

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
MARCH 29, 2016

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 Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager Richard D. Morris
County Attorney Tyrone Browder
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins
Finance Director Julia Edwards
Health Director Scott Lenhart

Others:
Attorney Adam Hall – Browder/Overby Attorneys at Law

Chairman Leon Inman called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

INVOCATION

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

Commissioner Lankford delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Inman invited those in attendance to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve or amend the March 29, 2016 Agenda.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the March 29th Agenda as presented.

Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Upcoming meetings:
 - Special Meeting with State Representatives–Wednesday, March 30, 2016 - 10:00 am
 - E&R Meeting – Monday, April 4, 2016 – 1:00 pm

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Glad to see everyone here today

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Very pleased to see the progress of the new Forsyth Tech Community College facility going up
 - On schedule to open for classes in the Fall of 2016
 - Great addition for Stokes County
 - Will be very useful and valuable for education and economic development
 - Will have some focus on trade courses such as plumbing, bricklaying, electrical, carpentry
 - Glad to hear there will be trade courses, not everyone wants to go to college for a four-year degree
 - Will always need those professions
 - Will also have some continuing educational courses in agriculture
- Coal Ash Hearing
 - Attended the Coal Ash Hearing last Wednesday held at the Government Center
 - Was very well attended
 - Conducted by the NC Department of Environmental Quality
 - Purpose of the hearing was to see what level of remediation will be required to be done at the coal ash site located at the Duke Energy facility in Belews Creek
 - Could be Level I, II, or III
 - Level I is mild and Level III is urgent and a lot more involved
 - Input from the public will help determine the remediation for the Belews Creek Coal Ash Site
- Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes
 - Hearing concerns about the hospital and the things that have been happening at the hospital
 - At some point, would like to have some discussion about where things are and where they seem to be going with our hospital
 - Very important issue to our county

- Need to see that things involving medical services stay on track

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Welcome everyone to tonight's meeting
- Very pleased to hear about the trade courses going to be offered at the new community college
- Hearing that there might be a facility built for those trade courses from the funding being received from the recent bond approval
 - Understand there might be as much as \$800,000 for this campus and \$2.5 million for Hanging Rock State Park for the Vade Mecum property

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “He shall live and the gold of Sheba will be given to him; prayer also will be made for him continually and daily shall he be praised” (Psalm)
- Attended the NCACC Insurance Pool Meeting last week
 - Board of Trustees voted that there will be no increase in premiums for liability and worker's compensation
 - Property claims being paid out may increase as much as 50%
 - Very good meeting
 - Continue to receive a discount for being in two insurance pools with the Association

Chairman Inman commented:

- Expressed appreciation to Commissioner Lankford for his service on the insurance pool – Board of Directors
- NCHHS Secretary Brajer approved the merger between CenterPoint Human Services and Cardinal Innovation Healthcare which should be implemented by May 1, 2016
- CenterPoint Human Services will hold the groundbreaking for the 24-hour Crisis Center on Tuesday, April 5th

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Inman noted that the Board of Commissioners will hear Public Comments, but will not respond to Public Comments and that each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes.

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Texie Jessup

6621 NC HWY 89 W

Westfield, NC

Re: Francisco Elementary School

Ms. Jessup presented the following comments:

- Urge the Board to expedite the usage of the school facility by the community as much as you possibly can

- Have professionals in roofing, HVAC, and waste disposal who have offered their expertise to help evaluate the facility (The Construction Professionals Network Institute, Inc.)
- Also have landscapers who have offered their assistance
- Have Construction Professionals from all North Carolina coming to help evaluate the facility on April 6th and 7th
- Need for those professionals to be able to tour the facility
- The longer the building is left unused, the less likely it is that the building will ever be used appropriately
- Urge the Board to work with the community
- Understand that insurance has been an issue

Peggy Wert

1440 Pee wee Cromer Road
Danbury, NC 27016

Re: Ordinance

Ms. Wert presented the following comments:

- Thank you for taking the first steps to protect our County by enacting the moratorium on fracking last September
- Now it is vital to establish an ordinance or ordinances to insure permanent protection
- If you are already working this, and I hope you are, I commend you
- If you have not started, I ask why not?
- I have heard it said that there was plenty of time
- You only have three (3) years and six (6) months has already passed
- You need to start working on this now in order to develop comprehensive, solid rules that will hold up to scrutiny
- Developing these rules will require a lot of foresight, research, and time
- There are talented, intelligent people in "No Fracking in Stokes" and in this county that can help
- Please don't be afraid to enlist our support

E. A. Timm

PO Box 573
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

Re: Lawlessness and Filth

Mr. Timm read and presented the following comments:

"America is in a free-fall of lawlessness and filth!

The Rule of Law is gone, which is evidenced from The Supreme Court, The President, our State Attorney, to Charlotte's City County. The very fact that the Supreme Court is divided between Liberal and Conservative Justices shows that the supreme Law of the Land-The Constitution, which contains our Bill of Rights, is not safe in their hand, since by opinion they interpret, and wrongfully make law. That is not the Rule of Law but opinion. In the Constitution, Article II, Section 3, the President's duties are established: "he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed." No

power is granted to not enforce Congressional Law. Likewise, the State Attorney is not empowered to not enforce State Law. Nor is Charlotte's City Council empowered to violate State Law with their Transgender Bathrooms Ordinance.

Therefore, America's free-fall of lawlessness and filth leads us into a sea of immorality; without a moral standard to understand Right from Wrong, and no moral foundation for Law or Justice. The blind are leading the blind into the depravity explained in Romans 1.

Therefore, the people must rise up, or God will set His face against the unconcerned, which will affect all of us. We must declare as our Founders did- our Moral Foundation for Law-just like, when "He (the King) has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good."

We must respond in-kind:

We the People Declare

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for the People to Declare their Foundation for Law; let our choice resound- "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God" – those Holy Scriptures of the Bible (according to Blackstone's Commentaries, Book 1, Section 2) that our Founders chose, and took their oaths on.

For, who else but God can give life? And he gave Life, gave Us the responsibility to care for that life according to those Laws in His Holy Scriptures. Our Creator established Laws for the whole of Creation, since nothing comes from nothing, and they cause everything to work properly.

Reason and experience forbid us to expect that Morality can exist with contradictions to our Creator's Laws. Contradictions should not be enforced, since they lead to the dissolution of civil society.

Where else in the World, among all the Religions and Atheistic Philosophies, can one find a Higher Moral Standard for Law than that of the Bible's Holy Scriptures, which answers coherently the issues of life: origin, morality, purpose, and destiny?

We Stand Resolved, with our sages of old, our American Founder's Declaration, and Alexandre Vient who said: "Christianity is the immortal seed of freedom of the world."

If we do not choose the highest moral standard, we will be enslaved by depravity and headed down the sewer.

