

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF STOKES)
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
AUGUST 22, 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 Monday, August 22, 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
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins
County Attorney Tyrone Browder
Finance Director Julia Edwards
Arts Council Director Eddy McGee
Public Works Director Mark Delehant
Support Service Supervisor Danny Stovall
Sheriff Mike Marshall
Real Property Appraiser Richard Brim
Tax Administrator Jake Oakley

Chairman J. 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.

Vice Chairman Booth 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 August 22, 2016 Agenda.

County Manager Rick Morris requested to add the following to tonight's Discussion

Agenda:

- Moisture issue at the Arts Council building
- Very time sensitive issue

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion regarding County Manager Morris' request.

The Board had no issues with adding Manager Morris' request to the Discussion Agenda.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the August 22nd Agenda as amended.

Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Inman directed the Clerk to add the Moisture Issue at the Arts Council building to tonight's Action Agenda.

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- Bloodmobile
 - County sponsored a recent blood drive which yielded 25 units
- Stokes Stomp
 - The 42nd Annual Stokes Stomp will be held on Saturday, September 10th and Sunday, September 11th at Moratock Park

Commissioner Jones commented:

- In regards to the Stokes Stomp Parade, you may no longer throw candy or any other item from a vehicle; you must walk beside your vehicle to give out candy
 - For some of us, it takes the fun out of being in the parade; I will not be in the parade because it will be too difficult
- Several of the commissioners attended the recent NC Association of County Commissioners' Annual Conference
 - Attended a session regarding school funding
 - As I have been saying all along, the state continues to cut things whether it is corporate taxes or lottery funding that were promised which has been going on for sometime

- As it is stated in previous minutes, I think that we, the Commissioners and the Board of Education from all the counties and their associations need to collaborate and get to our legislators; we are going to be facing the same problem next year
- The message with this is that it is not the county's fault that we are having this problem and it is not the Board of Education's fault
- There is another layer of this that we must address
- I have mentioned this before
- We have got to do something
- We can't just stand by and not do something
- Sometime ago, we were asked to address the situation of grass being mowed onto the roads as it pertains to motorcycle safety
 - Have been really paying attention over the past two years, it is really bad
 - There is a statute that could actually be used for it, but we don't have any way of enforcing this situation
 - Possibly look at doing some community outreach
 - Possibly an article in the newspaper
 - Wet grass is very dangerous
 - I am seeing copious amounts, not just a few blades
 - Would hate to see anyone get hurt from this
 - We want tourists to come to Stokes County
- Would like to give Jessie Moore credit, who is in attendance for tonight's meeting; he provided me with an email from the Martinsville Bulletin about school buses that are being outfitted for hot spots for internet
 - It is a mere \$3,000 per bus that is already on the road
 - It very interesting idea
 - Just wanted to mention that; it is something that we have never thought about

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Commissioner Jones covered a lot of ground tonight
- As Commissioner Jones noted, the County is at the bottom of the chain; the federal government can pass down to each state and then the state can pass down to the counties
 - The only place the county has to go is to the citizens
 - Kind of puts the county in the middle at times
 - Makes for some interesting situations
 - Remember about three years ago, the county was hit with about a \$2 million federal mandate with no grants or funding from the federal or state government; that changed our budget quite a bit
- Good to see everyone here today
- My main form of transportation is the motorcycle
 - Do notice the grass in the roads quite often
 - Have had several calls about it
 - Hope there could be an answer to it

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Welcome everyone to tonight's meeting

- Attended the NC Association of County Commissioners' Conference
 - To touch on what Commissioner Jones was saying regarding what the state has passed down to Stokes County - \$41 million of school construction/renovation debt
 - Set up debt service of approximately \$800,000 that was to be paid from the lottery funding for the next 20 years; then the state cut the lottery funding to 20% and now it is 17%
 - When you look at that, it is approximately \$450,000 that the County has to come up with from our General Fund; the County is now responsible for the debt for the next 20 years
 - It seems that the state funding for education is decreasing while the county funding for education is increasing
- Noted that each commissioner was provided the Annual Stokes County Soil and Water Conservation District Report; lot of good information

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without and that ye may have lack of nothing” (Thessalonians)
- A comment on the grass cuttings on the roads
 - As you know, anything pertaining to the state highways is a NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) issue
 - If there is mud on the roads, they have to get it corrected
 - If there are issues with grass on the highway, the citizens need to call NCDOT

Chairman Inman commented.

- As a follow up, there is a pretty big fine already for littering and that is littering
- Just completed my 8th year on the NC Association of County Commissioners - Board of Directors
- Attended the NCACC Annual Conference – great convention
- To add a few comments to what Commissioners Jones and Walker and Vice Chairman Booth have alluded to; the state has really dropped its guard on what it should be doing for education
 - Stokes County is feeling the brunt of it
 - Does that mean that the Board of County Commissioners is going to turn its back on the Board of Education? Absolutely not
 - We are all going to have to get to work
 - NC Association of County Commissioners is going to start an effort to bring this to the forefront
 - The lottery that started in 2002 would have produced \$250 million statewide this year; it was capped at \$100 million; so \$150 million is going to other things in the state
 - The \$800,000 payment mentioned by Vice Chairman Booth could have all been paid by the financial model that has been established by the County if the county was receiving what it is supposed to from the lottery; \$400,000 would not have to come from the County's General Fund

- When the Education Act started over 100 years ago, the State said that it would take care of all the construction needs and the County would be responsible for the operating expenses
- Along the way that kind of got mixed up
- The state stopped paying for school construction
- The state went back on its word regarding the lottery
- We all know that charter schools, vouchers, etc. take away from what you are getting
- Believe there are over 100 kids from Stokes County in charter schools today which equates to over \$400,000 being taken from the school funding
- Corporate tax for education ended years ago
- We have taken some huge hits
- Need to start working now on getting the lottery back as it was originally
- The superintendent and county manager are going to start having quarterly meetings so we will not be where we are today
- We are not turning our backs on education

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2017 STOKES COUNTY REAL PROPERTY SCHEDULE OF VALUES AND PRESENT-USE VALUE DEFERRED TAXATION SCHEDULE

Chairman Inman opened the Public Hearing regarding the Proposed 2017 Stokes County Real Property Schedule of Values and Present-Use Value Deferred Taxation Schedule.

No one signed up to speak during the Public Hearing.

Chairman Inman closed the Public Hearing.

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:

Dwayne Bryant
8301 NC HWY 704
Madison, NC
Re: **School Budget**

Mr. Bryant presented the following comments:

- Have a Madison address, but do live in Stokes County
- My concern is the school budget
- Our kids are being let down
- We are not taking care of them
- We are not preparing them for life

- I am an employer in Stokes County – heating and air conditioning business
- I have interviewed a lot of these kids for jobs; they are not ready
- Part of the problem is that we don't have the funds for the schools to do what they need to do
- We have great educators
- There is nothing wrong with our educators
- Our educators are great people; they can do the job but they need the funds to do it with
- That really bothers me
- I have several vehicles and stuff; if there was a tax increase, I would have to pay more taxes
- That would be alright, I am willing to pay a couple hundred more dollars if it will help the children
- I have a daughter who is 15 years old and going to North Stokes High School
- I want her to be prepared for life
- I want her to have the best possible education that she can get
- We have lost 3 great principals – Mr. Duggins, Mr. Menear, Mr. Pekar in the last 3 years
- All of them left for more money
- How many times do we have to lose good educators to other counties?
- Do we need to be a training facility for other counties across the country?
- We need to keep those educators here
- It really bothers me to see these guys go
- I am in the schools a lot with my daughter
- I saw a lot of children who loved Mr. Pekar and Mr. Menear; they loved them
- I watched my daughter's grade go up when she went to Piney Grove
- She loves going to school at North Stokes
- I want to see all these kids, not just my daughter, have a chance at life
- I am willing to pay more
- I have a friend who lives in Surry County and his taxes for his 2001 truck is \$18 more than in Stokes County which is a big difference
- We can't cut the teachers' supplement
- If anything, we need to increase it for these educators

Sheila Patterson

2595 Mountainview Church Road

King, NC

Re: **School Budget**

Ms. Patterson presented the following comments:

- I have come to speak to you tonight in lots of different roles
- I come as a teacher and appreciate all the kind words spoken by Mr. Bryant
- I do feel that Stokes County has some wonderful educators
- More importantly, I come to you tonight as a parent
- My husband, Randal and I have given lots and lots of years of service, especially volunteer service to Stokes County
- It is now when our children are in school that we need the County to pay us back

- We have 2 kids in Stokes County Schools and I need my children to have the same wonderful education that, in fact a lot of your children and grandchildren had because they had great teachers
- If we cut the supplement, teachers are going to have no choice but to leave the county
- A teacher's salary from the state is not extremely high
- If you cut the supplement, we will be taking a pay cut
- Teachers will not have to go far to get more money – 5% in Rockingham County, 11.5% in Forsyth County; we won't even have to move
- I don't want that for my children
- We have some wonderful educators at South Stokes High School where my children will be going
- I need you to help me raise wonderful children who have the opportunity for success
- Again, let me say, I know a lot of you, your children, and your grandchildren have gone through Stokes County Schools with those wonderful teachers
- Is it fair to me and my family, who have given so much to this County, to now not be the beneficiaries of that?
- I know that your job is difficult; I understand that
- I want us to have solutions and not excuses
- So often we point fingers and we teach our students not to do that
- As the role models in our county and the role models in our schools, we can't be the people pointing the fingers
- We have to be the people coming up with the solutions
- I do feel like one of the easiest solutions, have heard so many people say it, is to have our taxes increased
- Our personal property holdings have increased which means my property taxes have increased
- We are willing to pay more for a good education for our children and the children of Stokes County
- That is what is important
- We don't want to have to watch our children not have opportunities
- That is what we are asking from you

Clerk called time

Jesse Moore
 1473 Ellis Lawson Road
 Danbury, NC
Re: Arts Council

Mr. Moore read and presented the following comments:

“As you probably know already, the Stokes County Arts Council will ask you this evening for some funds to meet a grave emergency at the construction site for The Arts Place in downtown Danbury.

The Arts Place, when completed, will transform downtown Danbury.

The Arts Place will be a crucible in which the careers of thousands of young Stokes County artists will be forged, encouraged, and nurtured for many years to come.

For the sake of those young people and their futures, I am confident you will meet this need, but just in case, I wanted to offer some encouragement.

Sometimes when governments spend money on the Arts, some people ask why? Why does the government invest in the Arts?

I remembered an ad that ran in the Greensboro paper about 10 years ago on behalf of the United Arts Council there and I realized what I want to say is in that ad.

It answers the question I was asking myself.

I am not plagiarizing, I wrote the ad pro bono for the United Arts Council in Greensboro.

The “why” that I want to offer is – economic development.

Pictured in the ad is the most recognizable statue in the world – Michelangelo’s magnificent “David” captured a moment before he slew Goliath.

Michelangelo received his commission to carve that statue from an Arts Council. From the Overseers of the Office of Works of the Duomo, financed in part by the cathedral and in part by the government of Florence which levied taxes to support the cathedral.

