

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
OCTOBER 24, 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, October 24, 2016 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman J. Leon Inman
Vice Chairman James D. Booth
Commissioner Jimmy Walker - entered the meeting at 7:10 pm
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

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

Chairman Inman noted that Commissioner Walker would be late for tonight's meeting due to attending the Candidate's Forum in King which was scheduled for the same night as the regular scheduled commissioners' meeting.

INVOCATION

Chairman Inman invited those who wished to join 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 October 24, 2016 Agenda.

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the October 24th Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Rick Morris commented:

- A dilapidated house, which is owned by the County at 1587 Pine Hall Road, Pine Hall and declared as surplus, will be burned by Stokes Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department later in November
 - This should make the area look much better

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory” (Psalm 24:10)
- Yadkin County Board of Commissioners Chairman Kevin Austin was awarded the “Grady Hunter Regional Excellence Award” by the Piedmont Triad Regional Council last week

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Welcome everyone and appreciate everyone being here today
- Stokes County Soil and Water Conservation District will be hosting the Area II Fall Meeting tomorrow for 13 counties at Camp Hanes
 - Currently serve as the Chairman of the Stokes County Soil and Water Conservation District – Board of Supervisors and the Area II Soil and Water Conservation District
 - Have approximately 105 planning to attend the meeting
 - Each county serves as host for the Area II Spring and Fall Meetings

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Welcome everyone here tonight
- Would like to take a moment to thank Robin and Kitty who are in attendance tonight that have helped me tremendously this year with the Farmer’s Market

Chairman Inman commented:

- Encourage everyone to stay involved with the political process with some very important elections coming up

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:

E.A. "Buddy" Timm

PO Box 573

Walnut Cove, NC

RE: **Our Country**

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

"My concern is for our country. This election, November 8, 2016, could be our last chance, for generations to come, to vote for someone that will appoint Supreme Court Justices like former Justice Antonin Scalia, that will bring the Constitution of original intent and morals from the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God into their decision.

As much as one likes or dislikes a candidate's personality or character, we have to morally consider the future of the country for our children.

The Democrat Party Platform states it supports the homosexual and LGBT rights. That position we have seen our current Democrat President Obama promoting across the country and in the military.

The Republican Party Platform states it supports traditional family values. That position we have seen our current North Carolina Republican Governor Pat McCrory supporting by passing and standing by HB2 - the Bathroom Safety Bill.

One's biggest concern should be moral issues, since that will set the stage for what will be taught to our children, and affect the wholesomeness of our communities and workplace. Those issues could be decided by the Supreme Court – the current final arbiter of law.

If another Democrat becomes President, their immoral policies will continue, along with amnesty for millions of illegals and the immigration of Muslim refugees, with no reliable records for background checks. Realizing the source of their special privilege, they will become block voters for Democrats and there will be no chance for a Republican to become President again. Since the Supreme Court Justices are appointed by the President, our country will be lost to the legalization of immorality and HB2 will be overturned, with bathrooms becoming unsafe for women to use since men will legally be able to use them; and socialism will become our economic policy that Carl Marx said is a lower stage of Communism, which is used to equalize outcomes, wages, and futures.

Things have not been getting better. The last seven and one-half years, the Nation has been living on credit amounting to over one trillion dollars of new debt each year. It is not sustainable.

If we hide our eyes from what is going on, God will not hold us guiltless.

Our last chance to change the direction of our country is November 8, 2016.”

Sri Ananda Sarvasri

1060 Tyler Road

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: **Happiest, Healthiest, Greenest County in the Nation**

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

“Green Technologies – Part 2, Construction and Energy Technologies”

I am continuing with my suggestions to make Stokes County, the Happiest, Healthiest, and “Greenest” county in the nation.

Today, I am introducing construction and energy technologies. All wealth comes from the earth – on top of the earth, plants produce astounding materials. Inside the earth, minerals provide raw elements and compounds. Scientific knowledge enables us to refine these materials to create products from these two basic resources. Construction materials are an essential requirement for habitation, commerce, and industry. We need materials that are strong in tension and compression. New discoveries enable us to create low-cost, high-performing materials for construction of houses, shops, markets, pavilions, and facilities of all kinds. One recent discovery is the production of nanocellulose fibers from plants.

Fiber Reinforcement

Fiber-reinforced composites are the future of construction technologies and manufacturing. Nanocellulose is a microfiber that is stronger than Kelvar or steel. It is derived from ordinary wood pulp or any plant. It has incredible tensile strength and can be used as tensile reinforcement in composites. For ordinary uses in construction, fiber reinforcements are used in cladding panels, walls, roofing, and whole buildings. Common reinforcing fibers include steel, glass, plastic, and cellulose. There is a huge market for fiber. The most promising cellulose fibers are bamboo, industrial hemp, and kenaf. Industrial hemp, recently legalized in North Carolina, is promising both for its fiber and inner core (hurds). The core, when combined with hydrated lime, becomes a strong insulating material. Fibers create a strong outer shell. Surfacing a lightweight core with fiber reinforcement is called surface bonding. It can revolutionize construction. Combining lightweight forms, a lightweight insulating core, and surface bonding, we could construct super-insulated structures like houses, markets, pavilions, offices, and industrial buildings in a single day at 1/10th the cost of current technologies. Everyone benefits. Plus, they can save 90% on heating costs.

Energy Technologies

New energy technologies are coming to the market. For instance, the wind turbine blade (illustrated in a picture provided to the Board) is at least 20 times more efficient than the highly promoted, 3-bladed wind turbines you commonly see promoted. This new technology makes 3-bladed wind turbines obsolete. The new design is also safer and won't kill wildlife. This is only one of many energy technologies that will open up new vistas in energy production.

Researchers say that energy technologies already exist that directly draw energy from the environment. They will revolutionize the future of energy. For instance, it is claimed that

technologies exist that can heat water to boiling without external fuels. This means that Duke Energy could supply power to their steam turbines without burning coal. These technologies are so efficient and low cost that workers in the coal industry could be paid double not to mine and transport coal, just like we pay farmers not to grow crops. Everyone benefits.

Less pollution, more profit, lower energy costs.

Stokes County could find ways to promote these new Construction and Energy Technologies that would keep more money in the County. We need business incubators to explore these possibilities and create more jobs. These would be “green jobs” that would help people and help the environment at the same time.

To date, I have presented to the Commission how we could solve social problems such as violence and crime and turn our school children into geniuses through high mineral, high enzyme, organic nutrition combined with bio-energy vitalizing of the human nervous system. People have developed the ability to remember perfectly everything they see and hear only once. This makes education really easy. We could create abundance, create a pure healthy environment, and save fortunes in food costs and social costs through new agricultural technologies. With new construction materials and methods, we can construct all the infrastructure we need to create more jobs – solar greenhouses for food and structures of every kind. With new energy technologies, we reduce energy costs and eliminate toxic pollution from contaminated fuels. The future is bright when we think of creating the happiest, healthiest, “greenest” county in the nation.

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 October 10, 2016 - Regular Meeting

Tax Administration Report – September 2016

Releases More than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (September 2016) at the October 10th meeting for the Board’s review with consideration at the October 24th meeting:

Releases More Than \$100	Real/Personal	Property	
Name	Bill Number	Amount	Reason
Betty Dalton Brown	318367-2016-2016	\$804.09	Adjust-Assessed Value-Forestry Use Value
Tammy Dianne Moorefield	849362-2016-2016	<u>\$122.75</u>	Reduced Value of Double Wide Mobile Home
	Total Amount	\$926.84	

Refunds More Than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (September 2016) at the October 10th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the October 24th meeting:

Refunds More Than \$100	Real/Personal	Property	
Name	Bill Number	Amount	Reason
Betty Smith Moser	29152649	\$173.61	Vehicle Sold
Barbara P Tucker	33421536	<u>\$145.68</u>	Surry County SITUS
	Total Amount	\$319.29	

Write Off Request – Delinquent Tax Balances

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Write off Request for Delinquent Tax Balances at the October 10th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the October 24th meeting:

	Number of	Total Delinquent
	Accounts	Tax
		Balance
Personal Business	29	\$4,592.77
Personal Individual	162	\$18,063.69
Motor Vehicles	2723	<u>\$58,837.47</u>
	Total	\$81,493.93

Present-Use Value Late Application

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Present-Use Value Late Application at the October 10th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the October 24th meeting:

- Taxpayers
 - Joe Bailey Nunn & Marian Gravitte Nunn

- Parcel
 - 5997-00-01-5236
- Acreage
 - 48.45 acres
- Reason
 - Application On-Time – Late Delivery
- Recommendation – Tax Office recommends approval

Late Application for Disabled Veteran Exclusion for 2016

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Late Application for Disabled Veteran Exclusion for 2016 at the October 10th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the October 24th meeting:

- Taxpayer
 - Mark Alvear
- Parcel
 - 5972-02-99-5148
- Acreage
 - Tract of land and dwelling located at 1368 W. Old Phillips Rd, Pinnacle
- Assigned tax value
 - \$37,600
- Recommendation – Tax Office recommends approval

Tax Administration – August Refund Correction

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following correction for the Board's approval:

- A request for Bill Release (greater than \$100) in the amount of \$161.34 for Denise Hunt Webster (Bill 305826-2016-2016) was submitted on September 12th
- The Release for Denise Hunt Webster was approved on September 26th
- This Release should have been a Refund Request for Ms. Webster instead of a Release Request
- Request the Board approve the refund for Denise Hunt Webster in the amount of \$161.34 at the October 24th meeting

Refund More Than \$100	Real/Personal	Property	
Name	Bill Number	Amount	Reason
Denis Hunt Webster	305826-2016-2016	<u>\$161.34</u>	Removed Homesite/Old School Dilapidated
	Total Amount	\$161.34	

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Walker absent.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Chairman Inman introduced Hanging Rock State Park Superintendent Robin Riddlebarger.