Please consider a Declaration for stating our Foundation for Law, despite the fact that Supreme Court Justices have removed Morality from Law, which is at the center of our problems.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda:

Minutes

- Minutes of March 14, 2016 - Regular Meeting

Sheriff's Department, Animal Control, Senior Services, and Contingency - Budget Amendment #50

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #50.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Sheriff's Department | | | | |
| 100.4310.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$1,682,547.00 | \$3,483.00 | \$1,686,030.00 |
| Animal Control | | | | |
| 100.4380.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$121,963.00 | \$1,105.00 | \$123,068.00 |
| Senior Services | | | | |
| 100.5860.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$112,325.00 | \$2,287.00 | \$114,612.00 |
| Contingency | | | | |
| 100.9910.100 | Leave Cost | <u>\$34,059.00</u> | <u>\$(6,875.00)</u> | <u>\$27,184.00</u> |
| Totals | | \$1,950,894.00 | \$00.00 | \$1,950,894.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Contingency for the payoff of terminated, resigned, retired, dismissed, and compensatory time over limit employees for March. (holiday = \$1,664, vacation = \$3,550, compensatory time = \$1,661)

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

Senior Services- Budget Amendment #51

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #51.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Senior Services | | | | |
| 100.5860.263 | SHIP Grant | <u>\$2,460.00</u> | <u>\$1,232.00</u> | <u>\$3,692.00</u> |
| Totals | | \$2,460.00 | \$1,232.00 | \$3,692.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate SHIP Grant funds.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$1,232.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 100.3301.366 | NC Dept. of Insurance | <u>\$2,460.00</u> | <u>\$1,232.00</u> | <u>\$3,692.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$2,460.00 | \$1,232.00 | \$3,692.00 |

Jail - Budget Amendment #52

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #52.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Jail | | | |
| 100.4320.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$702,885.00 | \$(5,000.00) | \$697,885.00 |
| 100.4320.010 | Salaries & Wages – Overtime | <u>\$3,000.00</u> | <u>\$5,000.00</u> | <u>\$8,000.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$705,885.00 | \$00.00 | \$705,885.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from lapsed salaries to pay full time employees for working extra shifts due to employees being out on workers' compensation. Full time employees that work the extra shift would not accrue compensatory time.

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

Information Systems - Budget Amendment #53

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #53.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | Information Systems | | | |
| 100.4210.510 | Equipment | <u>\$00.00</u> | <u>\$10,000.00</u> | <u>\$10,000.00</u> |
| | Total | \$00.00 | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 |

| Capital Reserve Fund | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 201.4210.009 | Technology | \$15,423.00 | \$(10,000.00) | \$5,423.00 |
| 201.9810.000 | Transfer to General Fund | <u>\$193,758.00</u> | <u>\$10,000.00</u> | <u>\$203,758.00</u> |
| Totals | | \$209,181.00 | \$00.00 | \$209,181.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Capital Reserve to replace the existing ASA Appliance (security firewall) which has reached the end of life. This was approved in the FY 2014-15 budget and transferred to Capital Reserve Fund

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$10,000.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| | General Fund | | | |
| 100.3982.960 | Transfer from Capital Reserve | <u>\$193,758.00</u> | <u>\$10,000.00</u> | <u>\$203,758.00</u> |
| Totals | | \$193,758.00 | \$10,000.00 | \$203,758.00 |

Social Services - Budget Amendment #54

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #54.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | Social Services | | | |
| | Professional Services-Family | | | |
| 100.5310.185 | Caregiver Support | <u>\$12,000.00</u> | <u>\$3,000.00</u> | <u>\$15,000.00</u> |
| Totals | | \$12,000.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To revise the total budget amount for Family Caregiver Support (initial allocation was \$12,000; additional funding received in the amount of \$3,000)

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$3,000.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 100.3301.373 | NWPCOG – HCCBG | <u>\$56,972.00</u> | <u>\$3,000.00</u> | <u>\$59,972.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$56,972.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$59,972.00 |

Environmental Health - Budget Amendment #55

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #55.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | Environmental Health | | | |
| 100.5192.260 | Departmental Supplies | \$8,993.00 | \$4,548.00 | \$13,541.00 |
| 100.5192.511 | Non Capital Equipment | <u>\$00.00</u> | <u>\$2,500.00</u> | <u>\$2,500.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$8,993.00 | \$7,048.00 | \$16,041.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate additional funding for the Food & Lodging Program in the amount of \$7,048.00 for an outstanding compliance rating for food and lodging establishment inspections. Typically, the Food & Lodging Program does not receive funds in this amount, but due to increased lab costs, the state increased the funding amount counties received. Funding will be used to purchase much needed supplies, advertising materials, uniforms, and other needed items.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$7,084.00** 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2016.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 100.3301.234 | Food & Lodging | <u>\$00.00</u> | <u>\$7,084.00</u> | <u>\$7,084.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$00.00 | \$7,084.00 | \$7,084.00 |

Health Department - Budget Amendment #56

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #56.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Health Department | | | | |
| 100.5100.230 | Medical Supplies | <u>\$6,500.00</u> | <u>\$2,049.00</u> | <u>\$8,549.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$6,500.00 | \$2,049.00 | \$8,549.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate additional funding for the Communicable Disease Program for STD Drugs and Prevention. These funds will be used to purchase medical supplies as required by the State Contract Addendum.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$2,049.00** 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2016

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 100.3301.245 | Communicable Disease | <u>\$12,971.00</u> | <u>\$2,049.00</u> | <u>\$15,020.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$12,971.00 | \$2,049.00 | \$15,020.00 |

Health Department - Budget Amendment #57

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #57.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Health Department | | | | |
| 100.5100.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$533,719.00 | \$(8,383.00) | \$525,336.00 |
| 100.5100.090 | Social Security Tax (FICA) | \$33,595.00 | \$(500.00) | \$33,095.00 |
| 100.5100.091 | Medicare | \$7,857.00 | \$(117.00) | \$7,740.00 |
| 100.5100.100 | Retirement | \$36,539.00 | \$(547.00) | \$35,992.00 |
| 100.5100.101 | BB&T 401(k) | \$2,100.00 | \$(81.00) | \$2,019.00 |
| 100.5100.110 | Group Insurance | \$79,776.00 | \$(1,293.00) | \$78,843.00 |
| 100.5100.111 | Dental Insurance | \$5,079.00 | \$(83.00) | \$4,996.00 |
| 100.5100.171 | Term Life | \$1,025.00 | \$(17.00) | \$1,008.00 |
| 100.5100.260 | Departmental Supplies | \$5,465.00 | \$3,500.00 | \$8,965.00 |
| 100.5100.311 | Employee Training | \$3,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| 100.5100.320 | Telephone | \$7,250.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$9,250.00 |
| 100.5100.511 | Non-Capital Equipment | <u>\$00.00</u> | <u>\$4,021.00</u> | <u>\$4,021.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$715,905.00 | \$00.00 | \$715,905.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

Due to receiving additional EBOLA Funding, which is restricted in use, BT Funding is being moved which is not restricted into line items that EBOLA Funding is prohibited from use. Another budget amendment submitted will show the dispersing of EBOLA Funding that will replace those shown on this amendment.