Michelangelo moved to Florence because of the Arts Council and so did Leonardo da Vinci. Michelangelo got his apprenticeship from that Arts Council with a famous sculptor. That is where he got the training that allowed him to take a stark block of marble that no one wanted and as he wrote in his diary “I saw an angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.”

In 1501, that Arts Council invested in the career of a 26-year old untested artist just out of his apprenticeship.

I submit they made one of the best economic development investments in history. During the 512 years it has stood in Florence, Italy – millions – tens of millions of people have journeyed there to see it. They have spent their money with the merchants, taxi drivers, hotel owners, and restaurateurs. The City of Florence has gladly paid the cost to preserve, protect, and display that statue all those years.

Most people don’t think of the Arts as an investment.

But I submit that an investment in the Arts is one of the best investments we can possibly make. After all, how many investments return dividends for 500 years?”

Thank you.

Sri Ananda Sarvasri
1060 Tyler Road
Walnut Cove, NC
Re: Vision for Stokes County

Mr. Sarvasri read and presented the following comments:

“Every Child a Genius? – Can Bio-Energy and Super Nutrition Make Your Child a Genius?”

My proposal to you is to make Stokes County the happiest, healthiest, and greenest county in the United States.

Economic potential is tremendous and educational potential is substantial.

For instance in education, I like to think of education in terms of development of human potential. The human potential does not develop without normal brain chemistry. In fact, you could say that virtually all the problems that we may have in society whether it is crime or otherwise is a deficiency of normal brain chemistry.

At the Central Alternative High School in Appleton, Wisconsin, a study was performed on the effects of nutrition on behavior and intelligence. The school housed the area’s problem students. The halls were filled with altercations, dangers, and weapons. The students were rude, obnoxious, ill mannered, and often violent. The teachers were fearful and very little classroom learning was happening. The school was out of control. The dropout rate was 90%. Suicides were common. In this context, the educators were struggling for a solution.

A natural foods company suggested that the problem was diet and funded a study to change the school’s diet. The soda machines and junk food machines were removed and a fully organic diet replaced the typical institutional school lunch. In just weeks, virtually all violence ceased and dropouts reduced to zero. Suicides also dropped to zero. The conclusion? It is impossible to have normal brain chemistry on a deficient unnatural diet. Once an organic diet was introduced, normal brain chemistry was restored. The violence stopped, suicides stopped, and the children wanted to stay in school and learn. This shows the power of an organic diet to restore normal mental and emotional health by restoring normal brain chemistry. The county saved \$5,000,000 in reduced vandalism alone. You can read the book “Extraordinary Healthcare” to learn more.

The potential is tremendous, just wanted to introduce you to the concept of going “green”. We could create in this County, a lot of our foods locally.

For instance, at present, Stokes County sends most of its food dollars out of the county, about \$67,000,000 every year just for fruits and vegetables. Most of it goes to California. By going green and promoting local organic food production, much, if not most of this money, could stay in Stokes County.

There is tremendous potential for Stokes County – economically, socially, and educationally. Mr. Sarvasri provided the Board with a proposal: “Let’s Make Stokes County the Happiest, Healthiest, and Greenest County in the Nation – Going Green”

Kay Richey
1065 Ernest Nelson Road
Danbury, NC
Re: School Budget

Ms. Richey presented the following comments:

- I am the school counselor at Nancy Reynolds Elementary School
- I am here tonight to talk about the school budget
- I know it will affect me personally, but I am not here to talk about my own income
- I have actually, voluntarily, gone to half time understanding the severe issue of the budget
- I want to connect a few dots
- We have heard the potential of educators leaving because of not having the supplement
- We have heard that some of our brightest and best come for a short time and leave
- Last week as part of professional and development, I did a session on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) which some call chronic or complex trauma from a session that I went to in Buncombe County (The Southeastern Summit) last fall
- ACEs original research was done with 17,000 adults as a part of an HMO
- What they found was folks who went through 2 or more traumatic experiences (ones that happen to your family – those who you live with) are statistically more likely to have series of health, social, emotional, and educational problems
- We know from the brain science now that chronic stress actually changes the brain chemistry, limits development, and increases high risk behavior in adolescents
- Where does that connect with our schools?
- If these children are in these home situations, their safest space is often the schools
- The best counter action to the trauma is to build resilience in children, is to have positive, supportive relationships with an adult (with as many adults as possible)
- When our staff is turning over, when our staff is stressed, when our staff doesn't have the time to really spend that time with the students, children don't get that support, children don't build that resilience
- This is an investment in our future, trying to keep the best staff we possibly can
- Not only school staff but that also applies to SROs that do a lot to build relationships with the children
- They are not only there for law enforcement, but for law enforcement education
- It is another investment in our future
- If not, the statistics for Stokes County is that 25% to 30% of our students now will have greater than 2 traumatic experiences in their childhood
- This means they will be more likely to participate in risky behavior, have substance abuse, have learning problems, be dropouts, and have chronic medical problems such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, etc.
- If we don't invest now, we will find out that we have to pay later
- Our children will pay and our county will pay

Clerk called time.

E.A. “Buddy” Timm

PO Box 573

Walnut Cove, NC

RE: **Morality/Law**

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

“I would like to say thank you again for supporting morality, by your Resolution of Support for HB2.

As you will know, HB2 is still under attack by those that support the immoral LGBT behavior; therefore, I trust, others will follow your example and stand for morality.

Foolishly or deliberately, the Judiciary is confused on the Constitution’s “equality” clause and have ruled equality between behaviors that are not equal. They should be subpoenaed and asked to explain their folly. Nonetheless, all just law addresses behavior and there is no equality between Right and Wrong – the Moral and Immoral. Man is not sovereign over Right and Wrong, or else there is no such thing as Right and Wrong. Then all would be – arbitrary opinion – leading to chaos, as the heathen have experienced for centuries.

From the British Colonies, which became States, homosexual sex has been a Crime Against Nature until the Supreme Court ruled against Natural Law and made homosexual sex legal. To rule against Natural Law is the Corruption of Law; it is False Law. Nothing is superior to our Creator’s Law! That is what our Founders declared from “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God” – the Bible’s Holy Scriptures.

In America, is not over 200 years of precedent in Statute and Common Law enough to establish the illegality of homosexual sex and enough precedent to question the honesty of our courts and politicians? The Mosaic Law and the Bible’s New Testament judgment against homosexual sex has not changed in thousands of years. Even Jesus proclaimed: “till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” (Matthew 5:18)

Tarni Fitzgerald, Executive Director of NC Values Coalition, emailed information about the DNC’s activity of orchestrating with out-of-state activists to impose their values upon us, create economic harm, and oppose HB2. (The complete email can be found at: ncvalues.nationbuilder.com/dnc_values_vs_nc_values. The title is: “DNC and NYC: Stop Forcing Your Values on Our State!”)

The coordinated effort to change America from its Biblical moral foundation to immorality is alarming. For, without morals for ourselves, our State and Nation, where is honor, dignity, and respect, where is soundness of mind and conscience; where is truth, trust and Justice (conformity to our Creator’s Law)? Is it all gone?

Like the shame Americans felt when several of our Olympic swimmers lied about being robbed in Brazil, so it is – when our President, Supreme Court, and others lie to us, especially about immorality; since immorality is not just, nor is it justice to promote it. Immorality destroys wherever it goes.

August 22, 2016

11

Thank you again for your courage to stand for moral law.

Chairman Inman expressed appreciation to those who spoke at tonight's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Minutes

- Minutes of June 14, 2016 –Budget Work Session–Joint Meeting–Board of Education
- Minutes of August 8, 2016 – Regular Meeting

Health Department - Medicaid –Title XIX – Budget Amendment #20

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #20.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
General Fund - Transfer				
Transfer to Health-Medicaid				
100.9820.989	Title XIX	\$574,561.00	\$(250,000.00)	\$324,561.00
Contingency				
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$143,111.00</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>	<u>\$393,111.00</u>
	Totals	\$717,672.00	\$00.00	\$717,672.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To un-appropriate General Fund monies to Health Medicaid Title XIX Fund and to appropriate Fund Balance in the Health Medicaid Title XIX Fund due to Medicaid Cost Settlement

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
Health Medicaid- Title XIX				
110.3982.100	Transfer from General Fund	\$574,561.00	\$(250,000.00)	\$324,561.00
110.3991.000	Fund Balance	<u>\$00.00</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$574,561.00	\$00.00	\$574,561.00

Tax Administration Report – July 2016

Releases More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (July 2016) at the August 8th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the August 22nd meeting:

Releases More Than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Releases Less Than Name	\$100 Real/Personal Bill Number	Property Amount	Reason
Ann Dalton Willis	314607-2016-2016	\$ 266.06	House burned prior to Jan. 1, 2016
Brian T Beverly	301310-2015-2015	\$ 370.11	Upper story not finished for 2015 billing
Marlene M Parnell	316543-2016-2016	<u>\$ 126.35</u>	Removed late listing penalty
	Total Amount	\$ 762.52	

Refunds More Than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (July 2016) at the August 8th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the August 22nd meeting:

Refunds More Than \$100 - Real/Personal Property

Refunds Less Than Name	\$100 Real/Personal Bill Number	Property Amount	Reason
Vincent M Castillo	25147011	\$ 140.06	Vehicle Sold
James S Foreman II	23497432	\$ 103.03	Vehicle Sold
Eric Scott Lickfeld	19026266	<u>\$ 134.40</u>	Vehicle Sold
	Total Amount	\$ 377.49	

Late Application for Elderly Exemption for 2016

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Late Application for Elderly Exemption for 2016 at the August 8th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the August 22, 2016

August 22nd meeting:

- Applicant: Vertie B Hill
- Parcel Number: 6935-00-26-8729
- Property owned: acreage of 1.81 acres of land and a single-wide mobile home
- Location: 1271 Mountain Road, Walnut Cove, NC
- Assigned Tax Value: \$39,373
- Review of application and accompanying documents indicate the applicant qualifies for the exemption
- Per NC General Statute 105-282.1(a1) - Tax Administration recommends approval of the late application for Ms. Hill

External Posting – Social Services

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following request from DSS Director Stacey Elmes for the consideration and approval at tonight's meeting:

- Department currently has an internal posting for a Processing Assistant III which will close on 08-12-16 at 5:00 pm
- Believe this vacancy will be able to be filled from in-house thus leaving an Income Maintenance Caseworker vacancy
- Would request approval to post externally either position remaining vacant whether it be the Processing Assistant III or Income Maintenance Caseworker II
- Also have an internal posting for a Social Worker II which will close on 08-17-16 at 5:00 pm
- Do not believe this vacancy will fill from in-house
- Would request approval to post externally

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Proposed Jail Project – Update

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed Jail Expansion Project:

- Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall and Sheriff Mike Marshall are in attendance for the meeting tonight to answer any questions
- Jail expansion drawings have been reviewed and comments have been received back from NC Department of Insurance and NC Division of Health Service Regulations along with the County's Fire Marshal and Planning/Code Enforcement

- Vice President Dan Mace, Moseley Architects, will provide the Board with an overview of the project and will discuss moving forward with setting a bid opening date

Vice President Dan Mace, Moseley Architects, presented the following information regarding the proposed jail project:

- The last time I spoke before this body, we were just beginning the process
- Our documents are pretty much fully completed
- We are working on implementing the USDA requirements into our specifications
- Most of those are federal rural development guidelines on how projects are procured
- We will have everything completed and turn over to USDA by the end of the week
- Once we turn those items over to the USDA representative, he will take those to Washington
- We hope to get a very quick turnaround of approval from USDA
- Once we get the USDA approval, we will begin the bid process for construction
- The project will be advertised and also placed on our web page
- We want to really put the word out to firms who specialize in jail construction
- This is a very important public safety project – very complex facility
- We want to make sure we get the highest quality firms to bid on the project
- We want to get you the best price possible
- Bid process takes approximately 60 days – 30 days for advertising and 30 days to analyze proposals and choose a contractor
- Construction is a 14 to 16 month duration
- After the project is complete, there will be some training to make sure staff is fully trained before moving the first inmate in

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Do not have any questions
- Very informative presentation
- Once the bids are received, then it will be the Board's decision whether to move forward with the project

Vice President Mace responded:

- There have been a lot of meetings with the Sheriff and county staff during the development of this project
- Feel like we have a very high quality product that is going to meet the county's needs for years to come
- Has been a pleasure to work with the planning group that has brought a lot to the table to help develop this project

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Questioned Vice President Mace if there were any final estimates regarding the project construction cost?