Superintendent Robin Riddlebarger presented the following Hanging Rock State Park

2015-16 Stats:

- Like to start every presentation with a quote “Where every day is a holiday and every meal a picnic.”
- Permanent employees = 11
- Seasonal employees = 26
- Total number of volunteers = 44
 - Total hours = 5,965.50 (free help)
- Community Service Workers = 16
 - Hours = 131 (free work)
 - Have joined forces with Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention
- Park Advisory Committee
 - 8 members
 - Need one from local government
- Attendance
 - Visitation – July 1, 2015/June 30, 2016 = 617,649
 - An increase of 11.3% in visitation over the previous year
 - Second year, the park has had to close due to no parking
 - Came within 5 spaces of filling the parking lot yesterday
 - Highest visitation – July = 83,307
 - Lowest visitation – January = 22,796
 - Labor Day 2016 – record breaking attendance = over 8,000
 - Had 47 cars parked along the road at the Lower Cascades
 - Have different kinds of visitors such as bears
- Donations
 - FSM donation box = \$6,391.89
 - 46.90% increase over last year
 - Books = local citizen donated antique books valued at \$700 –learning library for Vade Mecum when it becomes open
 - Friends of State Parks = paid \$2,500.00 for stairs
 - Art Supplies = local neighbor donated \$350.00
 - CCC Dopp Kit (priceless)
 - The family of a former CCC member, who helped build the park, donated his Dopp Kit
- Fiscal Year 2015-16 total revenue generated = \$577,727.69
 - This is an increase of 7% over last year

- Lake/refreshment stand = \$176,927.86
 - Swimming = \$134,929.00
 - Boat rentals = \$12,298.52
 - Refreshments = \$29,700.34
- Visitor Center = \$59,152.67
 - Souvenirs = \$39,952.13
 - Apparel = \$15,657.44
 - Group camp fees = \$1,888.00
 - Seasonal barracks rent = \$788.00
 - Special Activity permits = \$773.10
 - Recycling funds = \$94.00
- Rental of campsites, cabins, picnic shelters, classrooms = \$341,647.16
- Great year for revenue
- Access NC
 - Project Value = \$420,000.00 (not from park budget)
 - Park budget supplied the tables, grills, and trash receptacles
 - Picnic Shelter (4) 80-person ten-table
 - Four picnic table pads
 - Paved pathway to the fishing pier
 - Paved pathway to the beach and boat house
 - Proclamation of the Americans with Disabilities Act was read by Commissioner Leon Inman at a dedication ceremony on July 24, 2016
- Litter collections stats
 - Volunteers = 250
 - Bags = 192
 - Hours = 261
 - Pounds = 756
 - Does not include litter collected by staff
- Recycling stats in pounds by visitors
 - Aluminum = 550
 - Plastic = 1,276
 - Glass = 850
 - Cardboard = 725
 - Used car batteries = 12
 - 7.6% decrease in pounds of material recycled from last year
 - Recycled 1,180 pounds of paper since December
- Park used 3,241 gallons of propane costing = \$2,911.85
 - 65.5% increase over last year
- Park used 3,666,540 gallons water
 - 40% increase over last year
- New exhibits
 - 123 corps members' names have been added to the CCC exhibit
 - Meaningful addition to the visitor center
 - Friends of Sauratown Mountain paid for new panels for the new names
 - Betty's Country Grocery did all the etching
- Interpretation and Education
 - Total number interpretive programs offered = 396

- Did more than Stone Mountain (157 programs) and Lake James (190 programs)
 - Very pleased that staff are willing and able to do the programs
 - Increase over last year by 34.5%
 - Attendees = 11,873
 - Increase over last year by 53.3%
- 100 Junior Rangers
 - 1916-2016
 - 131 kids completed their junior ranger project in one day with the help of the ranger staff
- Outreach
 - Boundary marking
 - Invited neighbors to help mark boundaries
 - Advanced Butterfly Workshop
 - Raptor AIT
 - Flatwater Canoe Program Leader
 - Moving Water Class 1 Rapids
 - First annual Hawk Watch
 - HARO is one of only five in the state and one of 100 nationwide
 - Volunteers from the community attended training and take turns doing counts
 - CCC Workshop was held on 04-13-2016
 - Staff learned more about CCC which enables them to provide information to visitors
 - Objectives are always to offer more diverse programs and to capture a larger audience to further our mission
 - Local celebrities – Donkey Basketball
 - Unique outreach
 - School Field Trips
- Special Ranger Programs
 - Red Spotted Newt Outdoor Drama = 78
 - Saura Games Day = 150
 - Environmental Awareness Days = 451 Stokes 5th graders
 - Run with a Ranger
 - Many Hats of a Ranger
 - Touch a Truck
 - Carolina Haunts
 - Vade Mecum Race
 - Stokes County Mountains in the 20th Century
- Goal – More nonphysical events, art exhibits, live music, outdoor dramas, farmers' market, speeches, videos
- Stokes Arts Partnership (great relationship)
 - Polar Plunge = 376 participants
 - Reach the Peaks = 384 participants
 - Plays
 - May the Farce Be With You

- Side by Side Stories
 - Soup in a Bowl
 - Scheduled for November 19, 2016
 - To be held at the bathhouse
 - UNCSA Music
- “Dan River STB”
 - Being paid for by Duke Energy
 - Duke Energy wants to do something to repair the reputation of the Dan River
 - There was no coal ash that flowed through Hanging Rock State Park
 - Duke Energy is paying for marketing and advertising to promote the park
- EMS Calls
 - Total number = 26
 - Can’t say enough about Danbury Volunteer Fire Department
 - Only one reportable search was performed but numerous hasty searches occurred which did not require a report and were resolved in less than 30 minutes
 - 12+ carry-outs by transporting someone off a trail who did not need medical treatment but were ill overexerted
- Total PR-63s = 94
- Citations = 20
- 18 acres burned on Flat Shoals Mt. plus assisted numerous burns at PIMO
- Lifeguards made 21 saves
- Vade Mecum Update
 - Red House had to be torn down because it was so far gone – dangerous
 - Rumor is false that the hotel will be torn down, just spent \$30,000 on the sprinkler system
 - Have hired a planning company to develop a plan for running Vade Mecum
 - Have had one meeting with the company representatives
 - Will be meeting again on November 10th
- Cruise-In Car Show
 - First Cruise-In Car Show was held in August
 - Organized and funded by Stokes County Tourism
 - Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth, Arts Council Director Eddy McGee and Economic Development Analyst Tory Mabe made this event happen
 - Very awesome, actually had to turn cars away that wanted to participate
 - Hoping to do it again possibly in the fall next year
- Would be happy to answer any questions

Gareath Meadows requested permission from Chairman Inman to take a few moments to add something to the Hanging Rock State Park Update.

Chairman Inman allowed Mr. Meadows to speak.

Mr. Meadows commented:

- There were two young people who worked in the Hanging Rock State Park bathhouse several decades ago
- They met, fell in love, and married – Charles and Jane Farlow
- Charles served as the President of the Stokes County Historical Society for over a decade
- Had it not been for working in the bathhouse at Hanging Rock State Park, these two may never have met

Chairman Inman opened the floor for comments from the Board.

