County transported two times in the King area last week
- Chose to go with a two-year agreement trial period instead of putting on an additional unit just for convalescent care
- It will be up to the County in two years to make a decision on which route to follow
- Guilford County just put on a BLS unit
- Forsyth County is currently not running BLS calls
- LifeStar shall operate as support response or backup for the Stokes County EMS during a catastrophe or emergency when requested and deemed necessary by the Stokes County EMS Director or his/her designee

Commissioner Inman confirmed with EMS Director Collins that even though there is a projection loss of \$200,000 in revenue, that could not be the net loss due to being able to run



additional emergency calls that the County is currently not running due to all units being tied up.

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- LifeStar is looking at leasing space from the County – additional revenue

Vice Chairman Walker questioned what is the determining factor for Stokes EMS versus LifeStar running the calls?

EMS Director Collins responded:

- Communications will determine who will run the call based on information provided to E911

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

#### **Health Department – Bad Debt Write Off**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information from Interim Health Director Wanda East pertaining to Bad Debt Write Off Request for the Health Department:

- Per Stokes County Health Department Fees Policy, an annual review of patient accounts will be made to check for bad debt
- As of June 30, 2014, 525 patient records had no activity of a visit or payment during Fiscal Year 2014-15
- In order to be in compliance with the State Consolidated Agreement, NC Accreditation Standards and the Health Department's policy, the Health Department requests to write off bad debt in the amount of \$12,833.20
- Interim Health Department Wanda East is in attendance today to answer any questions
- Would request action at the next meeting

Interim Health Director Wanda East commented:

- As Manager Morris stated, this has to be done as part of the accreditation plus it is in the department's policy
- There were 525 patient records that had no activity during Fiscal Year 2014-15
- There were only 6 of the 525 accounts that had a balance of \$50, the rest being lower with some only \$2 or \$3

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the request.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

**Health Department – Physician Extender II – Proposed Grade Increase**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a proposed grade increase for the Physician Extender II (mid-level provider) positions at the Health Department:

- This is my recommendation to address the issue of having only one Provider at the Health Department
- Interim Health Director East has provided the Board with information regarding the impact of having only one provider along with surrounding counties salaries
- Have got to get another provider to avoid a lot of risk associated with Medicare and Medicaid and to make the revenue budgeted for Fiscal Year 2015-16
- Hope to attract a qualified candidate by moving the grade up
- Would request to move the Physician Extender II position from a grade 87 to grade 88
- The current starting salary is \$70,908.24 (grade 87-8A)
- This one-grade increase would increase the starting pay to \$73,745.36 (grade 88-8A)
- Interim Health Department Wanda East is in attendance today to answer any questions
- Would request action at the next meeting

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth questioned if salaries were compared with Rockingham, Surry, Yadkin, and Caswell Counties or smaller counties?

Interim Director East responded:

- Surry County was unavailable from the MAPS Group of County Salaries
- Rockingham County = \$72,772 (starting salary)
- Yadkin and Caswell Counties were unavailable from the MAPS Group of County Salaries
- Surry County's position has been vacant for over a year
- Total lost revenue from July 2015 to current is approximately \$57,722.97 assuming that another provider would see as many or more patients

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Interim Director East that there could be over

\$230,000 loss in revenue for an entire budget year.

Interim Health Director East commented:

- Besides the lost revenue, the Health Department transferred 38 patients to another provider from September to October along with referring 45 patients to another agency for healthcare such as the emergency room

Commissioner Lankford suggested action at the next meeting.

Vice Chairman Walker questioned if the one-grade increase is enough and would like the manager's thoughts on only a one-grade increase?

The Board discussed the one-grade increase.

County Manager Morris commented:

- See Vice Chairman Walker's point regarding only a one-grade increase
- Can do one step which takes two board meetings, then advertisement and interview and possibly find no qualified candidate
- Then you have to repeat the same process with another couple of months passing
- Don't really have an answer
- Could possibly do an accelerated process of approving more than one grade, possibly seeing if one grade works, if not, increase another grade

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- An accelerated process would be to do a survey
- Money is probably not the main reason keeping candidates from Stokes County, there could be several reasons
- Ready to do only one grade at the time

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the current provider saw 591 patients in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2015-16
- Confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the state recommends 20 patients per day per provider
- Confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the current provider is seeing the patients scheduled along with charting that is required

Interim Health Director East commented:

- Try to overbook the schedule in order to accommodate the no shows

County Manager Morris commented:

- With the new medical records requirements, do not see how a provider can see 20 patients a day and keep up with those medical records requirements

Interim Health Director East commented:

- Worry about being audited due to not being in compliance with insurance companies – not getting physicals scheduled promptly
- Worry about current provider getting “burnout” possibly going somewhere else
- Contracting a provider would be well over \$100,000 a year

The Board discussed the state requirement of seeing 1,200 patients in a quarter.