Vice President Mace responded:

- Did not do a final detailed estimate; we prefer to let the bidding industry speak to what that is going to be
- Still in the square footage that was in the schematic estimate (just under 15,000 sq. ft.)
- Still feel the numbers provided at that point (estimated under \$4.5 million) should hold but I don't control the bidding market
- The only concern I have right now is a shortage of subcontractors such as electrical
- The only way to know where we are is to bid the project
- We want contractors competing the project

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Requested Vice President Mace to share his philosophy or process in getting the facility to fit the community where it is going to be located and to ensure that it meets the needs now and in the future

Vice President Mace responded:

- On the onset of the project, Todd Davis, former Alamance County Jail employee, did a needs assessment to determine how many beds were needed and what types of beds were needed
- Can build a dormitory type facility cheaper per sq. ft./per inmate than a single cell maximum security unit
- Looked carefully at the facility needs, projected the county's growth, and analyzed the past 5-7 years of inmate population statistics (wanted to have a 20-25 year projection)
- Put all this together to develop the plan
- We are also updating the security electronic system
- Proposed (3) 24-bed dormitory facilities – the most cost effective way to house inmates
- There will also be (2) 8-bed single maximum security units
- This augments the existing facility

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Are we doing this right? I think I am hearing you say that
- Is this what we need for now and the future?
- Does this meet the quality concept as far as jails go?

Vice President Mace responded:

- Absolutely
- Do a lot of jails across the State of North Carolina
- We stand behind our projects
- Feel like we have spent the taxpayers' dollar as wisely as we could

- When you open up this expansion, you will not fill these beds up day one
- We are building you more beds than you need right now so that you can grow into the facility
- Did not want you to build too many beds
- You can use the other beds for revenue sources until the County needs those beds
- Can use the revenue source to offset the expenditures

Commissioner Jones commented:

- We know that the upgrade and expansion are needed
- Will be glad to see the project get started
- Want to move forward as quickly as we can
- Ready to move forward now

Chairman Inman commented:

- Appreciate the information provided to the Board
- Know a lot of work has gone into the project
- Want to thank former commissioners when the jail was constructed for planning and building a jail that could accommodate future expansion
- When the Sheriff brought the project to the Board about a year ago with projections that this project can almost pay for itself by housing Federal inmates, it got our attention
- Think we are ready to go to the next step

Vice President Mace responded:

- Hope to be back with successful bids within a month

Sheriff Mike Marshall commented:

- Feel Dan did a great job in covering all the information

LifeBrite Hospitals Group, LLC – Update

Chief Executive Officer Pam Tillman, Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes, introduced Director Jorge Perez, Chief Executive Officer Christian Fletcher, and Vice President of Business Development James T. Lander, LifeBrite Hospital Groups, LLC.

CEO Tillman commented:

- Have had the pleasure to work with these gentlemen
- Contrary to the way the paper makes it sound that creditors don't want them here, that is just part of the bankruptcy process
- J. T. Lander described it as a "frustration" and not a "deal breaker"

Director Perez commented:

- Pleasure to be here again
- Wanted to come to provide the Board with an update

- Had the interesting experience to travel to Mississippi to meet the Pioneer folks
- Hope to have a lot of the pending issues resolved by this Friday (Pioneer committed to have everything we need by Friday)
- Still have a couple of pending issues, the crucial being the technology currently being used by the hospital
- We are working with the vendors to see if we can carve that out of the contract so that we can control our own technology
- Unfortunately, it is still wrapped up with Pioneer and the bankruptcy court
- The other thing pending is our strategic planning
- We want to start expanding some of the services to generate additional revenue
- I will let Christian, who is the brain child behind the strategic planning, talk further about the strategic planning

CEO Christian Fletcher noted:

- Pleasure to be here today
- Started the strategic planning today with a lot of the staff, particularly the lab
- Have some interesting new testing that we would like to bring in
- Want to change the lab to a more state-of-the-art facility
- A lot of things that are being sent out to LabCorp, can be done within house
- Look forward to transforming a lot of the equipment

Senior Vice President James T. Lander noted:

- Quite sure that Pam Tillman has a bed somewhere at the hospital because she stays there 24/7
- Want to thank Pam for making our job a lot easier
- County Manager Morris continues to stop by the hospital to work with us and continues to be an asset to this Board and the community
- As we sat here at the beginning of the meeting, I heard the speakers voice their feelings
- I heard community involvement
- I heard a county that is focused on children, family, and schools; that is a county that will always thrive
- We want to be good stewards of this hospital in the community
- We want to work with you
- We want to be a vital part of a community that values its community, like the way this Board of Commissioners obviously does
- We look forward to moving toward a conclusion
- Once we can get everything closed out with the bankruptcy court and get ourselves away from what is there now, it is going to be infinitely more easier to make a positive impact
- Appreciate the Board's cooperation and assistance during this process

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Delighted you are here
- We have got to save the hospital
- Will be glad when we get through the frustration and clear the air with everyone and move forward

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Have a few questions
- Had asked the county manager to kind of give you a heads up on what some of them might be
- I know we need to move quickly with our meeting, but I feel like some of this information is pretty important
- Good information, not just for me as a commissioner, but good information for our community as well
- What is your business model for our hospital here in Stokes and could you share some of what you are seeing?

CEO Fletcher responded:

- First and foremost is some antiquation when it comes to the machinery that is in the hospital
- When we get in, we want to update some of the machinery
- We want to bring some state-of-the-art machinery into the facility
- Plan on obviously a cash infusion of sorts
- In terms of a business plan, I think we are still in the preliminary fact finding stage because there are a lot of things that we should be able to uncover very soon
- Every hospital has its own set of components that are relevant to that particular facility
- Once we get more established, we will know where we need to step in and start

Director Perez responded:

- Agree 100% with what Christian stated
- We feel when we bring state-of-the-art technology to the hospital, we will be able to attract physicians to come and that in turn will drive patients to the hospital
- Basically, that is our “secret sauce”
- That will be the first tier
- There are a lot of opportunities within the hospital such as the geriatric ward, home health just to mention a few; there are a lot other opportunities

CEO Fletcher responded:

- Most important, I think we need to gain the community’s confidence back
- First and foremost, I think that is our overall message today that we want to relay
- I think there have been some things to transpire before us that may have left the impression that the hospital is not the “go to facility” within the community
- That is the challenge and I think we are up for that challenge

Commissioner Walker continued:

- When Pioneer began, there were services throughout the county
- When you speak of the hospital, are you speaking about services throughout the county when it was at its best and not just in Danbury?

Vice President Lander responded:

- We are looking at the health system as a whole
- This county is very unique with its topography and the dynamics of population
- It does not make it easy, but certainly we see how the county has worked really amazingly to set a system in place that addresses the needs throughout the county and we are looking at every aspect of that and how we might be good stewards of what has been put together

Director Perez responded:

- We would love to open up an emergency department in King
- We are also looking at whatever services we can add in King
- Hope to bring additional diagnostic services there besides radiology and possibly add on a lab in King, too
- We want be able to service that area of the county

Commissioner Walker continued:

- I am going to only ask part of my questions
- Communication is very important, I think we kind of lost ground with Pioneer along the way
- What are your plans to make sure communication/updates are provided to the Board of Commissioners to keep the Board in the loop?

Vice President Lander responded:

- It seems this Board is in a place to provide an amazing service to this community
- I know it feels very frustrating when you have done all these things and to have it in the position that it is now through no fault of your own
- I know it is often very difficult at times when you step back and say “what could we have done different to maybe stop that from occurring” and that is what I hear from a lot of the questions that you have
- Again, we see ourselves as an extension of what you have brought to this community; therefore, communication is paramount in everything that we do
- Invite the commissioners to be part of the process
- We absolutely want to be a vital part in making sure information is provided to you and that communication is always there
- Again, it is a partnership
- No matter what, it is a partnership
- We all come from various small town backgrounds and so we understand how important it is when your constituents stop and ask you a question about the hospital or the health system as a whole, to have an answer
- That is a tough place to be in when you don’t have an answer

- We are going to make sure and our commitment to you is that will not happen on our watch

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Appreciate your involvement and interest
- I am going to stop there
- Have other questions that I will bring to the table later
- Hearing some positive things about LifeBrite being in the County

Vice President Lander responded:

- We welcome any questions at any time.
- Pam Tillman is an amazing asset that you have
- We appreciate all that she has done to get us in the loop
- We are very pleased to be here in Stokes County

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Appreciate you being here and stepping up
- You were right when you said one of the Board's top priorities is about health care in Stokes County
- It was bad to see it go backwards from where we thought we were during the first 2 to 3 years with Pioneer
- We started with only 2 providers and went to 12-13 providers, then it just went into bankruptcy
- We were concerned about it enough that this Board has allocated \$600,000 to keep the facility open
- If we had not kept it open, you would probably have not had the chance to be here to bid on the management of the hospital
- If it had closed, it would not have been worth anything
- I think we are in a good position at the current time, even though we will not know until everything is decided by the bankruptcy court
- It sounds like it is going to be good for the county, even better

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I think everything has been asked that needs to be asked
- When you talk about frustrations, I feel your frustrations regarding what you are dealing with through the bankruptcy court and the creditors; every time I hear of a date, I am saying a prayer that date will be the final one
- Yes, we are very committed to having a good healthcare system for Stokes County
- We feel the citizens of this County need good healthcare
- We feel, if any way possible, we can provide good healthcare through a company like LifeBrite, it will be ideal
- Hoping Friday is the day that I can smile again as far as healthcare

Chairman Inman commented:

- Appreciate you being here with an update

- The first of April, this Board of Commissioners, kind of got on a roller coaster and have been on that ride ever since
- In case everyone does not know, LifeBrite is the private entity that has the bid out of bankruptcy for Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes
- When they say hospital, they mean all the health services throughout the county, not just Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital
- I am very proud of this Board for keeping this hospital open
- We have been criticized by a lot of people in this county why we were putting more money into that hospital when it could not be saved for the past 25 years
- I just happen to believe that every citizen should have access to healthcare like every citizen should have access to education
- Can't imagine half of the county not having any healthcare
- You have answered our prayers
- Our prayers have been that a private entity would come in and get us out of the hospital business
- We know that we can't be in the hospital business
- We are not hospital operators
- Thank you for stepping up
- Thank you for the investment you are making in Stokes County
- It is a partnership and we will be there to be partners with you

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Requested that the bid process be explained for the public
- It is not a done deal yet

CEO Fletcher responded:

- We have already established with the creditors that this is an agreeable Asset Purchase Agreement and bid proceedings
- Friday is basically a stamp of approval from the court that the bid proceedings that have been set forth have been approved
- From that, there should be a final date set for the Asset Purchase Agreement hearing
- We feel we are in good position to be the hospital operators going forward

Vice President Lander responded:

- One thing to remember is that we have the first bid and the last bid
- It is a very complicated process with other hospitals involved in the bankruptcy proceeding
- We appreciate the opportunity to be a partner

Director Perez noted that they would not be out bid.