Chairman Jones commented:

- Look forward to the upcoming Soup in the Bowl

Vice Chairman Booth Commented:

- Just wanted to comment on the Environmental Awareness Day for all Stokes County 5th graders
 - Has been held at the park for probably the past 30 years
 - Students learn from stations held at different locations in the park about their environment
 - Great event for the students
 - Robin and her staff work with the Soil and Water staff to provide this opportunity for the students across the county
- Questioned Superintendent Riddlebarger what was the vision for the Vade Mecum Campground?
 - Understand the bridge is the holdup now

Superintendent Riddlebarger responded:

- There was funding allocated for a new bridge and well, but the State Parks System wanted to wait for the official plan before doing anything
- That funding is no longer available; when there is another park who needs the funding and we were not ready, it was allocated to another park
- Want the campground open as soon as possible
- We stay full at Hanging Rock and those campsites would be very beneficial
- Met with Friends of Sauratown Mountain today; they want to run the campground until a plan is finalized
 - Working to see if that is feasible
 - Looking at possibly parking on the other side of the bridge and walking into the campground instead of driving over the bridge

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Superintendent Riddlebarger that there are approximately 70 sites in the campground.

Superintendent Riddlebarger responded:

- Those sites could be filled daily

- No one wants it to go faster than I do, but have to work with the State Parks System

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Understand that volunteers have been working on the Sauratown Trails from Vade Mecum to the Hanging Rock
- Sauratown Trails is approximately 25 miles

Superintendent Riddlebarger responded:

- When the campground is open, this will be a major trail center
- It has the Mountain to Sea Trail
- It has hiking trails, horse trails, and bike trails
- There was an event just last weekend where people raced from Hanging Park State Park to Pilot Mountain State Park on the Sauratown Trails

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Superintendent Riddlebarger that the total acreage as of December 31, 2014 for Hanging Rock State Park was 7,869.

Superintendent Riddlebarger responded:

- Currently working with Charles Martin to obtain a couple hundred acres off of Mountain Road

Commissioner Lankford questioned the status of the 13 cabins at Vade Mecum?

Superintendent Riddlebarger responded:

- The plan will determine if anything is needed for the cabins
- Will try to determine what people want when renting a cabin
- Some are practically new with bathrooms and bunk beds, but don't have kitchens

Commissioner Lankford continued:

- Seems August 2017 is a long time to wait for a plan
- Need spaces now for people to rent now

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Superintendent Riddlebarger that Hanging Rock State Park received approximately \$1.2 million from the recent bond passed in NC which will be used for renovations on the hotel at Vade Mecum
- Confirmed Superintendent Riddlebarger that the \$1.2 million will be used for Hanging Rock State Park and will not be transferred to any other park in NC

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Just wanted to thank Superintendent Riddlebarger for a very thorough and informative presentation
- Number of visitors continue to increase each year
- My humble opinion from someone who used to camp a lot, having a kitchen is not an issue; true campers don't care about a kitchen

Chairman Inman commented:

- Hanging Rock State Park was voted the number one state park in North Carolina in 2012
- Great asset for Stokes County
- One of the most heavily visited parks in the state
- Want to thank this Board, Senator Shirley Randleman, former Representative Bryan Holloway and the community involvement for all the work done to save Moores Spring/Vade Mecum
- Great things are going to be happening at Vade Mecum which will help tourism in Stokes County

Chairman Inman expressed appreciation to Superintendent Riddlebarger for a great presentation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Proposed Agreement – Town of Walnut – Law Enforcement Services

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following proposed Agreement for Law Enforcement Services for the Town of Walnut Cove:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

AGREEMENT

COUNTY OF STOKES

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this the 1st day of **July 2016**, by and among **THE TOWN OF WALNUT COVE**, hereinafter referred to as “**THE TOWN**” and **THE COUNTY OF STOKES**, hereinafter referred to as “**THE COUNTY**,” on behalf of the **STOKES COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE**, hereinafter referred to as “**SCSO**” as follows:

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, THE TOWN has a desire and a need to provide law enforcement officers within its corporate boundaries in order to keep the peace, to enforce the criminal laws of the State of North Carolina, to enforce the ordinances established by **THE COUNTY** and **THE TOWN** and to maintain order in their **TOWN**; and

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY is authorized to provide the services outlined herein pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S 160A-461, et.seq; and

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY acting through the **SCSO** is willing and agreeable to hire, to employ, to train, to assign and to supervise law enforcement officers from the Sheriff’s Office to be assigned to **THE TOWN**;

NOW THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HERETO AGREE as follows:

October 24, 2016

I. THE TOWN AGREES:

- A. Beginning on July 1, 2016, the annual payment due from **THE TOWN** will be \$142,526.00 and will increase by 1% or an amount equal to the latest available and published Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is greater each year thereafter. The adjusted amount, if any, shall be determined by mutual agreement on or before April 1st of the preceding year. The annual payments will be paid by **THE TOWN** in four equal payments, with the payments due on September 30th, December 30th, March 30th and June 30th of each Fiscal Year.
- B. To provide office space within the town limits of Walnut Cove for use by the **SCSO** during the period of this agreement. The **SCSO** shall use this office space solely in connection with law enforcement services and activities being performed within the town limits of Walnut Cove.

II. THE COUNTY AGREES:

- A. To provide dedicated law enforcement services within the town limits of Walnut Cove. Specifically, **THE COUNTY** agrees to have at least one officer assigned and providing law enforcement services to the Town of Walnut Cove at all times, twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. **THE COUNTY**, acting through the **SCSO**, will have at least one officer present within the town limits at all times, twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week, except in the case of an emergency requiring the officer to leave **THE TOWN'S** limits, whether or not such emergency is related to **THE TOWN**. Furthermore, the parties to this agreement recognize and agree that there may be temporary instances where the Sheriff of Stokes County, in his discretion, determines that the officer assigned to **THE TOWN** needs to be outside of the town limits, for law enforcement services related to **THE TOWN**, for example where the officer is needed to transport an arrestee to the magistrate and/or jail. During any such instances, other officers of the **SCSO** will be available to provide law enforcement services to **THE TOWN**, although those officers may not be located within the town limits. The **SCSO** agrees to use best efforts to keep such instances to a minimum and, furthermore, to minimize the time of any such instance. If it is determined, by the **SCSO**, that the assigned officer will be outside of the town limits for an extended period of time, then the **SCSO** will assign another officer to be present within the town limits. Furthermore, **THE COUNTY**, acting through the **SCSO**, will provide adequate law enforcement services to ensure safety and security for various special events in **THE TOWN**, including but not limited to **THE TOWN'S** annual Halloween Celebration, **THE TOWN'S** annual Christmas parade, **THE TOWN'S** annual July 3rd fireworks and concert event, and other events as requested by **THE TOWN'S** Mayor, Town Manager and/or Board of Commissioners.
- B. That the **SCSO** will provide all law enforcement services in **THE TOWN**, including but not limited to patrol work, investigative services and local ordinance

enforcement. This agreement does not, in any manner, limit the services which would otherwise be provided within the town limits of **THE TOWN** by the **SCSO**, if there were not an agreement. This agreement, and the payments made pursuant to this agreement, are solely for the purpose of contracting for services in addition to those already required of the **SCSO**.

- C. The **SCSO** will take the necessary steps and actions to ensure that at least one officer is educated, trained, and qualified to investigate traffic accidents. The **SCSO** will make officers who are so trained available to investigate traffic accidents which occur within the limits of **THE TOWN**. The **SCSO** may, in its discretion, contact the North Carolina State Highway Patrol and request the assistance of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol in investigating and otherwise handling any traffic accident, as the **SCSO** deems necessary and appropriate.
- D. To provide the necessary Police Professional Liability Insurance to protect Stokes County and the Stokes County Sheriff's Office

III. **THE PARTIES AGREE:**

That the law enforcement officers assigned to **THE TOWN** pursuant to this Agreement remain employees of the Stokes County Sheriff's Office at all times during the term of this Agreement. Under the general concept of community-based policing, these officers will be responsible for performing law enforcement duties within **THE TOWN** to include, but not be limited to: patrolling within **THE TOWN**; answering calls for service within **THE TOWN**; conducting general security checks within **THE TOWN** and otherwise interacting with residents and visitors within **THE TOWN**. The **TOWN** agrees to obtain prior written approval from the Sheriff or his designee before assigning an officer provided under this Agreement to perform other or additional duties.

Notwithstanding the above, the parties understand and agree that the Stokes County Sheriff's primary responsibility at all times is law enforcement and safety within all of Stokes County and that circumstances may arise wherein the Sheriff determines it is necessary to reassign one or more officers from **THE TOWN** for a given period of time in order to meet that primary responsibility. In the event that any officer is reassigned from **THE TOWN** for a given period of time, the **SCSO** will assign another officer to **THE TOWN** for that given period of time, in order to fulfill the obligations set forth above in paragraph II(A).