Items to be purchased are as follows: wheel chocks and covers for trailers, air compressor, ratchets, drill and small tool kit, power point projector, crowd control line dividers, digital scale, special needs cots, outreach/fair products, patient/mass fatality accountability software, smart phone, laptop computer for BT Program, ICS 300/440 Training, and purchase of Code RED minutes for Preparedness use.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 100.3301.255 | Bioterrorism | \$28,236.00 | \$00.00 | \$28,236.00 |
| | Totals | \$28,236.00 | \$00.00 | \$28,236.00 |

Health Department - Budget Amendment #58

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #58.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Health Department | | | |
| 100.5100.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$533,719.00 | \$2,477.00 | \$536,196.00 |
| 100.5100.090 | Social Security Tax (FICA) | \$33,595.00 | \$138.00 | \$33,733.00 |
| 100.5100.091 | Medicare | \$7,857.00 | \$32.00 | \$7,889.00 |
| 100.5100.100 | Retirement | \$36,539.00 | \$168.00 | \$36,707.00 |
| 100.5100.110 | Group Insurance | \$79,776.00 | \$431.00 | \$80,207.00 |
| 100.5100.111 | Dental Insurance | \$5,079.00 | \$28.00 | \$5,107.00 |
| 100.5100.171 | Term Life | \$1,025.00 | \$6.00 | \$1,031.00 |
| 100.5100.260 | Departmental Supplies | \$5,465.00 | \$879.00 | \$6,344.00 |
| | Totals | \$703,055.00 | \$4,159.00 | \$707,214.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The Health Program is receiving additional funding of \$4,159.00 for Healthy Communities

Initiative. These funds will be used for one pay period of the Health Educator and to purchase supplies as required by the State Contract Addendum.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$4,159.00** 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2016.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 100.3301.237 | Health Promotion | <u>\$26,832.00</u> | <u>\$4,159.00</u> | <u>\$30,991.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$26,832.00 | \$4,159.00 | \$30,991.00 |

Health Department - Budget Amendment #59

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #59.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Health Department | | | |
| 100.5100.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$533,719.00 | \$6,300.00 | \$540,019.00 |
| 100.5100.090 | Social Security Tax (FICA) | \$33,595.00 | \$391.00 | \$33,986.00 |
| 100.5100.091 | Medicare | \$7,857.00 | \$91.00 | \$7,948.00 |
| 100.5100.171 | Term Life | \$1,025.00 | \$56.00 | \$1,081.00 |
| 100.5100.230 | Medical Supplies | <u>\$6,500.00</u> | <u>\$1,378.00</u> | <u>\$7,878.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$582,696.00 | \$8,216.00 | \$590,912.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The WIC Breastfeeding Program is receiving additional funding of \$8,216.00 for Breastfeeding Peer Counselor activities. These funds will be used for the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor on staff and to purchase supplies needed for the program.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$8,216.00** 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 and must be expended by May 31, 2016.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 100.3301.226 | WIC Breastfeeding Promotion | <u>\$7,500.00</u> | <u>\$8,216.00</u> | <u>\$15,716.00</u> |
| | Totals | \$7,500.00 | \$8,216.00 | \$15,716.00 |

Health Department - Budget Amendment #60

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #60.

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

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Health Department | | | | |
| 100.5100.000 | Salaries & Wages | \$533,719.00 | \$10,757.00 | \$544,476.00 |
| 100.5100.090 | Social Security Tax (FICA) | \$33,595.00 | \$667.00 | \$34,262.00 |
| 100.5100.091 | Medicare | \$7,857.00 | \$156.00 | \$8,013.00 |
| 100.5100.100 | Retirement | \$36,539.00 | \$729.00 | \$37,268.00 |
| 100.5100.101 | BB&T 401(k) | \$2,100.00 | \$108.00 | \$2,208.00 |
| 100.5100.110 | Group Insurance | \$79,776.00 | \$1,293.00 | \$81,069.00 |
| 100.5100.111 | Dental Insurance | \$5,079.00 | \$83.00 | \$5,162.00 |
| 100.5100.171 | Term Life | \$1,025.00 | \$17.00 | \$1,042.00 |
| 100.5100.511 | Non-Capital Supplies | \$00.00 | \$6,190.00 | \$6,190.00 |
| Totals | | \$699,690.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$719,690.00 |

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

The Bioterrorism Program is receiving additional funding of \$20,000.00 for EBOLA related activities. These funds are restricted and can be carried over to FY 2016-17. These funds will be used for Salaries and Fringes of the BT Program Coordinator. Related equipment will be purchased most likely in FY 2016-17.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$20,000.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

| Account Number | Account Description | Current Budgeted Amount | Increase (Decrease) | As Amended |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 100.3301.255 | Bioterrorism | <u>\$28,236.00</u> | <u>\$20,000.00</u> | <u>\$48,236.00</u> |
| Totals | | \$28,236.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$48,236.00 |

Tax Administration Report – February 2016

Releases More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

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

Real and Personal Property (February 2016) at the March 14th meeting for the Board's review

and consideration at the March 29th meeting:

March 29, 2016

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

| Name | Bill No | Amount | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Communications Structures Inc. | 8397-2015 | \$402.22 | Billed as utility |
| Wallace Shelton Inc. | 8423-2008 | \$252.50 | Mr. Shelton is deceased. |
| | 8243-2009 | \$252.31 | The estate is closed. |
| | 8243-2010 | \$214.16 | |
| | 8243-2011 | \$183.21 | |
| John B. Fowler | 301444-2015 | <u>\$371.71</u> | Adjustment of dwelling value |
| Total | | \$1,676.11 | |

Refund More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refund more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (February 2016) at the March 14th meeting for the Board’s review and consideration at the March 29th meeting:

| Name | Bill No | Amount | Reason |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Samuel Walker | 6852107 | <u>\$113.89</u> | Vehicle Sold |
| Total | | \$113.89 | |

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Stokes County Aging Planning Committee – Update

Stokes County Aging Planning Committee Chairman Erma Perkins presented the following update:

- Working very diligently to get the membership to full capacity (15 members)
- Have a recommendation in tonight’s Agenda
- Will be working on the other vacancies with recommendations coming to the Board very soon
- Inviting different departments to the meetings to provide information about services for the elderly
 - Have had Health Director Scott Lenhart and Lisa Warner from CenterPoint Human Services

- EMS Director Greg Collins will be coming in April
- Will soon be focusing on the upcoming budget
 - Should be approximately \$350,000
 - Prioritization of Funding last year
 - Home Delivered Meals
 - Transportation – medical needs
 - Congregate Meals
 - Personal Care – Caregivers
 - General transportation – grocery store
 - Personal Care – Home Aide Services
 - Senior Centers
 - Will probably have the same prioritization this year
- Would like to invite Board members to come to our meetings
- Feel very good about the committee, have a dedicated, hardworking group of members

Chairman Inman opened the floor for comments.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Agree with all those things mentioned by Chairman Perkins on the priority list
- Want to mention how often transportation comes up as a need which is something that we really need to be looking at
- It is so wide spread and needed
- Hearing that transportation is on your list just reinforces the need for transportation in the County
- There can be available services in the county, but they are no good if the person doesn't have transportation to get to those services

Chairman Inman expressed the Board's appreciation for the update.

Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee

Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee Chairman Keith Lawson presented the following update:

- Per the procedures adopted by the Board of Commissioners, providing an update from the Advisory Committee's last meeting
- The adopted procedures were provided to members and discussed with board members
- Board members felt these procedures would allow the committee to be involved and to be able to help
- Consensus of the committee is to support Director Lenhart's proposal regarding the recruitment for a mid-level provider that is scheduled for discussion on tonight's Agenda
- Currently, have one vacancy – general public appointment

- The committee is awaiting a task, ready to serve

Chairman Inman opened the floor for comments.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Appreciate the committee and presenting the update

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Appreciate the work being done by the committee
- Strong supporter of advisory committees/boards, as they are closer to the departments
- The Board is not as close to a specific department as the advisory committee/board
- Value the services provided by the committees/boards
- Confirmed with Chairman Lawson that these new procedures provide an open line of communication between the Advisory Committee and the Board of Commissioners
- Will continue to use that open line of communication

Chairman Lawson noted that the committee also discussed the redundancy of so many meetings that involve the same people and the thought of possibly consolidating some of the committees in the future to make the committees more efficient.

Chairman Inman expressed the Board's appreciation for the update.

State of the County Health Report (SOTCH Report) - 2015

Health Director Scott Lenhart presented the following comments regarding the State of the County Health Report for 2015:

- Required by the Accreditation to present the SOTCH Report annually
- Community Health Assessment is done every four (4) years
- Community Health Assessment is due December 2016
 - In the process of developing the questionnaire for the Community Health Assessment
- Would like to review a couple of things in the SOTCH Report
- Stokes County's unemployment rate has decreased to 4.9% in 2015 from a high of 10.5% in 2009 during the economic downturn
- Top Five (5) Health Concerns Identified by the Community
 - Source: Stokes County Community Health Assessment 2012
 - Cancer
 - Diabetes
 - Heart Disease
 - School Violence
 - Obesity/Overweight

- Community Identified Unhealthy Behaviors
 - Source: Stokes County Community Health Assessment 2012
 - Drug Abuse
 - Alcohol Abuse
 - Lack of Exercise
 - Smoking/tobacco use
 - Poor Eating habits
- Top Five (5) Community Issues Identified by the Community
 - Source: Stokes County Community Health Assessment 2012
 - Unemployment
 - Low income/poverty
 - Availability of health services
 - Lack of inadequate health insurance
 - Positive activities for teens
- Develop health programs from the information identified by the community
- Leading Cause of Death (all ages) Mortality Rates 2014
 - Cancer
 - Diseases of heart
 - Chronic Lower respiratory diseases
 - Cerebrovascular diseases
 - Pneumonia and influenza
 - All other unintentional injuries
 - Diabetes Mellitus
 - Alzheimer's
 - Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis
 - Motor vehicle injuries
 - Suicide
 - Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis
 - Septicemia
- 2010-2014 Ten Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, Number of Deaths, and unadjusted death rates per 100,000
 - Total – all ages
 - Cancer – all sites
 - Suicide ranks #10
 - 00-19 years
 - Conditions originating in the perinatal period
 - Suicide ranks #10
 - 20-39 years
 - Other unintentional injuries
 - Suicide ranks #3
 - 40-64 years
 - Cancer – all sites
 - Suicide ranks #6
 - 65-84 years
 - Cancer – all sites
 - Suicide does not rank in the top ten
 - 85+ years

- Diseases of the heart
 - Suicide does not rank in the top ten
- Making great strides in the last couple of years with the Suicide Task Force with the help of CenterPoint and DayMark
- Stokes County did lead the state in suicide rates per 100,000, but has improved and no longer leads the state in suicide rates per 100,000
- CenterPoint has a center located in the Venable Building on Highway #8
- There is a contract pending with CenterPoint to have DayMark in the Health Department twice a month to see Health Department and Social Services clients
- Transportation is a big issue for patients getting the needed medical and mental health services
- Have developed an ad hoc committee from the Suicide Task Force to look at the need for transportation
 - Have seen a presentation from Rockingham County who already has a program
 - Have spoken to YVEDDI about a possible program
 - Will be looking at a possible transportation grant to get the program off the ground
- Currently serve on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan – trying to look at all aspects of transportation in the County (biking, walking, and access to care issues within the county)
- Comprehensive Land Use Plan
 - Destination by Design was commissioned by the Appalachian Regional Health District as part of a Community Transformation Grant to conduct a 10 county regional plan to promote active living by improving the built environment
- Lot of good things happening
- Will be interesting to see what comes from the 2016 Community Health Assessment

Chairman Inman opened the floor for comments:

Chairman Inman confirmed with Health Director Scott Lenhart that recent reports show that Stokes County is now ranked #25 in suicide rates per 100,000 in North Carolina (2014); no longer ranked #1.

Health Director Lenhart commented:

- Crisis Intervention Training is now being held for professionals in Stokes County
- Mental Health First Aid Training is available for adults as well as teens
- Lot of good things are being developed

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that the school violence includes bullying, assaults, lockdowns in schools, etc. and that may not be a big problem in our

schools but that is one thing that concerns the residents if something did happen such as Sandy Hook.

Health Director Lenhart noted that there is a national problem with obesity/overweight.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Appreciate the interesting information
- Even though the unemployment rate has decreased, Stokes County still is one of the top counties that residents leave the County to work
- Transportation is on everyone's list as a major issue
- Wonder if there should be a taskforce developed and charged with trying to deal with the transportation problem in Stokes County

Health Director Lenhart responded:

- Have several patients who need to be seen by another provider, but can't afford to get to and from the appointment
- Looking at a transportation plan similar to what Rockingham County has developed
- Access to Care is a transportation issue – comes up in every Community Health Assessment

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Confirmed with Director Lenhart that information from the Community Health Assessment is evaluated and programs are developed by the Health Department such as helping with the Farmer's Market
- Confirmed with Director Lenhart that suicide rates per 100,000 are provided by the State

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Not surprised that transportation appeared on the list
- Transportation opens up economic development in an area, reduces isolation in an area, etc.
- Will soon have a new community college, need some type of transportation system that will get those students who do not have transport to the community college
- In this age, you must have transportation
- Need to be also encouraging a healthy community
- Have had several people move out of the county

Director Lenhart noted that approximately 2,000 people have left Stokes County since the last census.