Chairman Inman expressed appreciation to LifeBrite officials for the update.

Proposed Application for Transportation – Rural Operating Assistance Program Funds for Fiscal Year 2016-17

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed Application for Transportation – Rural Operating Assistance Program Funds for F/Y 2016-17:

- The Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) which is a state-funded public transportation grant program administered by the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program (EDTAP), the Employment Transportation Assistance Program (EMPL) and the Rural General Public Transportation Program (RGP)
- The format for submitting the transportation application has slightly changed this fiscal year
- The county manager has now been designated to sign the application instead of the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners
- The application was received by YVEDDI around August 10th with a deadline for submission by August 22, 2016
- County staff worked with YVEDDI Transportation Director Jeff Cockerham to get all the needed documentation signed and submitted by August 22, 2016 (funding was approved with the adoption of the County's Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget)
- Director Cockerham will be providing the Board with a brief update regarding this year's proposed application

YVEDDI Transportation Director Jeff Cockerham presented the following information:

- The purpose of this grant is to assist with the operating cost of providing transportation to the following three groups of residents in Stokes County for Fiscal Year 2016-17:
 - Elderly and Disabled Fund
 - The allocation for Fiscal Year 2016-17 is \$66,097 which is an increase of \$7,268 from last year's allocation of \$58,829
 - YVEDDI uses these funds to transport those 60 years old or older and those persons with disabilities to dialysis and critical medical appointments
 - Since this fund is limited and is not enough for all medical needs, YVEDDI supplements this fund by using General Public Fund for the general medical appointments
 - Rural General Fund
 - The allocation for Fiscal Year 2016-17 is \$69,654 which is an increase of \$7,769 from last year's allocation of \$61,885
 - YVEDDI uses these funds to provide general medical trips and any general public trips in the county
 - Anyone who resides in the county or is visiting the county is eligible to ride using these funds
 - Eligible trips must have either origin or destination in the rural area; urban to urban is not allowed

- Employment Fund
 - The allocation for Fiscal Year 2016-17 is \$12,478 which is a decrease of \$563 from last year's allocation of \$13,041
 - Have spoken with DSS Director Stacey Elmes about the decrease
 - Have asked to sub-allocate \$5,000 to Stokes DSS for the employment fund
 - Eligible participants for the program are:
 - Anyone transitioning off Work First or TANF during the past 12 months
 - Anyone in a WorkForce Development Program
 - The transportation disadvantaged public
 - Eligible activities are:
 - Any work or work related activity
 - GED or any continuing education activity
 - Job search
- No requirement for a public hearing this year
- As Manager Morris noted there is no requirement for the Chairman to sign the application
- Application was submitted this year on time
- Understand the timing of the application was short in order to try to get the funding to the users which will definitely help
- In the past, we have not received funding until December
- In the upcoming year, the application process will be done different
- They want us to have ongoing conversation and outreach
- The ROAP Application for Fiscal Year 2017-18 will be released in April 2017 which will be prior to the state budget being approved
- YVEDDI will use the Fiscal Year 2016-17 numbers for planning and BOCC approval with the application being due by June 30, 2017
- NCDOT wants the county manager and the finance director to already have the BOCC approval for them to sign the application when released
- The actual dollar amounts will likely need to be adjusted in the county budget when the state approves allocations
- YVEDDI will work with county staff as needed to assist in the coordination of this process
- Will be glad to answer any questions

Chairman Inman opened the floor for questions/comments:

Chairman Inman deferred to the 2 Board members who sit on the YVEDDI Board of

Directors – Commissioners Lankford and Walker.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that even though the numbers have changed a little, it is business as usual

- This service is a very important service to Stokes and other counties in the area – needed transportation
- This Board has discussed the need for transportation several times
- Glad to see the increases
- Appreciate the work you do with the transportation program
- What good is a doctor's appointment if they have no way to get there?
- Keep up the good work

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Don't have any issues with the application submission
- Great we have this service
- Appreciate your dedication

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Looks like it is about a 12% increase with two of the funds

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Questioned Director Cockerham if he felt this increase would be there next year?

Director Cockerham responded:

- You can never tell
- Have had the same situation and found ourselves with an increase one year and cuts the next year
- Had to figure out how to still deliver the service with the cuts
- We are prepared to provide the extra amount of service with the increases
- We always try to do as much as we can to provide transportation
- Do worry that next year there could be cuts

Chairman Inman expressed the Board's appreciation to Director Cockerham for the update and working with county staff to get the application in on time.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Forsyth Technical Community College of Stokes Update

Proposed Skilled Trades Building at Community College & Golden LEAF Grant Opportunity

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding Forsyth Technical Community College of Stokes and the proposed skilled trades building at the Community College:

- At the last meeting, the Board discussed a Golden LEAF opportunity for increasing the proposed skilled trades building at the community college site

- Tonight Dr. Gary Green is in attendance to provide the Board with an update regarding the community college and to introduce discussion regarding the Golden LEAF opportunity to increase the size of the proposed skilled trades building
- The County has a very short time line to get the Golden LEAF Application completed and submitted
- One important factor is that Forsyth Tech has the staff to administer the grant with a little bit of support from the County
- It was made very clear in the grant presentation that Golden LEAF would be taking strong consideration whether the applicant had the ability to meet Golden LEAF reporting requirements and provide verification of expenditures, activities, and outcomes
- The \$800,000 from the Bond Referendum and Forsyth Tech can be used for the Golden LEAF match
- To this point, I have not received any projects pertaining to the Golden LEAF Grant
- This has a potential for being a really good use for the funding
- Will have a high probability of getting the grant
- We can show the capability of administering the grant with Forsyth Tech's assistance and the use of the grant to increase and improve the proposed skilled trades building

Dr. Gary Green, Forsyth Technical Community College, presented the following update:

- Appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Board tonight
- Want to thank you for your continued support of the Forsyth Tech/Stokes County Center and your investment
- Want to bring you up to date with the community college project and how the proposed skilled trades building can be leverage in a very positive way going forward
 - Community College Facility
 - Construction is going well and we are about 60 days from completing the construction of the community college facility
 - We were delayed a couple of weeks due to the untimely death of our general contractor
 - Took a little time for that to be worked out; the bonding company has done a great job stepping in to help get the facility completed in an unusual situation
 - We are on track to finish the facility mid-October
 - We have approximately a 45-day period to get the facility furnished, equipment installed and tested, etc.
 - Have tentatively scheduled December 8th for the grand opening and open house for the facility; members will be receiving an invitation later
 - We want to thank you publicly for your investment in the future of Stokes County with the construction of the facility
 - This has been a long time coming and we are very excited
 - We will have a great facility to serve the citizens of Stokes County with education

- We continue to look toward the future
- Forsyth Tech Stokes County Skilled Trades Building
 - Forsyth Tech's component of the Connect NC Bond Referendum was \$5.8 million
 - If we had looked at the funding on a pro radius basis as to where the students were from, that would have only generated approximately \$500,000 for Stokes County
 - We needed to do a little more than that so we designated \$809,410 for the skilled trades facility to be located at the community college
 - It was decided that a skilled trades building would be the next step for Stokes County since the community college facility did not have adequate space for a trades program
 - We have been offering a welding program in a facility that was just not adequate
 - Currently in the process of choosing a designer for the proposed skilled trades building who will be familiar with the current facility
 - Skilled Trades Facility and Program
 - Original project:
 - Proposed 3,500 sq. ft. building near the Forsyth Tech Stokes County Center instructional building
 - Primary instructional program – welding (replacing Sertoma site)
 - Funding: Forsyth Tech Connect NC Bonds (\$809,410)
 - Stokes County's investment in land and instructional building exceeds match requirement
 - Stokes County's annual operational costs - \$22,449
 - No county capital costs
 - Expanded project: (Using Golden LEAF Grant)
 - Proposed 7,000 – 9,000 sq. ft. building
 - Primary instructional programs – welding, construction trades (e.g.- plumbing, HVAC, electricity- wiring programs), wellness/PE, and agriculture/horticulture
 - Funding: Forsyth Tech Connect NC Bonds (\$809,410)
 - Potential Golden LEAF Community Grant (Forsyth Tech) - \$1.5 million
 - Stokes County's investment in land/building and Connect NC Bonds exceeds match requirement
 - Stokes County's operational cost estimated annually at \$45,000
 - No county capital costs
 - Forsyth Tech will be glad to administer the grant
 - None of the programs suggested for the expanded project are locked in stone
 - Will be having further discussion regarding what programs would be best for the expanded facility
 - Will be getting input from the commission and the school system to make sure we get the programs best suited for the future in Stokes County

- Feel this is a great opportunity to add to the proposed skilled trades building
- Original proposed skilled trades building would have been limited to the programs that could be offered
- Reiterated that there would be no county capital costs
- Connect NC Bonds required a county match which was the investment made by the County with the construction of the community college
- The investment made by the County and the Connect NC Bonds will allow the County to access the Golden LEAF Grant of \$1.5 million
- Will be happy to work with the county if the Board chooses to apply for the Golden LEAF Grant for expanding the proposed skilled trades building
- Will not know until December if the grant is funded
- Will be happy to answer any questions

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Chairman Inman commented:

- Don't know how you could have brought us any better news

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Dr. Green that the \$809,410 would only fund a 3,500 sq. ft. building with limited programs because of the facility size – primary instructional program (welding) and possibly some small shop space for agriculture
- Confirmed with Dr. Green the expanded project would be between a 7,000-9,000 sq. ft. building

Dr. Green commented:

- We will build our original contract with the architect so that the expanded project can be built in and not do a separate project which will save money
- Will put all the savings into the size of the building, that is why there is an estimate between 7,000 and 9,000 sq. ft. for the expanded project