IV. **METHOD OF PAYMENT**

- A. The annual payments will be paid by **THE TOWN** in four equal payments, with the payments due on September 30th, December 30th, March 30th and June 30th of each fiscal year. Payment may be made by either hand delivering or mailing the payment to **THE COUNTY**.

- B. **THE TOWN** shall be considered in default on the payments if any payment is more than thirty (30) days past due and **THE COUNTY** has made a written request to **THE TOWN** for payment. In the event that **THE TOWN** is in default on any payment, the SCSO will immediately be relieved of the obligations of this agreement set forth above in paragraph II(A). However, all other law enforcement services required of the SCSO to **THE TOWN** and/or within the town limits of **THE TOWN** shall continue, as set forth above in paragraph II(B).

V. TERM OF AGREEMENT

- A. This agreement shall be effective for three years: **Fiscal Years 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.**
- B. The Agreement may be extended for additional and successive terms upon agreement of the parties and the execution of the appropriate amendment to the agreement.

VI. AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT

The Agreement may be amended or modified only by agreement of both parties in writing.

VII. TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The Agreement may be terminated by any party upon giving Notice of Termination in writing to the other parties to the Agreement. Notice shall be in writing and provided as follows: to the Town Manager of Walnut Cove at P.O. Box 130, Walnut Cove, North Carolina 27052; to the County Manager, c/o The County Of Stokes, P.O. Box 20, Danbury, North Carolina 27016. The Notice must be given by the party desiring to terminate this agreement six months prior to the termination date. In the event of termination of this agreement by either party, any payments due from **THE TOWN** to **THE COUNTY** shall be prorated and due immediately upon the effective termination date. Furthermore, in the event of termination of this agreement by either party, any remaining useable property transferred from **THE TOWN** to **THE COUNTY** and/or the SCSO during the term of the agreement will be immediately returned to **THE TOWN**. If necessary, the parties to this agreement agree to then take all necessary steps to transfer title to any of the remaining original equipment to **THE TOWN**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the hereto parties have executed this Agreement the date and year first written above.

COUNTY OF STOKES

By: _____
County Manager

Date: _____

STOKES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

By: _____
Sheriff

Date: _____

TOWN OF WALNUT COVE

By: _____
Town Manager

Date: _____

County Manager Morris noted:

- The Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners had issues with the following Section I (A) of the agreement which had been approved by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners:
 - Beginning on July 1, 2016, the annual payment due from **THE TOWN** will be \$142,526.00 and will increase by an amount equal to the latest available and published Consumer Price Index (CPI) or annual increased personnel (salaries & benefits) and equipment cost percentage for the Sheriff's Department, whichever is the highest each year thereafter. The adjustment amount, if any, shall be determined by mutual agreement on or before April 1st of the preceding year. The annual payments will be paid by **THE TOWN** in four equal payments, with the payments due on September 30th, December 30th, March 30th and June 30th of each Fiscal Year.
- The Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners approved the following Section I (A) for the Board of County Commissioners' consideration:
 - Beginning on July 1, 2016, the annual payment due from **THE TOWN** will be \$142,526.00 and will increase by 1% or an amount equal to the latest available and published Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is greater each year thereafter. The adjusted amount, if any, shall be determined by mutual agreement on or before April 1st of the preceding year. The annual payments will be paid by **THE TOWN** in four equal payments, with the payments due on September 30th, December 30th, March 30th and June 30th of each Fiscal Year.
- Would like to get this agreement settled as the Town had a payment due on September 30th which can't be paid to the County until an agreement is approved by both Boards
- Sheriff Mike Marshall is in attendance to answer any questions

Sheriff Mike Marshall commented:

- Feel we can make this agreement, which has been approved by the Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners, work
- The Board of County Commissioners had previously agreed that the cost for 2016-17 would stand with negotiations, if needed, in April 2017

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Feel this matter needs to be settled
- Can work with what the Town of Walnut Cove Board of Commissioners has approved since there is language in the agreement for negotiations in April 2017
- Ready to approve

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- The Sheriff has stated that he can make this work and I put my trust in him that he can make it work
- Agree with Commissioner Lankford regarding the language in the contract that states negotiations can be done if needed in April 2017

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I have faith in our Sheriff and he knows his job
- He knows what he needs and has stated that he feels that the agreement can work
- Ready to move forward

Chairman Inman commented:

- Agree that Sheriff Marshall knows his job and if he says it can work, it can work

Sheriff Mike Marshall commented:

- Just to let you know that the County receives additional revenue from the ABC Commission (5-6%) for security provided to the ABC Store in Walnut Cove

The Board (Commissioner Walker absent) unanimously agreed to move the item to tonight's

Action Agenda due to the payment from the Town of Walnut Cove that was due on September 30th.

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Appreciate the information about the additional revenue being received from the ABC Commission which helps

Chairman Inman, with consensus of the Board, (Commissioner Walker absent) directed the Clerk to the Board to place the item on tonight's Action Agenda.

Economic Development – Holder Family Property – Option to Purchase

County Attorney Tyrone Browder presented the following information regarding the Option to Purchase the Holder Family Property:

- Provided the Board a recent article in the Winston Salem Journal regarding the Holder property that the County currently holds a Right of First Refusal
 - An Asheville Company wants state regulatory permission to build a nearby 5-megawatt solar farm in King off Old Meadowbrook Drive

- If approved by the NC Utilities Commission, would be the second solar farm in Stokes County with the electricity generated being sold to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
- Goal is to have the solar farm in operation by July 30, 2017 and providing electricity for up to 40 years
- Was contacted by Carlos Holder, who is representing the Holder family, regarding a lease that he is currently negotiating with a company planning to locate a solar farm on parcel 5991-06-39-0480 (62.52 acres)
- The attorney for the solar company has also contacted me inquiring as to the County's intention with respect to the existing option that Stokes County has on this property (Right of First Refusal)
- According to the attorney, in order for the solar company to finalize a lease with the Holder family, the county will need release its rights under the option to purchase (option is renewable annually until mid 2019) (County's option has priority over the lease)
- I have discussed the matter with County Manager Rick Morris and Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth and we all agree that this matter should be discussed by the Board of Commissioners for a decision
- Will move forward with any action decided by the Board

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- In favor of the solar farm, this is the future
- Believe it would be great for the County

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- This is the option, Right of First Refusal, that the County actually has on two parcels for possible industrial development in King
- Confirmed with Attorney Browder, there is only one of the two parcels being negotiated for a solar farm
- Requested Attorney Browder to further explain the Board's option

County Attorney Browder responded:

- County can waive the Right of First Refusal to purchase the property or the County can subordinate the option to the lease
- If you subordinate your option to the lease, it means you could continue the current option until 2019
- The solar company wants to sign a lease to include up to a year to do due diligence to make sure the property is suitable for a solar farm
- If the property is found suitable for a solar farm, the lease would then go in effect

Vice Chairman Booth requested a recommendation from County Attorney Browder.

County Attorney Browder responded:

- The other parcel was included in order to provide access to the Holder Property from Newsome Road per Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth
- The County does have the option to subordinate which would allow the solar company to do their due diligence and if feasible for a solar farm, the County could then release the option to purchase
- If it turns out that the parcel is not feasible for a solar farm, the County still has the option to purchase
- As long as the County continues the option to purchase, the County pays the property taxes for both parcels

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- There has been some interest in the property
- Confirmed with Attorney Browder that by subordinating, the County would maintain their option to purchase if the parcel is not suitable for a solar farm
- Confirmed with Attorney Browder that if the County released the option to purchase now, the County would lose the option to purchase even if the parcel is not suitable for a solar farm
- Not sure we need to turn the parcel loose right now; the parcel could not be suitable for a solar farm
- There may be other industries in the future that may be interested in the parcels

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Want to hold on to the current option until 2019 or at least have conversation with the property owner

Chairman Inman commented:

- Confirmed with County Attorney Browder that if the County subordinated the option until the due diligence is done and the parcel is not feasible for a solar farm, the County would maintain their current option to purchase
- Confirmed with County Attorney Browder that if the County subordinated the option until the due diligence is done and the parcel is feasible for a solar farm and the solar farm finalizes a lease, the County would be subject to the solar farm lease in the event you exercise the option
- Confirmed with County Attorney Browder that the parcel in question is 62.54 acres with an annual tax bill of approximately \$2,000 to \$2,500

County Attorney Browder commented:

- Just want to make sure the Board understands, if the County does decide to subordinate to the lease and the solar farm finalizes the lease and builds the facility, the County is bound to the lease
- The solar company will not go forward with their lease with the property owner unless the County releases the option to purchase or subordinates its rights under the option to the lease of the solar company

Commissioner Jimmy Walker entered the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Attorney Browder that if the County chooses to subordinate the option and the solar company does their due diligence and wishes to build a solar farm, the County at that time can release its option

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- We have the option until 2019
- The County may want to buy the property if there is a promising business wanting to come into the County
- Lot can change between now and 2019

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Think it states in the news article that the solar farm would be providing electricity for up to 40 years

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Attorney Browder that once the County subordinates its rights under the option, if the solar farm is built, the County would have to honor their lease

County Attorney Browder continued:

- Solar company will be spending money with inspections, environmental studies, surveys, etc.
- My understanding is that the solar company will not go forward with the lease unless the County is going to waive the Right of First Refusal or subordinate the option to the lease

Commissioner Lankford confirmed with Attorney Browder that the County does not have to release the parcel until 2019.