Interim Health Director East responded:

- 591 patients is all she saw in the first quarter, this does not mean that 591 is all she can do in a quarter
- You have to factor in holidays, provider out sick/vacation, no shows
- Currently, staff is booking 20 patients a day
- You could get an experienced provider that could possibly see 20 patients per day

Commissioner Booth noted the difference being more than 50% less in what the current provider is seeing versus what the state recommends.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Interim Health Director East that the Health Department does have several no shows each day.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

### **Health Department – External Posting**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the external posting of a vacant Medical LabTech position:

- The Medical Lab Tech was reclassified and approved at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - (Office Assistant V to Medical Lab Tech)
- Position has been advertised internal with no qualified applications being received
- Interim Health Department Wanda East is in attendance today to answer any questions
- Request to move the item to today’s Action Agenda in order to expedite the hiring process

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with posting the vacant position externally.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

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

**Emergency Medical Services – External Posting**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding external posting of two vacant EMT Intermediate/Paramedic positions:

- Two vacant EMT Intermediate/Paramedic will be posted internal next week
- These two positions will fill a vacant position created by resignation of one employee and the forthcoming opening created by filling the vacant C-Shift Supervisor position
- In the event that one or both of these positions are unable to be filled internally, request both vacancies be externally posted
- EMS Director Greg Collins is in attendance today to answer any questions
- Request to move the item to today's Action Agenda in order to expedite the hiring process

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

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

**Proposed Park Project – Pinnacle Lions Club – Fiscal Year 2015-16**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a Proposed Park Project for Pinnacle Lions Club received from President Brandon Holmes:

- The Pinnacle Lions Club is applying for the Park Improvement Grant of \$2,000.00, set forth by the Board of County Commissioners for Fiscal Year for 2015-16
- The club understands that it must match fifty percent of the total grant through labor and materials
- Our club is committed to total park improvement by giving Pinnacle Lions Park much needed upgrades that consists of the following projects:
  - New concrete sidewalks at club building entrance
  - New Heating/Air Unit
  - Finish siding exposed OSB at backdoor exit

- New park benches
- Addition of horseshoe pit
- Addition of sand volleyball court

The following is an estimate cost of materials

#### **ESTIMATED COST OF MATERIALS**

Concrete Mix (10- 80lb bags)	\$43.87
Heating/Air Unit	\$319.93
Park Benches (5)	\$233.90
Treated Lumber (12 – 2x8x12)	\$119.03
PVC Pipe (4’’x10’) (19 pieces)	\$316.74
Pipe Fittings/Elbows	\$46.56
Wood Post (2- 6x6x12)	\$72.70
Volleyball Net	\$32.09
Sand (Volleyball Court – Horseshoes) 21 cubic yards	\$900.00
Nails/Screws	\$28.18
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>\$2,113.00</b>

#### **ESTIMATED COST OF LABOR**

Area Prep	\$500
Concrete Pouring	\$300
Installation of AC Unit	\$150
Volleyball Court/Horseshoe Pit Construction	\$400
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>\$1,350.00</b>

County Manager Morris also noted:

- Completed a grant project in last year’s budget – very successful project (replacement of roof and installation of hot water heater)

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the Agenda item.

The Board agreed to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on

the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

**Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee – Clarification of Duties and Tasks**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following regarding the request at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide the Board of Commissioners clarification of duties and tasks for the Human Services Advisory Committee for their consideration:

**Procedures for the Human Services Advisory Committee**

**Communication Between the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the Human Services Advisory Committee:**

The county manager attends all meetings of the Human Services Advisory Committee. Requests by the BOCC for advice and assistance from the committee shall flow through the county manager to the Chairman of the Human Services Advisory Committee.

**Duties:**

When requested to do so, the Human Services Advisory Committee Shall Advise the BOCC on the following items plus other items as determined by the BOCC:

- (1) Fees for departmental services based upon recommendations of the Health Director.
- (2) Compliance with laws related to State and federal programs.
- (3) Recommendations related to the creation of local human services programs.
- (4) Adoption of local health regulations and advice related to enforcement appeals of local regulations.
- (5) County performance related to regulatory health functions required by State law.
- (6) Recommendations on budget requirements related to the Health Department and Department of Social Services
- (7) Review and provide advice on audits and reviews of human services programs, including quality assurance activities, as required by State and federal law or as may otherwise be necessary periodically, such as accreditation.
- (8) Advise local officials through the county manager and receive tasking from the BOCC through the county manager.
- (9) Perform public relations and advocacy functions related to the Health Department and Department of Social Services at the request of the BOCC.
- (10) Provide advice on hiring of key personnel in the Health Department and Department of Social Services when requested to do so by the BOCC.
- (11) The Human Services Advisory Committee shall serve as a “Think Tank” for the BOCC to analyze and research issues, when requested to do so.
- (12) Provide formal quarterly updates on activities of the Human Services Advisory Committee