Chairman Inman expressed appreciation to Director Scott for the SOTCH Report.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Health Department – Recruitment of Mid-Level Provider

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the request for recruitment of a Mid-Level Provider:

- Provided the following information submitted by Health Director Scott Lenhart for the Board's review:

As of 2015

Average State Salary \$76,260

Average State Salary Range \$60,054 - \$96,782

Three highest counties

Mecklenburg \$96,782

Rowan \$91,686

Buncombe \$89,713

Lowest County

Greene \$60,054

Stokes County

Salary Range \$64,155 - \$115,397

Starting base pay \$73,745

Surrounding Counties

Forsyth \$68,286

Rockingham \$90,343

Surry \$77,988

Counties Similar to Stokes County

Davie (Pop. 41,554) \$83,358

McDowell (Pop. 45,000) \$65/hr. contract

Person (Pop. 39,276) \$58,885

Yadkin (Pop. 38,084) \$85,836

Recommendation

- Keep pay scale as is and offer a \$5,000 signing bonus to be paid at as follows:
Equal payments of \$1,250 will be paid at date of hire, 6 months, one year and two year anniversary dates.
- County will reimburse employee up to \$3,000 for moving expenses incurred by the use of a household moving company (paid receipt from moving company will be required for reimbursement)

- As last resort, seek employment through a professional agency to hire a qualified candidate.

Do not recommend increasing the salary range as the County's salary range is compatible to the average salary range in North Carolina for a mid-level provider.

Health Director Scott Lenhart presented the following comments:

- In July 2016, it will be two years since the Health Department has had a second Mid-Level Provider
- Currently, have one Mid-Level Provider
- When the current Mid-Level Provider is sick, on training, or on vacation; sick people are not seen at the Health Department
- Mid-Level Provider was absent for approximately a week; hired a temporary Mid-Level Provider at a cost of approximately \$4,000
- County's salary range is compatible to the average salary range in North Carolina
- Can't recruit a Mid-Level Provider
- Just can't get someone in the door
- Reiterated the recommendation submitted by Manager Morris:
 - Keep pay scale as is and offer a \$5,000 signing bonus to be paid as follows: Equal payments of \$1,250 will be paid at date of hire, 6 months, one year and two year anniversary dates.
 - County will reimburse employee up to \$3,000 for moving expenses incurred by the use of a household moving company (paid receipt from moving company will be required for reimbursement)
 - As last resort, seek employment through a professional agency to hire a qualified candidate.
- NC Public Health has a staffing agency, but there is a 33% fee of the candidate's annual salary
- Feel the sign-on bonus and moving expenses could help recruit someone
- Would also like for the Board to consider a possible range as previously done with other positions
- Sometimes, lose a candidate because they get a job before I can come before the Board for a salary consideration
- Colleges are getting ready to graduate students in May

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Confirmed with Director Lenhart that his recommendations would offset the savings in not having to hire a temporary Mid-Level Provider

Director Lenhart responded:

- Current provider is scheduled for training and vacation – approximately three weeks which would cost approximately \$12,000 with the agency previously used

Commissioner Jones continued:

- Very pleased that you are looking "outside the box"

- Have thought about some of these empty houses in the County that could be donated for someone to live such as a Mid-Level Provider

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that the \$5,000 sign-on bonus could help someone moving into the County with deposits such as rent, power, water, etc.
- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that providers normally leave once their payback is satisfied for college loans (loans forgiven for working in rural areas)
- Could look at some type of incentive to keep providers here after their payback is satisfied

Health Director Lenhart commented:

- If there were two providers, 80 patients could be seen daily
- Only seeing 40 patients with one provider
- Losing revenue

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that the last eight (8) applicants would not come to Stokes County because of salary
- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that he was not questioning the starting salary
- On board with Director Lenhart's recommendations

Health Director Lenhart continued:

- May or may not work, but would like to try the recommendations
- There are a lot of older individuals going back to school to be a provider

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that the current provider sees approximately 20-25 patients daily along with approximately 15 nursing visits
- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart that there is a no show rate of approximately 30% annually
- Confirmed with Health Director Lenhart there may be some days with several no shows and some days with none along with several walk-ins daily

Health Director Lenhart continued:

- Patient numbers have been going down since the loss of the second Mid-Level Provider in 2014
- Prenatal Program is going very well
- For prenatal care, Medicaid is billed \$800, Health Department receives \$625

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Confirmed with Director Lenhart that one provider can see approximately 25 patients a day along with 15 nursing visits
- Confirmed with Director Lenhart that he believes the patients will be there if there was a second Mid-Level Provider

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Feel the recommendation is excellent
- Believe the patients would be there if there were two providers

Health Director Lenhart commented:

- Worried the current provider could get sick and be out for an extended period of time or may decide to move on – would be very expensive to contract with a temporary provider for an extended time

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Very pleased to see that the Advisory Committee has seen the recommendation and discussed the recommendation
- Put value in the fact that the Advisory Committee supports the recommendation

Chairman Inman commented:

- Ditto what Commissioner Lankford stated about an excellent recommendation

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on April 11th Action Agenda.

Conveyance of Francisco Elementary School Property – Timeline and Discussion

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following term sheet for the Board's

Consideration as requested at the March 14th meeting:

Recommended Terms & Conditions for Francisco School Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

- All of the school buildings and property will be made accessible to the non-profit and community to support the planning and evaluation process for re-purposing the property.
- No other use of the buildings will be authorized prior to the transfer of ownership from Stokes County to another entity.
- Use of the grounds (not buildings) may be authorized for the community during county ownership if liability issues can be mitigated using a release statement that is enforceable and approved by the county attorney.
- A monthly meeting will be held between the county manager and the non-profit to discuss progress that is being made.
- A quarterly presentation will be made by the non-profit to the BOCC to report and assess progress being made with the re-purposing effort.
- Stokes County will pay property & liability insurance premiums plus utilities and will maintain the grounds during the period of county ownership. Property insurance will have a \$25,000 deductible.

- A cap may be placed on utilities (electrical) cost if grounds are used in a manner that generates additional cost, such as operating ball field lighting.
- Any re-purposing plan that is approved must meet all building code, sewer and zoning requirements.
- All official communications on the re-purposing effort must flow between the county manager and the point of contact and alternate point of contact of the non-profit.
- Progress must be demonstrated at the quarterly program reviews with the BOCC if the re-purposing effort is to continue until July 2017.
- Stokes County is prepared to transfer ownership of the Francisco School Property to the non-profit at any time in accordance with the constitutional requirements that are set out in Attachment #1 to these terms and conditions.
- The Stokes County Department of Public Buildings will make bi-weekly site visits to the Francisco School Property to inspect for any changes in the condition of the property.
- If a re-purposing plan is not approved by June 30, 2017, Stokes County intends to place the property on the market for sale.