County Attorney Browder continued:

- The only advantage of subordinating at this time instead of releasing the option would be that if the solar company did their due diligence and found it unsuitable for a solar farm, the County still has its option in place until 2019

Chairman Inman confirmed with County Attorney Browder that the County did not have to do anything right now and the County had annual rights of renewal as long as the County continues to pay the property taxes until 2019.

Chairman Inman also confirmed with County Attorney Browder that the County had the stated option price to purchase the property until mid 2019 and there is nothing the seller can do about that.

County Attorney Browder reiterated that if the County chose not to release its option and not to subordinate the option to the lease, the solar company would not move forward with a lease with the property owner.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Apology for my lateness attending tonight's meeting
- Have listened to the comments from my fellow commissioners and County Attorney Browder
- Have a few questions that I would need answered:
 - Would like to know the pluses and minuses of having a solar farm in this particular location?
 - Is this a good use for the property?
 - Is this as good as use as we can hope for this property?
 - Are we considering rolling the dice and hope for something better?
 - How do we evaluate what is the best option for the property?
 - Who could provide information to help us determine the best option for this property?
 - Is this a good project for this property?
 - Is this a good project for the County?
 - Will this boost the value of the property?
- Feel there needs to be research and evaluation done before making a decision

County Attorney Browder responded:

- Feel the Economic Development Director could provide those answers

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- This is not going to create jobs

Commissioner Walker continued:

- The big question is whether this Board allows the property to continue to be dormant or should we consider allowing something to happen on it that may not increase jobs, but will increase tax value?
- Agree with County Attorney Browder that it needs to be evaluated on the basis of economic development
- Are we going to continue to wait for something to happen or at least consider the possibility of increasing the tax value of the property?

Commissioner Lankford and Chairman Inman both agreed that the Board did not have enough information to make a decision.

Commissioner Walker agreed that the Board needed a lot more information before making a decision.

Commissioner Walker noted he had heard comments from all Board members except for Commissioner Jones.

Commissioner Jones responded:

- Find it hard to believe this has not already been discussed as it relates to economic development
- I am for this project
- It diversifies the County
- County is taking part in something that is “green” and is good
- May not provide a bunch of jobs, but will increase the property value
- The property will be tied up to at least 40 years – 40 years of increased tax revenue
- I am getting that the other members want to control the property for possibly something that could or could not be better

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Like the solar farm concept – good clean power
- I think it is the future
- One main question, is this the best option for this property?

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- When the Board agreed to put the option to purchase on this particular piece of property, it was very much in agreement at that time with everyone that this property because of its location and size would be ideal to use as an economic development tool to bring industry into the county
- Don’t see anything has changed from that point at this time
- Someone has got to show me what has changed from our initial decision
- Need more information

Commissioner Jones requested to know how many employees would be needed to operate the solar farm?

Chairman Inman suggested placing the item back on the November 14th Discussion Agenda and request Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth be present at the meeting.

Chairman Inman directed Board members to email the manager or clerk any questions that needed to be answered before the next meeting.

County Manager Rick Morris suggested having Interim Economic Development Director David Sudderth prepare an assessment of the property.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item back on the November 14th Discussion
October 24, 2016

Agenda and to have Interim Economic Development Director Sudderth prepare an assessment of the property.

Chairman Inman encouraged each Board member to try to visit the property if possible before the next meeting.

Vice Chairman Booth suggested possibly contacting the City of King regarding the placement of a solar farm within the city limits of King.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to the Board to place the item on the November 14th Discussion Agenda.

Request for Funding – Stokes County Board of Education

County Manager Rick Morris noted that Dr. Brad Rice, Superintendent – Stokes County Schools was unable to be at tonight's meeting due to a scheduling conflict and that Executive Director of Operations David Burge, Stokes County Schools, would be presenting the request from the Stokes County Board of Education.

Executive Director David Burge presented the following information and request:

- Maintenance Director Ricky Goins is here to help answer any questions regarding the current situation at Lawsonville
- With the recent discovery of the serious condition of the light poles at both North and South Stokes High Schools, the school system had a contractor also inspect the light poles on the ball fields at Lawsonville Elementary School and Sandy Ridge Elementary School
- There are no issues with the poles/lighting at Sandy Ridge Elementary School
- The poles/lighting project at Lawsonville Elementary School was completed in 1992 by the community (information received from the school)
- The school system has not provided any funding for elementary schools to have lighted fields
- Poles are believed to have been donated by possibly Duke Energy
- Holes in the poles indicate that the poles were most likely used poles
- Poles used by utility companies normally have a "born on" date stamped on the poles
- No dates were able to be found on the existing poles
- Incorrect bolts were used when installed
- Coating is peeling off the wiring
- Cross arms are leaning away from the poles

- The condition of the Lawsonville Elementary School's ball field poles/lighting was discussed at the Board of Education meeting on October 17th
- Maintenance Director Ricky Goins discussed the pictures that had previously been provided to the Board which included information that had been provided by the Reynolda Electric Company (poles, cross arms, wiring) (Normal life expectancy of a wooden pole is 25 years)
 - Reynolda Electric Company, Inc. provided the schools the following report
 - Poles
 - Major splitting in the tops of all poles to below cross arm attachment point
 - Poles were installed in 1992 per drawings furnished by the school office
 - Upon inspection, we believe that these poles had previously been installed elsewhere; possibly by a utility company and relocated to the field
 - Cross Arms
 - Major failure is possible at any time due to rotten condition and inappropriate fastening hardware
 - Bolts are of the wrong type and size
 - Some cross arm braces are broken; others are showing signs of rotten condition
 - Wiring on top of the poles
 - Wiring conductors are missing insulation due to age and weathering
 - Recommendation
 - All poles be removed as soon as possible
 - These poles are a major liability to the school system

Maintenance Director Goins continued:

- As a result of the findings, the school system closed the Lawsonville Elementary School ball field and playground for both the school and the community
- This means that students cannot participate in physical activities on the ball field as part of their curriculum
- Due to liability, the school system must remove the poles immediately
- The Board of Education has received a quote from Reynolda Electric Company, Inc. in the amount of \$8,850.00 for pole removal
 - All poles and fixtures from the ball field will be removed
 - Fixtures will be disposed of following all EPA guidelines and regulations
- Tommy Lawrence, who was awarded the projects at North and South Stokes High Schools provided the following verbal bid:
 - Remove each pole at a cost of \$1,500 to \$1,800 per pole
 - Total project is estimated between \$9,000 to \$10,000
- Recommendations from the school's insurance company also recommends removing the poles at Lawsonville

Director of Operations Burge continued:

- Since the savings were reported to the County Commissioners at their last meeting, there has been an additional \$19,962.00 savings from the Chestnut Grove Roofing Project
- The Board of Education would like to request additional funding for this emergency project to remove the poles at Lawsonville Elementary School

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- The community raised the funds for placing the lights on the Lawsonville Elementary School ball field
- This was a very worthwhile project for the community and the students at Lawsonville Elementary School
- I don't want the poles taken down unless new poles are put back

Director of Operations Burge commented:

- This is mainly used by the community, not by the school

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- This is used by school
- The children of the school who play Little League Baseball and other sports utilizes the lights

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- It is not a school function

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Not going any further with that, I expect for the poles to be replaced if they are taken down in some manner

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Would like to ask Commissioner Lankford how much are the lights used by the community?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- In the summertime, they are probably used almost every night

Commissioner Walker continued:

- I kind of agree with Commissioner Lankford, would not want to see the community lose an asset – the lights
- Questioned Directors Burge and Goins if there were any way to make these poles safer?