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Confirmed with Dr. Green that the expanded project will need more equipment
- Confirmed with Dr. Green that the Golden LEAF Grant could be used to help with the equipment purchases

Dr. Green responded:

- Will need considerably more instructional equipment which is very costly equipment
- Could need a robot which is very expensive, but it is preparing students for the good jobs

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Trades are very much needed in our county
- Trades were taken out of the schools several years ago
- This will be a great opportunity for our citizens to be able to get good jobs

Dr. Green responded:

- Definitely agree it is a great opportunity
- Great opportunity to collaborate with our school system
- Look forward to working on this project

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Since Dr. Green has been on board, I have seen good things happen for Stokes County
- Also have Ann Watts who is a great asset for Stokes County
- Very encouraged with the news you are bringing us tonight
- This is filling some needs in Stokes County
- Requested Dr. Green to go over the funding aspect of the project and what needs to happen to secure this funding

Dr. Green responded:

- Forsyth Tech has \$109,410 that is designated for the initial phase of the project
- We are ready to choose an architect
- Feel there is a very good chance for Stokes County to secure the Golden LEAF Grant
- The Golden LEAF Grant funding of \$1.5, if approved, would be administered by Forsyth Tech
- Golden LEAF Grants take a lot of administration
- We have a staff who has administered Golden LEAF Grants before
- Everything will be transparent to show where every \$1 goes
- If the Golden LEAF Grant is secured, there will be \$2,309,410 for a skilled trades building for Stokes County
- One thing to remember is that Stokes County is responsible for the operational costs
- If the original project of a 3,500 sq. ft. facility is done, Stokes County will be responsible for approximately \$22,449 annual operating costs
- If the expanded project of between 7,000 - 9,000 sq. ft. facility is done, Stokes County will be responsible for approximately \$45,000 annual operating costs

Commissioner Walker continued:

- It sounds to me like we can have all you are describing for the expanded project for an additional \$23,000 (estimate) per year for operating costs
- Stokes County has already committed to the \$22,449 for the original project (3,500 sq. ft. building)
- Questioned County Manager Morris if the additional operating costs of approximately \$23,000 could be taken from the 4 cent school tax that was approved several years ago?

County Manager Morris responded:

- The 4 cent tax was basically designed for the current facility – community college and other designated school construction/renovations
- You always have the authority to change that fund if you wanted to add another facility

- It would make sense since it is another Forsyth Tech project, but you would have to have the financial advisor run the model to make sure adequate funding is available
- The Board would need to make clear the funding was coming from the 4 cent school tax so it would be transparent
- Don't think anyone would object

Commissioner Jones commented:

- The timing of this grant possibility could not be better
- Being a former teacher, I know the need for trades is there
- Also tells me, it speaks volumes of how much we need to be invested in our lower grades to get ready for you
- Students need a certain amount of education to continue with these programs
- As far as the project goes, I think it is wonderful
- I can't wait to see it happen
- I just want to have the quality students you need to funnel into these programs

Dr. Green responded:

- We are all for that
- The trades are technical education
- The requirements, such as mathematics, are very different today than they were a generation ago
- Communities have to support and engage in our K-12 education

Commissioner Jones continued:

- I will point out that if the students are not where they need to be to enter these programs, they will have to take remedial classes which cost them more money to get into the program
- That is an incentive to get students ready to enter these programs

Dr. Green responded:

- You are exactly right

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- A few years back when we started talking about the community college, a survey was done
- Could we get that information to see what trades were noted
- The information would help me to see what trades are needed

Dr. Green responded:

- We have that information, but that information is dated
- We have been looking at changes that have occurred in manufacturing and agriculture
- That survey is of limited value because it is dated information
- What we are proposing is not that inconsistent with the survey information
- We launched our welding program at Sertoma because of the information received from the survey

County Manager Morris commented:

- Believe the proposed programs mentioned by Dr. Green would be those listed in the survey

Stokes Director Ann Watts commented:

- Will be glad to provide that information
- Will be asking permission to survey the high schools students again

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that this is a time sensitive matter
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that he had not received any other projects for the Golden LEAF Grant

County Manager Morris commented:

- Discussed at the last meeting that the Board would approve the project(s) at the first meeting in September
- A Letter of Inquiry (LOI) and a cover letter from the County Manager explaining how the LOI(s) was selected and how the project will address economic transition is due by September 30, 2016
- Confirmed with Dr. Green that the LOI and cover letter could be prepared and ready for the first meeting in September

Dr. Green noted that staff had already started to pull data for the LOI.

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Seems like this project fits right in
- The match for this potential \$1.5 million grant is \$300,000
- Confirmed with Dr. Green that the match has already been met with the construction of the community college

County Manager Morris continued:

- Golden LEAF staff completes review of the LOIs on October 19, 2016
- Golden LEAF Board of Directors votes on the LOIs on December 1, 2016 (the vote is whether or not to invite a full proposal based on the LOI)
- For those who are invited to submit a full proposal, it is due by January 20, 2017
- Golden LEAF conducts site visits with proposal applications in late January and early February 2017
- Golden LEAF Board votes on full proposals from the Piedmont Triad on April 6, 2017
- A big part of the selection process is who will be administering the grant
- With Forsyth Tech administering the grant, feel it will help the county tremendously in securing the grant
- The County has two Golden LEAF Grants now in process that are in good standing

Chairman Inman noted that the original amount from the Connect NC Bonds for Stokes

County was approximately \$500,000 and that Forsyth Tech has contributed an additional \$309,410

for the proposed trades building.

Chairman Inman expressed his appreciation to Dr. Green for the update.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Chairman Inman that the Manager would have the LOI and coversheet ready for the September 12th Action Agenda.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to the Board to place the item on the September 12th Action Agenda.

Funding Request – Stokes County Board of Education

County Manager Rick Morris noted that Dr. Brad Rice, Superintendent of Stokes County Schools, would be speaking on behalf of the Stokes County Board of Education regarding the request for funding in the amount of \$228,877 which was presented to the Board at the August 8, 2016 meeting.

Dr. Brad Rice presented the following comments:

- Noted the following Board of Education members were present for tonight's meeting:
 - Chairman Sonya Cox
 - Vice Chairman Pat Messick
 - Member Becky Boles
 - Member Bill Hart
- Noted the following staff were also present for tonight's meeting:
 - Finance Officer Lanette Moore
 - Assistant Superintendent Tony George
- Appreciate the Board of Commissioners adding the funding request from the Stokes County Board of Education to the Discussion Agenda
- Would first like to thank you for the continued support of Stokes County Schools
- Since I have been on the job, I have been impressed with the school facilities, but more importantly I have been impressed with the accomplishments of the school districts over the last several years, specifically this year
- I feel like I might be copying someone else's speech tonight, because I also want to talk about investment
- Would like to talk about a return on investment
- This past year at North Stokes High School, they were able to implement a one to one chrome book for all students
- The teachers participated in staff development with the Friday Institute and 90% of the graduating class this year was accepted to higher education

- At South Stokes High School, South Stokes was the District State Quiz Bowl Champions and competed at the national level in Washington, DC
- South Stokes also had a student receive a Vision Best in Show Award and Two National Art Awards which were presented at Carnegie Hall in New York
- South Stokes also had a valedictorian who won both the Morehead-Cain Scholarship for UNC-Chapel Hill and the Reynolds Scholarship at Wake Forest University
- West Stokes High School had the highest graduation rate in school history - 94.8 %
- West Stokes High School's senior class received over \$2.9 million in scholarships
- At Meadowbrook Academy, there were 21 graduates and for the first time in that school's history, a student was accepted to a 4-year college
- The Early College has been identified recently by Newsweek as being one of the top 500 schools in the United States that helps prepare economically disadvantaged students for college
- There are also some great things happening at our middle and elementary schools, will be glad to take anyone on a tour
- Thank you for the investment you have made in the future of Stokes County in the past
- As you know last year, the Board of Education and the County Commissioners worked on a budget
- County Commissioners allocated approximately \$782,357 less than the Board of Education requested
- The Board and Central Office have made many cuts from that time and looked at not only budget projections but at last year's actual expenses to try to reduce that number as much as possible
- We were able to cut approximately \$279,602 from that deficit
- It still leaves the school system with a deficit of \$502,755
- We are here tonight to ask the Board of Commissioners to allocate an additional \$228,877 to the original allocation
- \$103,000 would be used to completely fund the School Resource Officers at last year's staffing level – not an increase – just to maintain
- \$125,877 would be used to maintain the local supplement for Certified/Classified positions at the 4% level as last school year
- The Board of Education would take an additional \$273,878 from their Fund Balance to balance the FY 2016-17 budget shortfall
- I know that is asking for money, but as you have heard tonight, this is an investment in the community
- As mentioned tonight, students going to Forsyth Tech need an education
- We are asking for the additional funding to maintain the past levels we have had at the current levels
- It looks so easy to cut every line item in a budget a certain percentage, the problem is that there are line items that can't be cut such as utilities, insurance, retirement, etc.
- The only things that we had flexibility with, after making all those additional cuts, were the SROs and the supplement
- We do not want to touch those either so that is why we are here tonight asking for the additional funding

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I think we have already expressed the reason why some of the cuts took place
- We not only had to cut school funding; we had to cut monies from every department in the County
- It is so easy to just look at one department and say we can cut this and that and balance the budget
- That is not the way it happens when you look at 9 different departments, you have to look at the big picture and that is what we are trying to do
- I have looked at this request of \$228,877 and put a lot of thought into it, even got some information from auditors
- At this time, my understanding is that the Board of Education's Fund Balance is \$276,000
- With that Fund Balance, my recommendation is as follows:
 - Definitely fund the \$125,877 for the certified/classified supplements (from being a former Board of Education member, I know that it is very important to try to keep our employees)
 - I would recommend that the Board of Education take \$62,938 from their Fund Balance and make the first payment in November 2016 and the County would fund the \$62,938 for the last payment which would be sometime at the end of the school year (2017)
 - I would recommend to this Board that the County fund \$28,000 for the SRO match and the Board of Education would have to fund the \$75,000 for the other SROs
- If my calculations are right, this will leave the Board of Education with \$138,062 in their Fund Balance
- I think this \$138,062 is appropriate for some of the things that you may need prior to the next budget cycle
- I am also saying that if you have a large breakdown, I am sure this commission board is not going to turn you away
- My philosophy has always been that we are serving the same clientele (Board of County Commissioners and Board of Education)
- Board of Education is focused on educating the children and the Board of County Commissioners is focused on trying to provide the money
- I have heard a lot of talk tonight about raising taxes
- As you know, the tax structure has already been set for Fiscal Year 2016-17
- This Board of Commissioners has approved a referendum for the November 2016 ballot for local sales and use tax at the rate of one-quarter (0.25%) in addition to all other state and local sales and use taxes
- If you don't mind paying extra taxes, this will give you an opportunity to go out and vote for this referendum; this tax increase is expected to bring in additional revenue of approximately \$500,000
- We have new businesses coming into the county that are going to provide additional revenue
- This should get us through this particular budget year

- That is my recommendation to this Board

Chairman Inman confirmed the following with Commissioner Lankford regarding his recommendation:

- The first \$62,938 of the \$125,877 for the certified/classified supplements will be funded by the Board of Education using their Fund Balance (\$276,000)
- The \$75,000 for the other SROs would also come out of the Board of Education's Fund Balance of \$276,000
- Taking these two amounts from the Board of Education's Fund Balance would leave them with approximately \$138,000

Dr. Brad Rice responded:

- Finance Director Lanette Moore spoke with the auditors today who stated that any balance around the \$138,000 mark would generate a warning letter from them regarding the Fund Balance; the letter will state that the Board of Education is in a dangerous situation and can't continue at that current pace
- With what has already been allocated from Fund Balance this year plus this additional allocation, there will be nowhere near that next year to help out at all

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- I just hope next year is going to be a different year

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Sounds like a pretty good idea
- It is splitting up the \$228,877 request
- If we pay the entire \$228,877, it would all come from the County's Fund Balance
- Like Commissioner Lankford stated, if an emergency came up, I am sure this Board will look at any request and go from there
- You may not have to use any of the remaining \$138,000 or could use it all and have to come to the County, no one knows the answer to that

Dr. Rice responded:

- Just wanted to point out one thing, one item that we were able to cut (\$100,000) was with heating and utilities based on last year's prices
- If prices adjust after the election, there could be, not an emergency like a chiller going out, but just prices going up

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Think the school system put in a system a few years ago that cost the school system approximately \$1 million to save utilities costs
- Have not heard anything recently as to how much it is saving the county

Dr. Rice responded:

- Have been on the job 6 weeks and no one has told me it is not working

- Have not been given any information on how much it has saved

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Just wondering how it is working

Dr. Rice responded:

- I will be glad to check on that
- I know that the facility that has the one on one initiative technology uses more electricity now

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Have always supported our schools and will continue to
- One of the aspects I am looking for with this particular situation is what is fair and equitable when we are balancing county needs and the school needs
- I think that is where our wisdom is best applied
- In a situation like this, I look for folks that have a broader or deeper knowledge base or experience base than I have
- When my fellow commissioner, Commissioner Lankford, shares a concept based on his many years of experience, I certainly listen with interest
- Acknowledging that may not be the perfect answer, but at least it can be the focus of discussion possibly at this time
- If we proceed as usual as a Board, this item being on the Discussion Agenda tonight, should be placed on the Action Agenda for the following meeting giving us time to put some thought and consideration into the request
- Dr. Rice, you have a made a comment or two about Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- Would like to hear Dr. Rice and/or Finance Director Moore's thoughts regarding Commissioner Lankford's recommendation (Director Moore has great knowledge of the budget process for the school system)

Dr. Rice responded:

- I also like to hear the voice of experience as well
- Dr. Rice turned the question over to Director Moore

Finance Director Moore responded:

- I guess I would say back to the Board of Commissioners, "how would it make you feel if you thought you only had approximately \$138,000 in your Fund Balance?"
- It makes me nervous and I feel it makes the Board of Education also feel a little uneasy
- I will say that we have tried to budget line item by line item
- As Dr. Rice stated, we went back and compared what the expenditures were for Fiscal Year 2015-16
- This is not a padded budget
- I feel this is a very accurate budget
- It concerns me after talking to the auditors about the management letter from them that will include a warning about the decrease of our Fund Balance

- You have to keep in mind that we are using our Fund Balance for recurring costs
- The auditors did say the warning letter would not be sent to the Local Government Commission (LGC), but when the LGC reviews the school audit, we could get a phone call for explanation as to the reasons why it has dropped
- I am sure the Board of Education would like to have the full amount, but we will work with whatever we get to try to make it work
- We have received a lot of concerns from our employees about the supplement
- We have tried to tell our employees that we are working on this situation with a meeting scheduled with the Board of County Commissioners to hopefully get some end results that will be positive
- We are in strong support of keeping that supplement for our employees and for keeping our SROs
- Without any additional funding, we would be just about at zero with our Fund Balance
- With Commissioner Lankford's recommendation, it will help, but keep in mind the point to where we would be with our Fund Balance and the possibility of having to come back for additional funding
- We have tried to be honest
- We have tried to budget as close as we possibly could
- I feel we have a good budget for the school system
- Any support you can definitely provide is greatly appreciated and is desperately needed
- We will work as hard as we can to try to stay within the lines that we have budgeted

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that his recommendation keeps the supplement fully funded
- Questioned Dr. Rice if that is his understanding regarding fully funding the supplement?

Dr. Rice responded:

- My understanding is to keep the supplement at the current amount, the Board of Education would use Fund Balance to fund the first half and the Board of Commissioners would fund the second half

Finance Director Moore responded:

- That is maintaining the supplement where we were with the school year that just ended (supplement is based on the salaries in 2013-14)
- This is no increase, just maintaining

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Based on comments from some of my fellow commissioners that I am hearing, it is very important to this Board to keep the supplements funded

Dr. Rice responded:

- Keeping the supplement, as well as the SROs, is very important to our board as well

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that his recommendation includes \$28,000 for the SRO match for the grant

Finance Director Moore commented:

- The state funding of \$56,000 for SROs is ready for us to use if we can come up with the \$28,000 match
- It was used for elementary and middle school SROs last year

Commissioner Walker continued:

- To wrap this up, with Commissioner Lankford's recommendation, which may not be the perfect answer, it is maybe a compromise, some give and take, working together using some school funds and county funding to resolve the issue
- I am thinking this might work
- Am I missing something

Dr. Rice responded:

- It works but only leaves approximately \$138,000 in the Board of Education's Fund Balance

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Here is some history
- I think our history as a Board has been to view favorably and comply with any emergency request from our school system (if anyone has any other information different from mine, would like to hear it)
- Confirmed with Finance Director Moore that is correct regarding no emergency request has been brought to the Board of Commissioner that has been denied

Finance Director Moore added:

- Any emergency, to my knowledge, that has been brought before the Board of Commissioners has been in capital outlay
- Board of Commissioners have given the Board of Education in the past, the flexibility to transfer money from current expense, when available, to capital outlay
- To my knowledge, there has never been a current expense emergency request made to the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Just allocated \$1.2 million for emergency repairs to a roof
- I want to do what is fair and what is right
- If this goes as usual, have a couple more weeks before action will be taken at the next meeting
- Will be giving it consideration and will try to look at all aspects of the request
- Trying to seek what is fair for the schools and what is fair for the county

Commissioner Jones commented:

- When the Board of Education came to us during the budget season, they submitted a very lean budget
- When the budget was adopted, the Board of Education had almost \$800,000 shortage
- They have gone back and refigured
- They are asking for \$228,877 for essentials
- I am not comfortable taking so much money from their Fund Balance and them getting warning letters
- We, as a Board, do not want to be put in that same position
- I don't think it makes the school system look good
- I don't think it makes the County look good
- We are just postponing the inevitable
- We will have to have a mighty fine year to be able to have a whole different ballgame next year with every department needing things
- I just don't know why we are trying to nickel and dime this thing to death when they have already cut out almost \$500,000 from what their original request was
- I think they have been reasonable
- I know that we will come to their defense if they have any major emergencies
- In the grand scheme of things, I think we need to make their Fund Balance at least to the point where the formula matches what the state requires
- I am not going to belabor this issue any more
- I have a problem with the recommendation, will just have to see how the vote goes

County Manager Morris commented:

- When we have our quarterly meetings, one thing we need to figure out is what is the level of Fund Balance that the Board of Education needs to maintain for future budgets to make sure the LGC and the auditors are not unhappy

Commissioner Walker commented:

- The County had massive cuts this year with our budget
- We cut out all raises and bonuses
- We cut out 22 requested new positions, some of which I thought were in the category of being essential
- Had no new positions
- Requested Manager Morris to speak to the kind of cuts that were made to the County budget

County Manager Morris responded:

- First, I want to point out that 11 of the requested new positions were adding a complete new shift for EMS for a schedule change
- All of the other positions are what I consider needs or I would have not put them in the budget
- Will be talking about one of the requested positions later tonight

Commissioner Walker continued:

- I was talking about cuts in general to the budget, as it would have been a good budget versus what we actually ended up with
- Items such equipment, personnel, and the amount taken from our Fund Balance to balance the budget

County Manager Morris responded:

- We are in desperate need of additional revenue
- Have been saying that for 4-5 years
- We are not raising enough revenue to pay the expenditures
- We are headed for a calamity if we don't get some revenue from somewhere
- We are not trending up like we should be
- Barely keeping our heads above water

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Yes, we did have to cut a lot
- A lot more than we wanted
- In fact, we took \$2.3 million from our Fund Balance to balance the budget
- I think I tried to start this discussion off by saying we definitely have and we will continue to support the school system
- I will as long as I am on this Board
- I think we have one of the best school systems in the state which I have said over and over
- We have other departments that we have to think about too
- We must have a certain amount in our Fund Balance in case we do have an emergency, disaster, etc.
- We are not like the school system that can come to the County when they have an emergency request, we have nowhere to go
- We have got to allow enough in our Fund Balance for at least three months of operating costs
- This is not something that we just sat down one day and decided to cut this and cut that
- Every one of these commissioners puts in at least 50 hours a week on this job which is not a pleasant job
- That is not anyone's problem, that is the person who pays the filing fee
- I am not trying to justify it in any way
- I am just saying, I am not just picking on the school system
- I think we have a great, outstanding school system and we will continue to have that
- Don't know what is going to happen next year
- Have a feeling it is going to have to be better because we are looking at some new revenues
- We are giving you an opportunity to raise taxes this November which will be a lot of money for the county
- Next year will be a better year, I can tell you that right now, that is my thinking

Chairman Inman commented:

- Need to deal with the problem at hand, this is not going to fix itself
- We can talk about cuts all night long and never fix this issue
- Commissioner Lankford has put a recommendation on the floor for the Board to consider
- Just want to warn the Board, with the Board of Education's remaining Fund Balance, it will not take much of an emergency for the Board of Education to be back here requesting funding
- It could even be within the next month
- Commissioner Lankford's recommendation is an option to keep the SROs and provide the supplement
- I believe the Board of Education has been very transparent with its budget
- I have known Finance Director Moore for a number of years (probably close to 40 years) and if anyone can find a dime in a hole, she can find it
- I don't think there is any hidden funding in their request
- The school year is just about to start, you need to let teachers know something, you don't need to have to wait two weeks for an answer, if you do, you may lose teachers before the year even starts
- My opinion is to move it to tonight's Action Agenda and take care of it, to me this is an emergency situation
- Ready to move it to the Action Agenda tonight so they can tell teachers they will have their supplement

Dr. Rice responded:

- Would appreciate that very much

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I can go either way, action tonight or action at the next meeting
- I don't think I would want to go any lower with the school's Fund Balance

Chairman Inman commented:

- Would definitely not want to go any lower

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Would not want to go any lower
- Am I hearing this is acceptable with the Board of Education?