- (13) Provide advice using the expertise of the Human Services Advisory Committee members on any Health and Social Services related issues where the advice is requested by the BOCC

County Manager Morris noted:

- Duties came primarily from the General Statute that changed everything and required the establishment of the Advisory Committee
- Chairman Keith Lawson has reviewed the duties and has no issues

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that the Board of Commissioners determines what is requested of this Committee.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Have a concern with item (6) – do not see budgeting as part of this committee's responsibilities

Vice Chairman Walker noted that he was very comfortable with that item being on the list of duties.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Respect input from our committees and our citizens

Commissioner Lankford reiterated that budget items are not the responsibility of a committee, it is the responsibility of this five-member board and the county's budget officer.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with County Manager Morris that all budget requests are submitted to him from Department Heads or outside agencies.

County Manager Morris commented:

- This Committee reports to you and may have recommendations regarding needs of those specific departments that I may have not put in my recommended budget
- The Board of Commissioners could then direct me to include the Committee's recommendations in the recommended budget

Commissioner Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that all the duties being performed will be based on the Board of County Commissioners requesting the committee to perform one of the listed duties.



County Manager Morris continued:

- Feel there is a danger if you don't request their assistance, they will quit coming to meetings
- This committee wants to be an active committee

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- As a Board, if we did not pick up on this committee wanting to be an active committee from their presentation at the previous, we are sitting here deaf and mute

Chairman Jones agreed with Vice Chairman Walker's regarding the committee wanting to be an active committee and do not want to see the committee having no members show up for meetings.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- The message was loud and clear, "if we are going to be a committee, let us do some things that matter, don't let us just be a name in place"
- This is a good attempt to make this more of a legitimate committee
- If they are not able to provide advice on budget requirements, then what is the use for them to provide advice on these other things because a lot of them depend on budget requirements
- Either let them do their job or not
- Three votes will decide one way or the other

Commissioner Booth commented:

- I don't think they need to get the impression that they automatically do these 13 duties; these things would have to be requested from the Board of Commissioners
- I am afraid providing them this list will give them the impression that these are their duties

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- If we don't give them something to do as the manager noted, we are making a joke out of them
- If I were on that board and not given duties, would tell you I have better things to do with my time

County Manager Morris commented:

- Number twelve tells them they have to give this Board a quarterly update if approved by the Board
- Remember the statutes require this committee
- Also this is a draft for this Board to change, add, or delete

Chairman Jones noted that she did not want to lose this committee and the need to utilize them in some manner.

Vice Chairman Walker agreed with Chairman Jones regarding the need to utilize this committee.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Discussion Agenda.

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Discussion Agenda.

County Manager Morris requested Board members to let him know if there was anything they would like added to the list of duties for consideration.

Vice Chairman Walker requested Chairman Keith Lawson be present at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting for the discussion.

#### **Proposed Upset Bid – Refuse Truck – Solid Waste**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed Upset Bid for the Surplus Refuse Truck for Solid Waste:

- Per NC General Statute 160A-269, an advertisement for upset bids was placed in the Stokes News along with being posted on the County's webpage pertaining to the sale of a 1999 Mack Heil Refuse Truck (Vin #1M2K195C6XM014321)
- The upset bid process started on Thursday, October 1, 2015 and ended at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 with the following bids:
  - Upset Bid #2 = \$13,900.00 – Carolina Environmental Systems
  - Upset Bid #1 = \$13,175.00 – Foothill Waste Solutions
  - Initial Bid = \$12,500.00 – Carolina Environmental Systems (approved at the Board of Commissioners meeting on 09-14-15)
- At this point, the Board of Commissioners has the option of accepting or rejecting the offer from Carolina Environmental Systems
- Mr. Stovall and I both recommend accepting Carolina Environmental Systems' offer to purchase this surplus refuse truck for \$13,900.00
- Would request this be moved to today's Action Agenda in order to expedite the sale of this surplus equipment no longer needed by the County

Chairman Jones opened the floor for discussion

Commissioner Inman confirmed with Manager Morris that the bid of \$13,900 stood for ten days and was not upset.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on today's Action Agenda.

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

**Appointments – Stokes County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following regarding a recommendation for appointment to the Stokes County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council:

- JCPC has received a resignation from Chad Beasley – Representative for Stokes County Schools
- JCPC would like to recommend the following new appointees:
  - Doug Rose – Stokes County School Representative (term ending 6-30-17)
  - Allison Boothe – Stokes County School Student Representative (term ending 06-30-17)

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated the following:

- Doug Rose – Stokes County School Representative
- Allison Boothe – Stokes County School Student Representative

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Action Agenda.