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- The baseball fields at North and South High Schools have been closed for the exact same reason and poles being replaced for the exact same reason
- These poles at Lawsonville are probably worse than the poles at North and South

Commissioner Walker continued:

- North and South are getting new lights, Lawsonville will get nothing and will be losing an asset in the community

Director of Operations Burge continued:

- Little League raised the funds to place the lights on Sandy Ridge field
- Endowment Fund placed the lights on the Nancy Reynolds field

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- The Lawsonville community raised the funds to put the lights on the Lawsonville field

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Endowment Fund was used for lights, concession stand, and bleachers at Nancy Reynolds
- County did not build the first Nancy Reynolds School, RJReynolds did
- Evidently, it was not kept up, insurance condemned the school at the very last minute
- See the same thing happening here
- Wonder what the community is going to say when these lights are taken down and not replaced

Maintenance Director Goins commented:

- Can't speak on behalf of the Board of Education, but my personal opinion is that the school system is not going to supply lights to elementary schools
- It is great that the community provided these, but nothing lasts forever
- In regards to patching, the life expectancy of a pole is 25 years, these poles have already been used by the school for 24 years

Director of Operations Burge continued:

- Our concern is the safety of the children
- The Lawsonville PTA has raised funds and obtained matching grants for approximately \$60,000 for new playground equipment
- These poles have to come down before that playground equipment can be installed – the playground is closed

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Know that no one wants to disrupt this community, but no one is going to like these lights being taken away
- Trying to come up with something that will work and save this asset for this community

- Would there possibly be some different poles found, wiring corrected, and new metal cross arms installed?
- Looking for options to keep these lights up

Maintenance Director Goins:

- The only solution I see would be to get pricing and come back to this Board for funding
- School system does not have the funding
- It is my understanding that once something is purchased and placed on school property, it becomes property of the school system

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Trying to fit the pieces together
- This is on school property, but the school system does not light elementary fields
- Nancy Reynolds has an endowment fund which provides funding for things like this
- Confirmed with Director Burge that the only other elementary school that has lights other than Lawsonville and Nancy Reynolds is Sandy Ridge
- Questioned Commissioner Lankford if there was any chance the community could help with this project?

Commissioner Lankford continued:

- Community has already paid for putting the lights up
- My understanding is that the lights are ok
- Don't understand why David and Ricky did not come with estimates to replace the poles

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- Replacing wooden poles with metal poles and lights (6 poles) would be approximately \$85,000 to \$90,000 (wooden poles have limited life)
- Could get by with replacing current poles and lights with only 4 metal poles at approximately \$60,000 to \$65,000 (Sandy Ridge did only 4 poles)
- Did this at the North Stokes Softball field in 2011 – only used 4 poles which were quoted at \$44,000 – prices has increased drastically

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Had a daughter that attended Lawsonville Elementary
- Probably the commissioner who lives closest to the school
- Concerned about safety
- Need to get this taken care of as soon as possible
- Don't know where the funding is going to come from
- Can tell by the pictures, it was not safe when it was put in
- Need to get it corrected

Director of Operations Burge commented:

- Do not have to have as many lights for elementary fields as you do for high school fields

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Director Burge that no one can go on the field until the poles are taken down at Lawsonville Elementary School
- Confirmed with Director Burge that the lighting company recommended that no one should be on the field until the lights are down

Director of Operations Burge noted that the school's insurance company also recommended keeping everyone off the field until the poles were taken down.

Director of Operations Burge noted that the school's insurance company, the Board of Education, and now the Board of County Commissioners have all been made aware of this safety issue pertaining to the poles/lights at Lawsonville Elementary School.

Commissioner Walker questioned how many opinions were there regarding the safety aspect?

Maintenance Director Goins noted:

- Pictures are worth a thousand words
- All I have to do is look at the photographs
- Would not want my children or grandchildren on this playground

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Saw these today and every one of the poles on the field are not like the photographs being presented

Maintenance Director Goins responded:

- The 4 photographs represent 4 different poles; there are only 2 poles that there are no pictures of

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Just want to find some way to fix this situation
- This is a big surprise to this Board

Maintenance Director Goins responded:

- It was to us also
- Decided to have the contractor look at Lawsonville and Sandy Ridge once the issues were found at North and then South
- This is a safety concern

- I was at South when the poles were examined, some parts of the poles sounded like you were beating a 5 gallon bucket
- This was also present with the poles at Lawsonville, but the main concern at Lawsonville was the cross arms, incorrect bolts, wiring and splits in the top of some of the poles
- Our recommendation, regardless of whether lights are put back, is to take these poles down

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Have a question for Commissioner Lankford
- This is your community, how do you think the community would want this dealt with?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- Absolutely, this is my community
- The community will want the lights put back
- The community worked to raise the funds to place the lights on the field for the children
- The community would expect anyone who takes the lights down, to put the light back

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- Are they willing to pay the utility bill that the school system is currently paying?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- That is an issue that will be discussed with the Board of Education
- We are discussing the lights, other things will be discussed with the Board of Education

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- I understand the safety issue
- Currently, the ones that have made the recommendations are the contractors
- Could there be someone consulted to see if the cross arms could be replaced and the wiring corrected?

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- Have only had one contractor look at the poles/lights, can have another one examine the poles/lights
- You want an expert in the field to provide a recommendation, someone who knows what they are doing

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Don't see taking them down until a decision is made about replacing them -- estimate is approximately \$9,000 to take them down
- Confirmed with Director Burge that the \$60,000 to \$65,000 would include taking the lights down

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Since this is school property, is there any capital funding available?

Commissioner Lankford responded:

- There is capital funding
- Would like to get another opinion and estimate for replacing the lights
- Confirmed with Director Burge that the entire playground must continue to be closed until something is resolved

Maintenance Director Goins noted that the big issue is the possibility of the lights falling from the poles and recommend continuing to keep the playground closed.

Commissioner Walker continued:

- Confirmed with Director Goins that there has been instances where poles have fallen in other places (not in Stokes County)
- Need all the information I can get
- Confirmed with Director Burge that they knew of no other school system that has corrected a safety issue like this (adequately and appropriately)

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Would like to know if this issue could be corrected by replacing cross arms and new wiring?

Maintenance Director Goins responded:

- The life of a pole is 25 years; these poles have been at Lawsonville for 24 years that we know of
- Concerned about placing new equipment on old poles

Commissioner Jones confirmed with the Operations Director Burge that replacing the lights with LED was very, very expensive.

Director of Operations Burge noted that the new lights at North and South would not be LED because of cost.

The Board unanimously agreed to place the item on the November 14th Discussion Agenda.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to the Board to place the item on the November 14th Discussion Agenda.

Equipment Purchase – Solid Waste Department

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding a request from Public Works Director Mark Delehant to purchase a snow removal/scrape blade:

- The purchase of a snow removal/scrape blade that was mistakenly omitted from the FY 2016/17 budget proposal
- A truck was approved for the Solid Waste Dept. a year earlier to carry the scrape blade so the county could avoid contracting with numerous contractors at numerous locations for snow removal
- As winter approaches, we would like to purchase the blade so we will be ready to address the winter weather and hopefully get the sights open quicker after each snow event
- The following is an overview of the sites and cost for snow removal for each event:
 - Green Box Sites (7 locations) requiring snow removal include Sandy Ridge, Lawsonville, Hwy 66, Pinnacle, Pine Hall, Francisco, and Walnut Cove
 - Additional locations (4 locations) requiring snow removal are Lawsonville EMS, Chestnut Grove EMS, Walnut Cove EMS, and DSS Building (Southwestern Service Center) in King
 - Requires coordinating snow removal with five different contractors which leaves the County at the mercy of each as it relates to scheduling and pricing
 - Total contract cost per snow event is approximately \$1,045.00
 - The cost of the new scrape blade is \$5,299.99
- Funding is available in the Solid Waste budget (auto supplies)
- Would request consideration at the November 14th meeting

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Will pay for itself

Vice Chairman Booth confirmed with Manager Morris this will be placed on the new four wheel drive truck recently purchased for Solid Waste.

County Manager Morris also noted that this will help speed up opening times for the greenbox sites.

Commissioner Walker suggested Consent Agenda for the next meeting.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to the Board to place the item on the November 14th Consent Agenda.

Appointments – Stokes County Aging Planning Committee

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins presented the following information regarding a vacancy on the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee:

- Erma Perkins has submitted her resignation as a member and chairperson on the Stokes County Planning Aging Committee
- Ms. Perkins acknowledged that she does not have the time needed right now for this committee
- Stokes County Aging Planning is seeking recommendations for the appointment

Chairman Inman opened the floor for nominations.

Chairman Inman confirmed with Board members that there were no nominations for this appointment.