Dr. Rice responded:

- I am not authorized to speak for the Board of Education
- We are currently under a continuation budget, waiting for an answer from this request
- The Board of Education would have to vote on this recommendation
- The Board of Education can't pass their budget until an answer is received from this request

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- If we approve Commissioner Lankford's recommendation, would like to know if the Board of Education would fund the other amount requested?

Dr. Rice responded:

- Board of Education would have to vote on this
- I can't speak regarding a vote of the Board of Education

Board of Education Chairman Sonya Cox requested that Finance Director Moore provide the Board of Commissioners with the exact amount of the 4% supplement.

Dr. Rice responded:

- The \$128,877 being requested is for one half of 1%
- We are not asking for the entire supplement

Finance Director Moore responded:

- There is actually \$1,072,000 allocated in the school board's budget for the entire supplement
- The Board of Education has been able to balance all the supplement except for the \$128,877 request
- On August 1st, the entire budget was evaluated line item by line item
- The Board of Education made decisions to try to balance the budget
- As a result, the Board of Education requested the \$228,877 to balance the budget
- I think our Board has made line item of cuts with the understanding that what is in this letter is where we are right now trying to balance the 2016-17 budget

Dr. Rice continued:

- I can't speak to any vote that would have to be made by the Board of Education
- The Board approved to request the amount of funding indicated in the letter to the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Walker commented:

- If I vote tonight, it will be for Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- If I were to change, it would be from hearing and considering additional information
- I may be at the same place I am right now at the next meeting – Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- I would keep an open mind and continue to gather information
- I will not go any lower than Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- I don't want to mess up anything with the timing of the school year
- This is where I am – if I vote tonight – it is the lowest amount – Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- If for some reason, there could be some additional information that I have missed that would cause me to look at any aspect of it differently, the vote is over tonight if it is moved to the Action Agenda

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I support what Commissioner Walker said
- I will support my recommendation because this is something that I have really thought through
- This is not something I just pulled out of the air
- You know how much money you have and how much you can spare
- If we don't give any funding for this request, the Board of Education's Fund Balance would be about \$50,000 which is unacceptable
- In my opinion, the \$138,000 would be acceptable

Chairman Inman commented:

- Dr. Rice, if it is the decision of this Board to approve Commissioner Lankford's recommendation, does it need to be approved tonight or can it wait two weeks?

Finance Director Moore responded:

- We are waiting to see what to tell Resource Officers about what to do when the kids are ready to come back to school
- The supplement is very important

Chairman Inman confirmed with Finance Director Moore that until this Board votes, the Board of Education will not know how much funding will be needed for the supplement or funding for the SROs.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Could we vote separately on the supplement request and the SRO request?

Chairman Inman responded that he did not know why you would want to split the funding request.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I don't think it is fair to postpone this for another two weeks
- I think this is a time sensitive item
- They are operating under a continuation budget
- Their staff is on eggshells about their supplements
- The SROs don't know what to do
- Don't know what could possibly be out there that someone has not had time to find out
- Need to vote tonight
- This has been an ongoing issue
- They need an answer

Chairman Inman noted that it would actually be three weeks before the next meeting.

Commissioner Walker responded:

- I can answer one part of Commissioner Jones' question
- I seem to hear some discussion about if the Board funds the amount proposed by Commissioner Lankford, is the Board of Education going to fund the remaining funding?
- Until they meet and vote, how do we know what they are going to do regarding the other part of the supplement?

Finance Director Moore responded:

- Before we sent the letter to the Board of Commissioners, the Board of Education went over line item by line item in the budget
- The amount requested was the things that could not be funded by the Board of Education
- By you approving this request, the money would go directly to where it was requested, that was the Board's intent
- The funding, if approved, will not be used for anything else

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Questioned Finance Director Moore if the Board of Commissioners funds what Commissioner Lankford recommended, would the Board of Education fund the remaining?

Finance Director Moore responded:

- My understanding is that the Board of Education, when they submitted the funding request, did not want the supplement cut
- My understanding is that the Board of Education would try to use Fund Balance to fund any not provided by the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Walker continued:

- I think it should be clear for everyone here this evening that the Board of Commissioners wants that supplement as it is – no decrease
- That part of our discussion should have come across very clear
- Just want it known if I have to vote tonight, what my vote will be, there will be no surprises

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

Proposed 2017 Revaluation Real Property Schedule of Values – Further Discussion

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley noted the proposed 2017 Revaluation Real Property Schedule of Values was presented to the Board of County Commissioners at their the August 8th meeting and was placed back on tonight's Discussion Agenda for further discussion if needed.

Tax Administrator Oakley continued:

- Has been advertised and available for public inspection in the Tax Department
- Would request the proposed Schedule of Values be placed on the September 12th Consent Agenda for consideration

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no issues with the proposed 2017 Revaluation Real Property Schedule of Values.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to the Board to place the item on the September 12th Consent Agenda.

Surplus Property (Tax Foreclosure) – Upset Bid Process

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information from Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall.

- Received the following bids from Mr. Robert J. Lucas dated August 8, 2016 to purchase the following tax foreclosed surplus parcels from Stokes County:
 - Parcel: 697903437698
 - Deed/Page 661/820
 - Lot 8 Delta Acres – 1110 Sandy Lane
 - Bid: \$5,773.97
 - Parcel: 697903437584
 - Deed/Page 661/820
 - Lot 7 Delta Acres
 - Bid: \$1,900.77
- These bid amounts are equal to the total outstanding taxes and legal fees as of August 8, 2016
- Would request the Board of Commissioners give consensus approval at tonight's meeting to start the upset bid process "only" as outlined in NC General Statutes 160A-269
- Advertisement will be placed in the Stokes News along with being posted on the county web page
- After the required 10-day window of not receiving any upset bid, the item will be placed on the Commissioners' Agenda for consideration

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

The Board had no objections with directing staff to move forward with the upset bid process.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed County Manager Morris to have staff start the upset bid process.

Proposed Contract Position – Community Social Services Assistant

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed contract position for Social Services – Social Services Community Social Services

Assistant:

- In reference to the discussion at the last BOCC meeting on the status of the Foster Care Unit in DSS, DSS Director Stacey Elmes and I would like to recommend an alternate proposal of contracting for a person to serve as a Community Social Services Assistant in the Foster Care Unit as relief for the critical situation in Foster Care where the number of foster children has grown significantly from the May 2016 timeframe from the mid-seventies to almost a hundred foster children at present
- Foster children require an inordinate amount of transportation to meet the requirements of the foster care program
- Many of these requirements are time sensitive and directed by the Court and must be met. In addition to transportation, the person occupying this position must supervise foster care visits plus observe and prepare documentation related to visits and other encounters that the foster children make
- In the absence of Community Social Services Assistants, higher paid social workers must perform these tasks in lieu of the other tasks they are required to perform
- Without the proper mix of social workers and other specialties in place for foster care the risks increase significantly for repeated trauma, lack of permanence, and other bad outcomes that could occur for the children
- For clarification, the request for an additional Community Social Services Assistant is not a new need
- Even before the foster care numbers escalated to the current levels, this need was reflected in the presentation by the Social Services Director at a special BOCC meeting at the DSS Department in Feb 2016, and it was again reflected in my budget recommendation to the BOCC for the FY 2016/17 Budget
- A minimum of two of these positions are needed unless the number of foster children is reduced significantly below the mid-seventies level where it has been for some time
- If approval is given to contract for this position, for the near term, there are lapsed salaries available in DSS that could be applied to the cost for this position
- We would pay this individual \$10 per hour (29 hours per week) \$1160 per pay period
- Of this amount, 38.0768% is the county share which would be \$441.69 per pay period
- There is currently (through 8/12/16) \$3,800.24 in lapsed salaries

- With this amount of lapsed salary, we could contract with someone for 3.25 pay periods
- Depending on when the current foster care vacancy is filled, more lapsed salary funds may come available.
- Would like to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda
- It is a real valid need
- DSS has had two more resignations today

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that a minimum of two of these positions are needed unless the number of foster children is reduced significantly below the mid-seventies where it has been for some time.

County Manager Morris commented:

- Not sure what the actual number of foster children would need to be to not need this additional Social Services Assistant
- We are using valuable time that the Social Worker needs to be doing other social work functions
- Would take some stress off the Social Worker

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that the county share is 38% of the hourly rate

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

Arts Council – Facility Needs

County Manager Rick Morris provided the Board with the following information regarding the facility needs at the Art Council Building:

- Have Arts Council Director Eddy McGee and Arts Council President Ellen Peric in attendance to answer any questions
- Understand three of the commissioners have already seen the situation (Commissioners Lankford and Walker had not seen the situation)
- Will schedule something this week for Commissioners Lankford and Walker to see the issues
- There is a serious moisture problem in the Arts Council building
- Under General Statute 143-129, there are exceptions:
 - Cases of special emergency involving the health and safety of the people or their property

- Construction or repair work undertaken during the progress of a construction or repair project initially begun pursuant to this section
- The guidelines required by GS becom143-129 were followed for the initial project
- Have concurred with County Attorney Browder that this moisture issue at the Arts Council building meets the exception criteria of the general statutes
- This building in discussion will become a part of the new project because it has an 8 ft. archway that will connect the new facility to the old facility once the project is completed
- It was good that this happened before connecting the 2 buildings, the problem would have then become a problem in the new building
- Based on these statutes, we are allowed to treat this as an emergency
- We have a quote from the current contractor, do not want to give out the number publicly because it could create a compromising situation should a competitive situation be chosen which I am not recommending
- We have a quote that has been looked at by our Chief Building Inspector and also by our Public Works Director
- Both feel the quote is reasonable for the amount of work that has to be done
 - Ceilings, walls, and floors will have to be removed
 - Must cover the dirt surfaces with concrete
 - Removing and replacing all the duct work
 - Eliminating a large amount of mold
 - Placing a drain system under the facility
 - Replacing the electrical system which is old
- Arts Council has volunteered to pay the contractor and then be reimbursed by the county in order to get the process started before the problem gets worse
- This would also allow the contractor to treat this as part of the project
- Current contractor is on site and knows the facility
- If you bidded the project and selected another contractor, you would have two contractors with responsibilities for two different parts which is really not a good idea
- You want one contractor to go to when something goes wrong
- My recommendation is to go ahead with the current contractor and allowed the Arts Council to pay the contractor with reimbursement from the County
- It definitely meets the statutory requirement
- We don't want to let the old facility mess up the \$1million renovation project next door
- New section will be ready to open within the next few months
- This project is going to be a self-sustaining operation
- Need to get this corrected immediately
- Have \$250,000 in Capital Reserve for HVAC and emergency situations that can be used to reimburse the Arts Council
- This issue has warped the ceiling tiles in the upper offices
- Would request to move this item to tonight's Action Agenda
- Also want to mention another issue on the other end of the building with the current roof that joins the new roofline which can be addressed later and will be a less expensive issue to fix

- Feel this would be a very smart business decision to support the Arts Council in getting this issue corrected – this is a county building

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Saw the situation first hand, believe that is why I am so hoarse
- It is a no brainer, it has to be fixed
- The new facility is going to be a game changer for this community
- Don't want to do anything that will slow the process down
- On board with going ahead with the project

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Think Commissioner Lankford and I are at a little disadvantage having not actually seen the issues
- Would be interested in knowing what the other commissioners think and saw

Chairman Inman responded:

- I will just lay it on the line – the county manager called it a moisture issue, it is a serious mold issue in the basement of the older facility
- The building dates back to the early 1900's
- There will have to be mold remediation done
- It must be fixed before opening the passageway to the new structure
- Employees are being moved from the facility

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- It is a moisture problem that has caused a mold problem
- It has some dirt floors in the very back part of the facility
- The dirt floors will have to be covered with cement
- Agree, it is a problem that must be fixed before opening the new structure
- The electrical wiring does need to be updated

County Manager Morris noted that his fear is the old wiring could burn both buildings down.