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

**Voluntary Agricultural District**

**Proposed Amendment – Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program Ordinance**

**Appointment – Stokes County Agricultural Advisory Board**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to approve the Proposed Amendment to the Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program Ordinance which was presented at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to change the meeting requirements to quarterly instead of at least every two months.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Proposed Amendment to the Voluntary Farmland Presentation Program Ordinance. Chairman Jones seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Walker confirmed with Commissioner Booth, who is familiar with the Voluntary Agricultural District, that this amendment is business as usual.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jones noted the following were nominated at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Big Creek Township = Grant Christian
- Quaker Gap Township = Derrick Joyce
- Yadkin Township = Jimmy Dalton
- Snow Creek Township = Manley Stovall
- Peters Creek/Danbury Township = George Cutchins
- Meadows/Sauratown Township = David Hartman
- Beaver Island Township = Reggie Rutledge

Chairman Jones opened the floor for any further nominations to the Stokes County Agricultural Advisory Board.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones polled the Board regarding the following nominations:

- Big Creek Township = Grant Christian
- Quaker Gap Township = Derrick Joyce
- Yadkin Township = Jimmy Dalton
- Snow Creek Township = Manley Stovall
- Peters Creek/Danbury Township = George Cutchins
- Meadows/Sauratown Township = David Hartman
- Beaver Island Township = Reggie Rutledge

The Board unanimously appointed the following members to serve until July 1, 2016:

- Big Creek Township = Grant Christian
- Quaker Gap Township = Derrick Joyce

- Yadkin Township = Jimmy Dalton
- Snow Creek Township = Manley Stovall
- Peters Creek/Danbury Township = George Cutchins
- Meadows/Sauratown Township = David Hartman
- Beaver Island Township = Reggie Rutledge

#### **Appointments – Stokes County Jury Commission**

Chairman Jones noted the following was nominated at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to serve on the Stokes County Jury Commission:

- Durward Bennett

Chairman Jones opened the floor for nominations.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones polled the Board:

- Commissioner Booth: Durward Bennett
- Vice Chairman Walker: Durward Bennett
- Chairman Jones: Durward Bennett
- Commissioner Inman: Durward Bennett
- Commissioner Lankford: Durward Bennett

Chairman Jones noted the Board unanimously approved Durward Bennett to serve on the Stokes County Jury Commission.

#### **Appointments – City of King Planning/Board of Adjustments - ETJ**

Chairman Jones noted that Jerry Messick was nominated for the regular member and Deelaine Mabe was nominated for the alternate member at the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Jones polled the Board regarding the following nominations to serve on the City of King Planning/Board of Adjustments – ETJ:

- Jerry Messick – Regular member
- Deelaine Mabe – Alternate member

Commissioner Booth: Jerry Messick –Regular Member & Deelaine Mabe –Alternate Member

Vice Chairman Walker: Jerry Messick –Regular Member & Deelaine Mabe –Alternate Member

Chairman Jones: Jerry Messick –Regular Member & Deelaine Mabe –Alternate Member

Commissioner Inman: Jerry Messick –Regular Member & Deelaine Mabe –Alternate Member

Commissioner Lankford: Jerry Messick –Regular Member & Deelaine Mabe –Alternate Member

Chairman Jones noted that Jerry Messick –Regular Member & Deelaine Mabe –Alternate Member had been unanimously approved to serve on the City of King Planning/Board of Adjustments –ETJ.

### **Public Hearing for the Proposed Comprehensive County-Wide Land Use Plan**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion to schedule a Public Hearing for the proposed Comprehensive County-Wide Land Use Plan for Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 7:05 pm as requested at today's meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to approve a Public Hearing for the proposed Comprehensive County-Wide Land Use Plan for Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 7:05 pm. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Health Department – External Posting**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the external posting for a vacant Medical Lab Tech presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve external posting for a vacant Medical Lab Tech. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Emergency Medical Services – External Posting**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the external posting for two vacant Intermediate/Paramedic positions presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve external posting for two vacant Intermediate/Paramedic positions. Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Proposed Upset Bid – Refuse Truck – Solid Waste**

Chairman Jones entertained a motion regarding the proposed Upset Bid for the Surplus Refuse Truck presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Inman moved to award the high bid from Carolina Environmental Systems for \$13,900.00 for the sale of the county refuse truck Vice Chairman Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

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

Commissioner Lankford moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

---

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

November 9, 2015

---

**Ronda Jones**  
**Chairman**