Chairman Inman directed the Clerk to place the item on the November 14th Action Agenda.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Proposed Performance Agreement Between Stokes County and Cardinal Innovations Healthcare

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the following proposed Performance Agreement Between Stokes County and Cardinal Innovations which was presented at the October 10th meeting:

This Performance Agreement for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (Agreement) between Stokes County (County) and Cardinal Innovations Healthcare (Cardinal Innovations) defines the operational relationship, expectations and responsibilities of the Parties. Cardinal Innovations is the Local Management Entity – Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) that is designated for the management of mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities and substance use services for the resident of Stokes County in North Carolina and is subject to all requirements under N.C. Gen. Stat. §122C and the requirements of the Medicaid 1915 b/c Waiver for recipients whose county of Medicaid eligibility is Stokes County.

Upon enactment of a law which privatized the State Medicaid Program and upon encouragement by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to consolidate existing behavioral health managed care organizations to achieve administrative efficiency and assure quality of care to eligible individuals, CenterPoint Human Services (CenterPoint), a LME/MCO, under the Amended and Restated Transition, Consolidation, and Dissolution Agreement (Consolidation Agreement) with Cardinal Innovations consolidated its operations into Cardinal Innovations, effective July 1, 2016.

Nature and Terms of Agreement

This Agreement shall be effective July 1, 2016 and shall remain in effect through June 30, 2017. If a new Agreement has not been reached between the Parties by July 1, 2017, the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Agreement shall remain in force, unless it has been terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Responsibilities of the Parties

The Consolidation Agreement specifies agreements between CenterPoint and Cardinal Innovations related to the consolidation of CenterPoint with Cardinal Innovations. In Paragraph 17, Cardinal Innovations agrees that all Maintenance of Effort (MOE) mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use services funds received from Stokes County will be used within Stokes County.

Based on the aforementioned provision, Stokes County expects its MOE funding to be used for the delivery of mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use services in Stokes County. The Parties enter into this Agreement to memorialize the process for the use and expenditure of Stokes County MOE funds.

- During the third quarter of each State Fiscal year (January-March), Cardinal Innovations and Stokes County management will meet for the purpose of review and discussion regarding allocation and expenditure of MOE funds. With input from the Triad Community Advisory Board, the Stokes County Stakeholder Committee, the annual Needs Assessment/Gaps Analysis completed by Cardinal Innovations and other relevant information, the County will develop its annual Stokes County Funding Plan that specifies services and/or initiatives to be funded with the County MOE funds.
- Any MOE funds unused or unearned in the annual Stokes County Funding Plan shall be set aside, at the direction of the Stokes County Chief Financial Officer, in a separate reserve for the support of future local mental health, intellectual/developmental disability and substance use service needs.

The County agrees to:

1. Assure the appointment of County residents to serve on the local Triad Community Board (which will be comprised of representatives from the Counties in what was CenterPoint's catchment area) in accordance with applicable bylaws.
2. Negotiate an annual Performance Agreement with Cardinal Innovations to establish clear expectations for the quality and quantity of services with respect to the MOE funds.
3. Allocate available funds to Cardinal Innovations to support mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities and substance use services for County residents in accordance with service priorities established by the Division of MH/DD/SA Services of the NC Dept. of Health & Human Services, the Cardinal Innovations Board of Directors and the Stokes County Board of Commissioners.
4. Lead discussions and planning resulting in development of an annual Stokes County Funding Plan that specifies services and/or initiatives to be funded with MOE funds. Input from the Triad Community Advisory Board, the Stokes County Stakeholder Committee, the Cardinal Innovations annual Needs Assessment/Gaps Analysis and other relevant information is reviewed and considered in Plan development.
5. Encourage, support and provide opportunities for the completion of Crisis Intervention Team training by Sheriff's Department officers.

6. Provide County facilities and support services as negotiated with Cardinal Innovations.
7. Receive and review reports on the performance of Cardinal Innovations as the manager of publically funded services.
8. Identify and require appropriate County representatives/individuals to participate in an established Stokes County Stakeholder Committee for information sharing, problem identification and problem resolution.
9. Request, if needed, an opportunity for the Senior Community Executive and/or a designee of the Triad Community Office of Cardinal Innovations to meet with County officials to review Cardinal Innovations' performance under this Agreement or to discuss high profile or emerging community issues.

Cardinal Innovations agrees to:

1. Carry out the functions, responsibilities and duties of a multi-county LME-MCO as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. §122C — 115.4 & 117 for the benefit of the residents of the County and by the Medicaid 1915 b/c Waiver for recipients whose county of Medicaid eligibility is Stokes County.
2. Collaborate with the County to develop an annual Performance Agreement that specifies expectations and responsibilities of the Parties.
3. Conduct annual Needs Assessment/Gaps Analysis; seek stakeholder input and support community planning to identify and address needs.
4. Communicate to the County information and recommendations of the local Triad Community Board related to service gaps, needs and priorities.
5. Participate with the County on development of an annual Stokes County Funding Plan that specifies providers, services and/or initiatives to be funded with the County MOE funds.
6. Deliver quarterly presentations to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners (at times mutually agreed upon) that address status of providers and services, MOE funding utilization and local behavioral health initiatives.
7. Participate with County representatives/individuals on an established Stokes County Stakeholder Committee for information sharing, problem identification and problem resolution.
8. Provide opportunities, if requested, for the Senior Community Executive and/or designee of the Triad Community Office of Cardinal Innovations to meet with County officials to review Cardinal Innovations' performance under this Agreement or to discuss high profile or emerging community issues.
9. Develop and submit a complete annual budget (Budget Ordinance and Budget) to support activities as the LME-MCO and make requests for funding to the County following prescribed guidelines.
10. Provide its annual audit to the County.

Specific Performance Expectations

In addition to the general responsibilities outlined above, Cardinal Innovations agrees to the following specific performance expectations.

1. Behavioral Health Services
Maintain a continuum of services for mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities and substance use conditions to the maximum extent possible within published standards for access to care and within financial constraints.
2. Stokes Opportunity Center
Maintain vocational services and/or appropriate community-based services for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and/or mental illness to the maximum extent possible within financial constraints and requirements of the Division of Medical Assistance and/or the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services; promote evidence-based or best practice clinical approaches; explore alternatives that maintain clinically appropriate service levels at less cost.
3. Quarterly Reporting
Provide quarterly presentations to the Stokes County Commissioners that describe:
 - a. Status of expenditures on County Maintenance of Effort funds.
 - b. Service access, service utilization and provider data as applicable for Stokes County residents.
 - c. Number and demographics of Stokes County residents served during the period.
 - d. Updates on annual Needs Assessment/Gaps Analysis and progress made in filling gaps.
 - e. Updates on annual client/family member and provider satisfaction surveys conducted under the leadership of the NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services.
4. Support of Sheriff's Department
Develop a service system that supports the Stokes County Sheriff's Department including:
 - a. Maintain provider capacity for First Opinion evaluations to be conducted in Stokes County at site(s) specified by the County Manager, Cardinal Innovations and the provider to assure that behavioral health staff are available to conduct assessments of County residents whom the Sheriff's Department believes exhibit significant behavioral health issues within 2 hours of arrival (or as soon as feasible given system constraints) in the custody of the Sheriff's Department at the designated site. Such assessments may occur via telemedicine in the provider's Stokes County site when certified, licensed outpatient staff is not available. Although other behavioral health assessments as appropriate may be conducted in the jail by provider(s), First Opinion evaluations will only be rendered in the jail when appropriately trained and certified First Opinion staff is available in the County.
 - b. Offer Crisis Intervention Team Training to Sheriff's Department officers to enable officers to most effectively de-escalate and manage crisis situations with citizens.
 - c. Manage and strengthen a crisis service system to decrease reliance on Involuntary Commitment and Hospital Emergency Departments and to provide timely response within four (4) hours of the arrival at an Emergency Department of a County resident who is exhibiting significant behavioral health issues while in the custody of the Stokes County

Sheriff's Department.

- Sheriff's Department will track and report all transports for psychiatric emergencies including original destination, officer time involved and disposition;
- Cardinal Innovations will review cases and/or meet with the Sheriff's Department upon request to address and attempt to resolve concerns; systemic issues that are identified may be addressed by the Stokes County Stakeholder Committee and solutions generated.

5. Financial Goals

Pursue all reasonable means to increase revenues from non-county budget sources to assist the County in providing services responsive to the behavioral health needs of County residents.

6. Corrective Actions/Sanctions for Non-Performance

It is in the best interest of the citizens of Stokes County, and particularly of those receiving services from Cardinal Innovations or its contractors, that every effort be made to achieve the levels of performance required in this Agreement. If Cardinal Innovations does not meet the performance expectations outlined in this agreement, it will recommend a Plan of Correction to the County Manager. The Plan of Correction will include the name of the individual who is responsible to act, the activity or task to be undertaken, the outcome expected and the date by which the action

Amendments

This Agreement may be amended upon the mutual consent in writing of the County and Cardinal Innovations.