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Wish Commissioner Lankford and Walker could have seen the issues first hand

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Wish things like this didn't happen, but they do
- Confirmed with Commissioner Jones that she agreed with the other members and that it must be fixed

Commissioner Jones responded:

- Like I stated, I was not hoarse before I went into the facility

- Have been sneezing ever since I left the facility
- It is an issue that must be fixed immediately

Commissioner Walker continued:

- There has been a lot of investment by several donors with the county willing to step up and make up the difference if necessary
- Need to do it and do it right
- Looking forward to seeing it first hand
- Based on all the information presented tonight, it has to be done

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- If we have that kind of situation, it has to be fixed

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Even if it there was not a \$1 million project next door, it is a county facility and must be fixed

County Manager Morris commented:

- Feel very confident this contractor is the right person for the job

Chairman Inman confirmed with County Attorney Ty Browder that he concurred with Manager Morris' recommendation due to the emergency situation and it could be done according to the exceptions listed in General Statute 143-129.

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Funding Gap Letter – Stokes County Art Market Project & Budget Amendment #22

County Manager Rick Morris presented Budget Amendment #22 which allocates the funding approved in the Funding Gap Letter for the Arts Market Project (item was presented to the Board at the August 8th meeting).

Arts Council– Budget Amendment #22

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
August 22, 2016				50

Arts Council				
100.6150.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$00.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Contingency				
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>\$392,051.00</u>	<u>\$(50,572.00)</u>	<u>\$241,479.00</u>
Totals		\$392,051.00	\$49,428.00	\$441,479.00
Capital Reserve Fund				
201.4920.027	Economic Development	\$49,428.00	\$(49,428.00)	\$00.00
201.9810.000	Transfer to General Fund	<u>\$157,090.00</u>	<u>\$49,428.00</u>	<u>\$206,518.00</u>
Totals		\$206,518.00	\$00.00	\$206,518.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funding for the gap letter approved for the Arts Council Project.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$49,428.00** 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
100.3982.960	Transfer from Capital Reserve Fund	<u>\$157,090.00</u>	<u>\$49,428.00</u>	<u>\$206,518.00</u>
Totals		\$157,090.00	\$49,428.00	\$206,518.00

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding Budget Amendment #22 to appropriate funding for the Art Market Renovation/Expansion Project/Gap Funding.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Budget Amendment #22 to appropriate funding for the Art Market Renovation/Expansion Project. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Revaluation – Part time Contract Employment

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding Revaluation – Part Time Contract Employment which was presented at the August 8th meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to deny the request for part time contract employment for Revaluation. Vice Chairman Booth seconded the motion for discussion.

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Since this concerns a former employee, would this be justified to discuss in Closed Session?

County Manager Morris noted it was a budgetary item.

Commissioner Walker confirmed with County Attorney Ty Browder that if qualifications of the applicant were going to be discussed, it should be in Closed Session.

Commissioner Walker stated he felt this should be discussed in Closed Session due to the nature of the issue (personnel).

The Board discussed the item being moved to Closed Session.

Chairman Inman, on the advice of the County Attorney, moved the item to Closed Session.

Commissioner Lankford withdrew his motion with Vice Chairman Booth withdrawing his second to the motion.

Proposed Agreement – Home & Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Provision of County –Based Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2016-17 & Budget Amendment #21

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the proposed Agreement – Home & Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Provision of County –Based Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2016-17 which was presented at the August 8th meeting along with Budget Amendment #21 which appropriates the funding.

Budget Amendment #21

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

Account Number	Account Description General Fund	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
Senior Services				
100.5860.312	Transportation	\$45,400.00	\$(786.00)	\$44,614.00
100.5860.220	Food & Provisions	\$182,000.00	\$2,036.00	\$184,036.00
Social Services				
100.5310.184	Professional Serv-HCCBG	\$57,354.00	\$10,630.00	\$67,984.00

Contingency				
100.9910.000	Contingency	<u>393,111.00</u>	<u>\$(1,060.00)</u>	<u>\$392,051.00</u>
Totals		\$677,865.00	\$10,820.00	\$688,685.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate additional funding and reduce appropriation for the Home Community Block Grant for Fiscal Year 2016-17. Appropriation from Contingency is for the match grant for Social Services.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$10,820.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
General Fund				
100.3301.369	PTRC-Transportation	\$54,533.00	\$(786.00)	\$53,747.00
100.3301.341	PTRC-Home Delivered Meals	\$166,836.00	\$2,036.00	\$168,872.00
100.3301.373	PTRC-HCCBG DSS	<u>\$51,616.00</u>	<u>\$9,570.00</u>	<u>\$61,186.00</u>
Totals		\$272,985.00	\$10,820.00	\$283,805.00

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the Proposed Agreement – Home & Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Provision of County-Based Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2016-17 and Budget Amendment #21. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Agreement – Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services for the Protection, Development, and Improvement of Forest Lands in Stokes County

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the Proposed Agreement – Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services for the Protection, Development, and Improvement of Forest Lands in Stokes County which was presented at the August 8th meeting.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Proposed Agreement – Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services for the Protection, Development, and Improvement of Forest Lands in Stokes County. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Lease –River Access – HWY 704

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the proposed Lease for the river access located on HWY 704 between Joel J. Hart and Joann L. Hart and the County of Stokes which was presented at the August 8th meeting.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the Lease for the river access located on HWY 704 between Joel J. Hart and Joann L. Hart and the County of Stokes. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Lankford voting against the motion.

Amendment to the Jail Contract – Moseley Architect

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the Amendment to the Jail Contract with Moseley Architect which was presented at the August 8th meeting.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Amendment to the Jail Contract with Moseley Architect. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2016-17 Equipment (vehicles) Purchase – Sheriff's Department

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the purchase of (6) 2016 Ford Police Interceptors which was presented at the August 8th meeting.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the purchase of (6) 2016 Ford Police Interceptors at a cost of \$23,758.35/each from Asheville Ford under the North Carolina Sheriff Association Contract Pricing (Contract 15-01-0611). Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Appointments – Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins presented the following recommendation from the Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee for the vacant position from the General Public with an interest or background in Social Services:

- Diana Bryant, Social Worker

- Ms. Bryant is a family counselor with Stokes Friends of Youth
- Lives in King
- A former teacher in the Stokes County School System
- Has agreed to serve if appointed

Chairman Inman opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford nominated Rachel White.

Chairman Inman entered the name of Diana Bryant for nomination as recommended by the Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Inman confirmed with Clerk Bullins that the Board could poll today if so desired by the Board.

Chairman Inman requested information about Ms. White from Commissioner Lankford.

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Lives in the Lawsonville area
- Is a person who would be interested in the appointment
- Believe she would make a good committee person

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Clerk Bullins that the Human Services Advisory Committee recommended Ms. Bryant
- Confirmed with Manager Morris and Vice Chairman Booth, who serve on the Committee, that Ms. Bryant's name was submitted at their meeting for a recommendation to serve on the Human Services Advisory Committee

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Confirmed with Clerk Bullins that Ms. Bryant was a former teacher and a family counselor for Stokes Friends of Youth

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Manager Morris that this vacancy is for someone from the general public who has a background or interest in Social Services.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Couldn't support the appointment of Ms. Bryant, just thinking she could possibly be biased

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that Rachel White does not have a background or interest in Social Services

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- She works for Veteran Services
- She is an individual who is very smart
- Feel she would be fair and straight forward and would not have to worry about her

Commissioner Walker responded:

- More likely Commissioner Lankford, I would support Ms. White for another position, but I have to support someone for this position that has ties with DSS

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- That would be the reason I wouldn't because she might take the approach to be in favor of a lot of things that DSS wants

Commissioner Walker noted that is what he expected from this appointment.

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Not necessarily

Chairman Inman questioned if the Board was ready to vote tonight.

Commissioner Lankford responded "no".

Chairman Inman directed the Clerk to place the item on the September 12th Action Agenda.

Appointments – Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins noted the following regarding the vacant appointment for the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council:

- Have not received any applications for appointment
- Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council is still seeking an applicant for the appointment

Chairman Inman opened the floor for nominations.

There were no nominations.

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

Commissioner Walker noted that he would appreciate recommendations from the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council.

Chairman Inman, with full consent of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on September 12th Action Agenda.

Funding Request –Stokes County Board of Education

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the Funding Request from the Stokes County Board of Education presented at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to fund the Stokes County Board of Education \$90,938 of the \$228,877 request. Vice Chairman Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Inman opened the floor for any further discussion.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- As I stated earlier, if I had to vote today, I would support Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- We are voting tonight, looks like I will be supporting Commissioner Lankford's recommendation
- I also stated that I would not go any lower than Commissioner Lankford's recommendation, but could possibly go higher if additional information was received before the next meeting and the vote was deferred to the next regular meeting

Vice Chairman Booth questioned if this motion passed, was the Board of Education going fund the remaining?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- The Board of Education is going to focus on two items – funding certified and classified supplements and SROs

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Want to reiterate to the Board of Education that if an emergency occurs that would impact their Fund Balance where it did not need to go any lower, they could come back and this Board would listen with interest to their request

Chairman Inman called the question.

The motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Jones voting against the motion.

Proposed Contract Position – Community Social Services Assistant

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the proposed contract position – Community Social Services Assistant which was presented at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve Manager Morris' recommendation for a contract position in DSS – Community Social Services Assistant. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Arts Council - Facility Needs

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the facility needs for the Arts Council building which was recommended by Manager Morris at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the manager's recommendations for the Arts Council building. Commissioner Lankford seconded the motion.

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- This is an interesting situation because I am approving something that I do not know the amount I am approving which is kind of unusual

County Manager Morris noted he could provide Commissioner Walker with the details after the meeting.

Chairman Inman called the question.

The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

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

- The Board unanimously entered into closed session to consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications,

competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6).

- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Commissioner Lankford moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- The Board unanimously entered into closed session to consider the initial employment or appointment of an individual to any office or position, other than a vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners or any other public body, or to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, and fitness of any public officer or employee, other than a member of the Board of Commissioners or of some other public body pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(6).
- To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)

Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board re-entered the opened session of the August 22nd meeting.

Revaluation – Part Time Contract Employment

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve a temporary contract position for Revaluation for (2) two months, (20) twenty hours per week, \$15 per hour with the condition, if more hours are needed, the Tax Administrator will come back to this Board to request additional hours at the end of October. 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.

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

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

J. Leon Inman
Chairman