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the term sheet presented to the Board for consideration:

- Have received a more refined estimate for the property insurance from a third party carrier starting on July 1, 2016 – the annual estimate is \$13,489
- Have received notification that there will be an underground tank fee of approximately \$500 in November 2016 (annual fee)
- Have provided the Board with terms for your consideration
- Have not received a term sheet from the non-profit, believe they are still working on theirs
- These terms could be incorporated into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
- Spoke briefly about Stokes County being prepared to transfer ownership of the Francisco School Property to the non-profit at any time in accordance with the constitutional requirements (provided the Board with a copy of Disposal of Property/Public School Finance)
- If the County transfers the property to a non-profit, it must be used for a public purpose
- Would like to add the following to the term sheet: If property is transferred out of county ownership and then ceases to be used for the approved public purpose the property reverts back to the county; the reversion provisions should be included on the deed that transfers ownership of the property
- All terms including the addition have been approved by County Attorney Ty Browder
- As far as use of the grounds, would not recommend under any conditions the use of the buildings, but would consider use of the grounds if liability issues can be

mitigated using a waiver/release statement that is enforceable and approved by the county attorney

- Will combine the term sheet from the non-profit, once received, with the county's term sheet for Board consideration
- The non-profit has an upcoming two-day event scheduled with Construction Professionals Network Institute, Inc. (CPNI) to evaluate the Francisco Elementary School and infrastructure (April 6th and 7th)
- Agreement with CPNI requires that at least one member from county manager/administrative staff and at least one local elected official participate in the two-day event during its duration
- County staff will be supporting that event
- Board needs to decide who will be attending that event

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

All members volunteered to participate in the two-day event and other meetings possibly on a rotating schedule with no more than two members attending the same event.

The Board unanimously agreed to the following schedule for participation in the two-day event:

- Wednesday, April 6th – Commissioner Jimmy Walker
- Wednesday, April 6th – Chairman J. Leon Inman
- Thursday, April 7th – Vice Chairman James Booth
- Thursday, April 7th – Commissioner Ernest Lankford

Commissioner Jones requested advance notice of future meetings/events if possible.

Commissioner Jones noted she would attend future meetings/events when possible.

Community Member Horace Stimson spoke briefly about what is planned for the two-day event.

Manager Morris noted that he would be rotating county staff and that he would only be able to attend on April 6th due to budget meetings already scheduled with department heads on April 7th.

Chairman Inman requested County Attorney Browder speak regarding a possible waiver/release statement for use of the grounds.

County Attorney Ty Browder responded:

- Would be advisable to have anyone who is going to be using the facility to sign a waiver of liability which would state that the users are waiving any action against the County for any ordinary negligence
- This waiver/release would not protect the County from any gross negligence
- Certainly better to have a waiver/release than not to have one
- The law is unsettled in North Carolina on that issue whether or not a waiver/release is enforceable
- North Carolina Supreme Court has never spoken on that issue
- The prevailing thought is that they are probably enforceable to protect the County if they are well written and address the specific risks the waiver/release applies to and don't violate public policy
- Federal Court in North Carolina last year, upheld one of these contracts that was signed by a parent on behalf of the minor who was injured
- The Federal Court in that case stated that they were applying North Carolina law in upholding that contract
- Until the NC Supreme Court speaks in that area, we just don't know what stand the court would take
- States are all over the board with these issues; some states are very liberal in enforcing those types of contracts; some states find that they are against public policy
- Highest court in NC, Supreme Court, will have to speak before we will know for sure
- There is nothing to lose in having a waiver/release
- One issue would be trying to get everyone who wishes to use the grounds to sign a waiver/release; parents would have to sign for minors
- It is very important that county staff maintain and inspect the playground equipment on a regular basis to make sure there is no defective equipment or conditions on the property
- If the County was aware of some defective condition and failed to take action, could be considered something other than ordinary negligence
- County would be obligated to inspect the premises on a regular basis to make sure all equipment and fields are safe

Chairman Inman opened the floor for further comments.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- The waiver/release should be included in the term sheet to be incorporated into the MOA

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Would like to see the playground and ball field being used by children and families
- Questioned Attorney Browder if it would be possible to place signage on the playground stating whoever uses the equipment, uses the equipment at their own risk and can't hold the County liable?

- Questioned Attorney Browder who should be responsible for getting the waiver/release signed?

County Attorney Browder responded:

- Signage would be fine, definitely can't hurt
- The specific waiver/release would still have to be signed by the child's parents and anyone who uses the facility or grounds
- Children are attracted to playground equipment
- Children would not take time to read the sign and some may not be old enough to read; signs could be torn down; someone could claim they did not see the sign
- The group who is going to schedule the use of the property would probably be the best way to go for getting a waiver/release signed
- This is the problem I see - how are you going to get everyone who comes out to use the property to sign a waiver/release?
- The only full proof method is to have a written waiver/release signed by anyone who uses the facility or grounds

Chairman Inman allowed Horace Stimson to speak to the Board.

Mr. Stimson commented:

- The committee does not have an entity as such but sort of view this as a county property that the committee could assist in its upkeep and its use
- There might be certain organizations that could sign a waiver/release such as Little League
- We thought the principle, while it is in the County's ownership, was for the volunteers to help maintain the facility/grounds for the use of Northern Stokes
- We want to work in partnership to try to figure this out – how can we help the County utilize this, there is a need for it today
- We can wait and watch it deteriorate
- If there is a facility that is useable and there is a need for it, we as volunteers and neighbors can help with various things
- We don't have an organization for liability
- We don't want to be in the County's business, but we want to help the County provide the services to Northern Stokes during this interim period
- We want to beautify it and enhance it
- We want to help

Commissioner Walker responded:

- My thoughts are the mirror of what Mr. Stimson stated
- My thoughts are "what can the County do during this transition period to make this property and resources most beneficial to the community? How can we work together so there is some use from this property versus it sitting there idle?"
- Hearing with interest what Mr. Stimson is saying

Mr. Stimson responded:

- That is why we wanted a small working group, with commissioners, staff and community members to work together for a productive goal
- And during the time between now and June 2017, we are moving together toward that productive goal
- If we can't find that final product by June 2017, then we have tried
- Need to give it every shot possible from both sides (community and county)

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Along with many others, I feel bad that you have lost your school and whatever can be done to reduce that vacuum; that is what I am looking for
- Trying to make the best of the situation that is not an ideal situation
- The question is where do we go from here?

Mr. Stimson responded

- Believe we need to be looking at anything that serves the rural area of Northern Stokes
- Our community is just one member of the team

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Want to go on record also in the effort towards fairness and consistency to say "should this same circumstance happen in another community in our County, I would be doing the same thing for them as trying to work with you the way we are in this situation"
- "So if this were to happen to another school somewhere else in our County, we would have a prototype and an approach to follow that we have already worked through"

Mr. Stimson noted that this would not be the last facility to close down within the County.

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with County Attorney Browder that the liability coverage being carried by the county on this property covers anything that happens on the property with or without a waiver/release.

Chairman Inman confirmed with Manager Morris that the County would not be allowed to select a certain amount of property insurance to be carried on the property; if the value is not a certain amount, there will be penalties (think it has to be insured for 80% of the value).

County Manager Morris commented:

- NCACC Insurance Pool is currently covering the property and liability until June 30, 2016

- After July 1, 2016, the NCACC Insurance Pool will continue to cover the liability with the property being covered by a third party carrier at an estimated amount of approximately \$13,500 per year
- Value was set at what it had to be with the estimated quote

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Believe the MOA should be drafted before anything is agreed too

County Manager noted that a draft MOA could be completed once the term sheet is received from the non-profit.

Mr. Stimson commented:

- Have developed some ideas for the community to review at our Friday's meeting
- Would like to incorporate the term sheet presented by Manager Morris with these ideas
- Would like to let the community see this draft at Friday's meeting and then come back to the team meeting (if possible) to talk through the comments and develop the draft MOA from that meeting
- Also would like to explore if the insurance premium could possibly be lowered by some limited use so that the property would not be declared vacant (think outside the box)
- Open to creative discussion

County Manager Morris noted that the term sheet can be emailed tomorrow if there are no issues from the Board.

County Morris noted that he would get with County Attorney Browder regarding a waiver/release.

County Attorney Browder noted that any time there is a recreational facility, there is always a risk of being sued.

County Attorney Browder also noted that you can do all you can to minimize the risk with the primary responsibility on the County to make sure the facility is maintained and the equipment is free from defects.

County Manager Morris noted that he would be happy to work with the community to have a draft MOA at the next meeting.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on April 11th Discussion Agenda.

Request for Proposal – Stokes County High Speed Internet/Broadband Expansion Project

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the Stokes County High Speed Internet/Broadband Expansion Project:

- Request for Proposal (RFP) for the further expansion of high speed internet/broadband has been completed by the County
- Two companies submitted proposals to receive grant funding from the County for the expansion of high speed internet/broadband
- The proposals were evaluated and scored using the evaluation criteria contained in the RFP and RiverStreet Networks was determined to have the winning proposal
- At this time, I would ask the Board to do the following:
 - (1) Approve the following draft letter of intent between Stokes County and RiverStreet Networks:
 - Letter of Intent to Wilkes Communications, Inc. (dba RiverStreet Networks)
Subject: Grant Funding for the Expansion of High Speed Internet/Broadband
Stokes County recently issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) soliciting High Speed Internet/Broadband providers to expand high speed internet/broadband to unserved users in Stokes County which is authorized by NC General Statute 153A-349.60 – Authorization to provide grants.
Your proposal was the winning proposal in the County's RFP process based on evaluation criteria that was contained in the RFP.
Based on the investment amount that your company committed to in your proposal, it is the intent of Stokes County to provide you \$XXXXXX in grant funding for high speed internet/broadband expansion in Stokes County. This dollar amount will be budgeted in the FY 2016-17 Stokes County Budget and incorporated into a contract where the funds will be disbursed in three equal payments over the next three fiscal years with the first payment being made during July 2016. July is the first month of the County's fiscal year.
 - Authorize the county manager to meet with RiverStreet Networks to negotiate the amount of grant funding that will be provided, which will be based on the dollar level of RiverStreet Networks' investment contained in their proposal and the grant funding criteria contained in the county's RFP
 - (2) Give final approval at the next meeting of the completed letter of intent which will at that time contain the amount of grant funding recommended by the county manager, based on his negotiations with RiverStreet Networks

- (3) Authorize the county manager to initiate fact finding discussions with Surry Telephone Membership Corporation (STMC) who submitted the other response to the RFP. The purpose of these discussions would be to make a determination if Stokes County might also have interest in entering into a grant funding agreement with STMC to expand high speed internet/broadband in the section of the county serviced by SMTC, which is not included in the RiverStreet Networks proposal. The County's RFP allows for multiple contract awards at the discretion of the BOCC
- Would request consensus from the Board to move out with the three items requested

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the information presented by Manager Morris.

The Board unanimously agreed to direct the manager to move forward with the three requested items.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed Manager Morris to move forward with the project as requested and directed the Clerk to place the item on the April 11th Discussion Agenda with the option to move the item to the Action Agenda.

Proposed Hospital Rate for Water and Sewer

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed hospital rate for water and sewer as requested at the March 14th meeting:

- Recommendation prepared by Public Works Director Mark Delehant (agree with Director Delehant's recommendation)
- \$7.70 per 1,000 gallons for water
- \$7.70 per 1,000 gallons for sewer
- Estimated bill should be around \$6,500 per month for the hospital based on the current usage

County Manager Morris commented:

- Would request the item be moved to tonight's Action Agenda with a retroactive effective date of May 1, 2015

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford and Commissioner Jones had no issues with the proposed rate and a retroactive effective date of May 1, 2015.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the rate was comparable with surrounding entities

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that this fee does not impact the residents' rate and that the Enterprise Funds are in good shape and can handle the new rate.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that with this rate, the Enterprise Funds can continue to build their Fund Balances.

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that this rate is only for the hospital and other businesses' rates on the system are currently lower.

The Board unanimously agreed to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

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

Proposed Policy – Environmental Health – Soil Evaluation – Reduced Fee Option

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Environmental Health Soil Evaluation – Reduced Fee Option Policy for the Board's consideration:

PURPOSE:

To expedite and streamline the process by which lots are evaluated. Due to the complex nature of soils in Stokes County, numerous visits are made to parcels for the purpose of evaluating sites for septic system approval. The use of a backhoe or similar equipment during these evaluations should reduce citizen wait time for these evaluations and permits.

POLICY:

- I. Upon submitting an application for a soil/site evaluation (Improvement Permit) for a new/expanded septic system, the applicant must select one of two options:
 1. Applicants may choose to schedule a backhoe or similar equipment (with operator) to assist Environmental Health (EH) with the initial soil evaluation. Because of the added expense the client is willing to incur and the assistance it provides to EH, applicants who chose this option will have a reduced application fee.
 - a. The reduced fee must be paid upon application submittal.
 - b. Applicants must comply with all other usual evaluation requirements such as, but not limited to, identifying four corners of the proposed structure, property lines and corners, and proposed septic and well location.

- c. EH staff will contact the applicant approximately one week prior to the anticipated evaluation date to schedule the evaluation day/time.
2. Applicants who chose not to schedule a backhoe for the initial soil evaluation will pay the standard fee. An EHS will perform the initial soil/site evaluation with a hand auger and contact the applicant if the evaluation was unable to be completed due to rock, saprolite, etc.
 - a. The standard evaluation fee must be paid upon application submittal.
 - b. No refund will be given to the applicant if backhoe pits are required after the initial soil evaluation.

DEFINITIONS:

Laws and Rules for Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems, 15A NCAC 18A .1935 “Definitions”

APPLICABLE LAWS & RULES:

Article 11 of Chapter 130A-333 – G.S. 130A-343.1 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and 15A NCAC 18A .1900 “*Laws and Rules for Sewage Treatment, and Disposal Systems*”

State issued guidelines, memos, and Division protocols used in the application of statutes and rules

RESPONSIBLE PERSONS: Environmental Health Specialist(s) - Onsite Wastewater Program, Environmental Health Processing Clerk

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Soil auger, Munsell color chart, measuring tape, soil/pick hammer, clinometer, compass, scale rule, probe rod, laser transit, and other equipment as necessary.

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following comments regarding the proposed policy:

- Discussed the proposed policy at the March 22, 2016 Budget Work Session
- Reduced fee will be \$100
- Proposed policy was prepared by Environmental Health Supervisor Leslie Easter
- Main objection is to reduce the wait time for residents needing a septic permit quickly
- Will start gathering data to determine if the policy impacts the wait time
- If the policy were made mandatory, it would definitely decrease the wait time
- With this policy, it gives the residents a choice
- Recent data shows approximately 80% of the last 99 applicants required a backhoe due to the presence of saprolite
- Request to move the proposed policy to tonight’s Action Agenda in order to advertise the new policy before the effective date of May 1st and this being the start of the building season

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Chairman Inman commented:

- This will definitely help the wait time
- Having to require a backhoe is not Environmental Health's fault, they are just enforcing state regulations
- Lot of saprolite soil in Stokes County
- Board felt at the Budget Work Session, it should be optional at this point

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Manager Morris the fee will be reduced \$50 to help offset the cost of the backhoe.

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

Appointment – Surry County Housing Consortium and Stokes County Nursing Home Advisory Committee

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the vacancy for the Surry County Housing Consortium and the Stokes County Nursing Home Advisory Committee:

- Staff received notification from Mr. Joe H. McKenzie that he would be resigning from the Surry County Housing Consortium and the Stokes County Nursing Home Advisory Committee effective March 1, 2016
- Mr. McKenzie stated he would like to possibly serve the citizens of Stokes County in other ways this year and that he looked forward to other opportunities

Chairman Inman opened the floor for nominations.

With no nominations, Chairman Inman entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Jones moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Inman confirmed with the Clerk that the vacancies would be advertised per the Board's procedures.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the April 11th Action Agenda.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Proposed Capital Ordinance – Chestnut Grove Middle School Roof Project

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the following Capital Project Ordinance for the Chestnut Grove Middle School Roof Project which was presented at the March 14th meeting:

Capital Project Ordinance

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

Section 1. The project authorized is for the replacement of the roof at Chestnut Grove Middle School.

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

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

Chestnut Grove Middle School Roofing Project

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Construction | 400.5920.600 | \$1,243,040.00 |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|

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

| | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Transfer from New School/F. Tech Fund | 400.3982.004 | \$1,243,040.00 |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|

Section 5. The Finance Director is hereby directed to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements.

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

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

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

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

Adopted this _____ day of March, 2016.

J. Leon Inman, Chairman

Vice Chairman James D. Booth

Jimmy Walker, Commissioner

Commissioner Ernest Lankford

Commissioner Ronda Jones

Darlene M. Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Capital Project Ordinance for the Chestnut Grove Middle School Roof Project. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Incentive Pay Policy For Child Welfare Workers – Amendment Request

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the following proposed amended Incentive Pay Policy for Child Welfare Workers presented at the March 11th meeting:

**Stokes County Department of Social Services
Child Protective Services Incentive Program**

The Child Welfare Incentive Program for Stokes County Social Services covers only Social Workers and Supervisors in Child Protective Services and Foster Care.

The following is a breakdown of the Incentive Plan:

Line Social Workers:

Start date to six month: \$0.00

Six months to one year: \$150.00 per pay period (if probation is extended beyond the six months, the employee is not eligible for the incentive until their probation is completed)

One year to two years: \$250.00 per pay period

Two years and over: \$400.00 per pay period

Social Work Supervisors:

Start date to one year: \$0.00

One year to two years: \$200.00 per pay period

Two years and over: \$300.00 per pay period

If at any time during employment, anyone who is eligible for an incentive receives formal disciplinary action, that social worker's incentive pay will be suspended until the social worker has been removed from disciplinary action.

Approved by the Board of County Commissioners July 1, 1998.
Amended: **March 28, 2016**

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Incentive Pay Policy for Child Welfare Workers with an effective date of March 28, 2016. Vice Chairman Booth seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with staff that the funding for the Incentive Pay Policy was 100% Federal funding unless the social worker was in training or out on vacation/sick with this fiscal year only being 37% county funding.

The motion carried unanimously.

Replacement Vehicle – Solid Waste Department

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the purchase of a new 2016 Ford F250 for \$25,388 under state contract from Piedmont Truck Center for the Solid Waste Department which was presented at the March 14th meeting.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the purchase of a new 2016 Ford F250 for \$25,388 under state contract from Piedmont Truck Center for Solid Waste Department. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Contract – 2016- Fiscal Year Audit – Martin Starnes & Associates

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve the contract in the amount of \$46,350 with Martin Starnes & Association for the preparation of the 2016 County Audit which was presented at the March 14th meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the contract in the amount of \$46,350 with Martin Starnes & Association for the preparation of the 2016 County Audit. Vice Chairman Booth seconded the motion.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Finance Director Julia Edwards that she was in agreement and comfortable with the selection of Martin Starnes & Associates for the 2016 County
March 29, 2016

Audit.

The motion carried unanimously.

Appointments – Animal Cruelty Investigator

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the appointments of Benjamin M. Hooker as the Stokes County Animal Cruelty Investigator and Mona Triplett as the Animal Cruelty Investigator Consultant which was recommended by the County Manager at the March 14th meeting.

County Manager Rick Morris noted that he had spoken to Mona Triplett and she was pleased to serve as an Animal Cruelty Investigator Consultant at no charge to the County.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the appointments of Benjamin M. Hooker as the Stokes County Animal Cruelty Investigator and Mona Triplett as the Animal Cruelty Investigator Consultant. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Appointments – Stokes County Aging Planning Committee

Clerk Darlene Bullins presented the following information regarding the appointments to the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee:

- Aging Committee recently received a resignation from Ted Griesenbrok
- Aging Committee would like to recommend Shelia Gray for appointment
- Still leaves 4 vacancies

Chairman Inman opened floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated Shelia Gray for appointment to the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Jones moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Inman polled the Board:

- Commissioner Lankford: Shelia Gray
- Chairman Inman: Shelia Gray
- Vice Chairman Booth: Shelia Gray
- Commissioner Walker: Shelia Gray
- Commissioner Jones: Shelia Gray

Chairman Inman noted that the Board unanimously appointed Shelia Gray to serve on the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee:

Proposed Hospital Rate for Water and Sewer

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve the Hospital Rate for Water and Sewer which was presented at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve a Hospital Rate of \$7.70 per 1,000 gallons for water and \$7.70 per 1,000 gallons for sewer with a retroactive effective date of May 1, 2015.

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Policy – Environmental Health – Soil Evaluation – Reduced Fee Option

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to approve the proposed policy for Environmental Health – Soil Evaluation – Reduced Fee Option presented at tonight's meeting.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approved the policy for Environmental Health – Soil Evaluation – Reduced Fee Option with the fee being \$100 and an effective date of May 1, 2016.

Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

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

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

Commissioner Lankford moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

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

Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board reentered the opened session of the March 29th meeting.

Senior Services

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the hiring salary of 63 (7A) for K. Steele as the Walnut Cove Senior Center Coordinator. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

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

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

J. Leon Inman
Chairman