Termination

This Agreement may be terminated in compliance with NC Gen. Stat. §122C, in whole or in part, by mutual consent of the County and Cardinal Innovations.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby execute and deliver this Agreement as of the Effective Date set forth above.

Stokes County

Cardinal Innovations Healthcare

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

October 24, 2016

Date: _____ Date: _____

Vice Chairman Booth moved to approve the proposed Performance Agreement Between Stokes County and Cardinal Innovations Healthcare. Commissioner Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Request for Funding – Stokes County Board of Education

Chairman Inman noted that there was an additional \$19,962 savings on the Chestnut Grove Middle School Project.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the following request from the Stokes County Board of Education which was presented at the October 10th meeting:

- Chestnut Grove Middle School Pavement = \$50,000.00 –estimated cost
- Germanton Elementary School -1975 Building/Gym Roofing - \$400,000.00 – estimated cost
- North Stokes High School Baseball Poles/Lighting = \$4,079.00 estimated additional cost
- South Stokes High School Baseball Poles/Lighting = \$101,870.00 – estimated cost
- South Stokes Media Center/Auditorium Roofing = \$250,000.00 – estimated cost
- Total Estimate Request = \$805,949.00

Director of Operations David Burge noted:

- Savings of \$19,962 is from the decking not used
- Would like to commend Jerry Moorefield who really made sure that only what was needed was done

Commissioner Walker questioned Director Burge if the school system had looked into a new silicone coating product for repairing roofs?

Director of Operations Burge briefly discussed the new silicone coating product for roofs.

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- Actually met with a representative last week about a new product called “White Knight”
- Can repair not so bad roofs, can possibly give them another 10 years
- The product is energy efficient, water proofing protection, and easy to apply
- Looking at testing a roof

- Could not have used on a roof like the one that was just replaced at Chestnut Grove Middle School

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the following:

- Allocation of funding for Chestnut Grove Middle School Pavement at an estimated cost of \$50,000
- Allocation of funding for Germanton Elementary School -1975 Building/Gym Roofing at an estimated cost of \$400,000.00
- Allocation of funding for North Stokes High School Baseball Poles/Lighting at an estimated cost of \$4,079.00 (additional funding)
- Allocation of funding for South Stokes High School Baseball Poles/Lighting at an estimated cost of \$101,870.00

Vice Chairman Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Inman opened the floor for further discussion.

Director of Operations Burge confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that all the projects in the Board of Education's request was included in the motion except for the South Stokes Media Center/Auditorium Roofing.

Commissioner Lankford stated that he did not include the Lawsonville Elementary School Pole/Lighting Project since there is no definite dollar amount.

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Are we willing to set a precedent for all the other elementary schools in our county?
- Want to see lights at all the elementary schools, but wondering if this would start other elementary schools to request lights?

Commissioner Lankford requested to respond to Commissioner Walker's question:

- If the community goes out and raises the funds to put up lights and the same situation happens that has happened at Lawsonville, then I would vote to repair or replace them

Commissioner Walker confirmed with Commissioner Lankford that the reason the Lawsonville Light Project is not in this motion is because we do not have a final quote for the project.

Chairman Inman commented:

- The precedent, if approved, would be if a school has current lighting that was put up by the community and it needs repairing

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- That would be like the lights at Sandy Ridge, if they need repairs

Clerk Bullins confirmed the motion as follows:

- Allocation of funding for Chestnut Grove Middle School Pavement at an estimated cost of \$50,000
- Allocation of funding for Germanton Elementary School -1975 Building/Gym Roofing at an estimated cost of \$400,000.00
- Allocation of funding for North Stokes High School Baseball Poles/Lighting at an estimated cost of \$4,079.00
- Allocation of funding for South Stokes High School Baseball Poles/Lighting at an estimated cost of \$101,870.00

Commissioner Walker questioned Director of Operations David Burge what did this mean for the requested roofing project for the South Stokes Media Center and Auditorium.

Director of Operations Burge responded:

- This project was a little further down on the list
- Skipped the Mount Olive Elementary School Roofing Project because of the cost
- I think I can speak on behalf of the Board of Education and express appreciation to the Board of County Commissioners for the motion that is on the floor

Chairman Inman commented:

- Feels this motion will make a big step on some needed repairs

Director of Operations Burge stated that he was very appreciative of the motion that had been made.

Chairman Inman confirmed with Board members that everyone understood the motion on the floor.

Chairman Inman called the question.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Inman, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the Lawsonville Light/Pole Project on the November 14th Discussion Agenda.

Proposed Letter of Support -- Circulator Transportation Route in King -- YVEDDI

County Manager Rick Morris submitted the following proposed letter of support, as

directed by the Board at the October 10th meeting for the Board's consideration:

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Letter of Support for a Connector Route in Stokes County.

As local elected officials, the Stokes County Board of County Commissioners are keenly aware of how the lack of adequate public transportation negatively impacts the citizens of the county. Lower income families often struggle to pay their bills and the lack of transportation often makes employment difficult. Lack of employment makes it even more difficult to meet the basic needs of their families.

The purpose of this letter is to express the Board of County Commissioner support for a Connector Route for the Stokes County area. A scheduled public transportation connector route in Stokes County is very much needed and would bring a variety of opportunities to residents and businesses. The proposed route could help bridge the gap in the mobility needs of seniors and others looking to further their education and improve their place in life. As mentioned earlier, lower income families are hit especially hard by the cost of transportation, plus disabled and elderly folks commonly face challenges related to transportation and mobility. A connector route would provide them a transportation option that would at least address some of these challenges.

For seniors and the disabled a connector would assist their independent living by allowing them the opportunity to interact socially and financially in the community while shopping and being able access needed services such as medical appointments. Other citizens would have reliable transportation that might be the difference in having a job or not having one. The bottom line is that adequate transportation is one of the most critical components of everyday life and it directly or indirectly affects almost every aspect of a person's life,

For the reasons stated above, the Stokes County Board of Commissioners strongly support the establishment of a public transportation connector route in an effort to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Stokes County. Hopefully this service will be heavily utilized and will make a positive difference for the County.

County Manager Rick Morris noted that YVEDDI Transportation Director Jeff Cockerham was in attendance for questions.

Chairman Inman opened the floor for discussion.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Jones moved to provide YVEDDI with a Letter of Support. Commissioner

Walker seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Do not feel like the Board has enough information to move forward with this request because there has not been enough due diligence done
- Questioned if Transportation Director Jeff Cockerham had any further information for the Board about this possible Circulator Transportation Route?

YVEDDI Transportation Director Cockerham responded:

- Not asking for funding tonight
- We are not ready for funding
- A letter of support does not mean that you are committing to a certain amount of funding
- Have not seen the proposed letter of support
- The Board is not being asked tonight to approve the circulator route
- I am asking for approval for YVEDDI to continue the project
- Do not want to continue to work with others such as the PTRC, Winston Salem MPO if no one has an interest in the project
- If the Board approves to continue with the project, will get the a ridership study done to see what the numbers are
- Even after the study is completed, the Board can still choose to not continue with the project
- Have received the following letters of support:
 - Stokes DSS
 - Stokes Health Department
 - Stokes Senior Services
 - Piedmont Triad Regional Council
 - King Senior Center
- The next step is to gather data for possible future funding requests
- Not ready for the funding commitment
- Need to make sure the route will be a success
- Need to send out mailers to residents of King to get input regarding possible routes
- Will also hold outreach public meetings to gather public support
- The program must be fair, equitable, and defensible
- Asked for a seat at the Winston Salem MPO for funding
- Attended a meeting with the Winston Salem MPO in October
 - Everyone agreed at the meeting to follow the federal register that comes out and reports trips to the National Transit Data Base which is used by the Federal Government to decide what systems gets funding based on ridership (This would go into effect next federal fiscal year - 2018)
 - The funding formula was approved by the Winston Salem MPO Advisory Council
 - If YVEDDI can provide trip numbers, YVEDDI is guaranteed to get into the funding mix which would be a 50% match
 - There is a two-year lag before funding could be obtained

- We are making progress but still have some hurdles to jump

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Appreciate the information
- Feel I need more information about ridership and routes before I can support this action item
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that the ridership and route information will be available within the next 6 months
- My personal recommendation would be to put this on hold until further information is obtained

Commissioner Walker commented:

- Not sure this can be put on hold because YVEDDI needs to know some level of interest expressed from the Board to go forward
- Can't believe you can go anywhere in this county and talk to individuals and groups and not hear the need for transportation
- We look after our Little Leagues
- We put lights on ball fields
- The best transportation system in this county is the school buses and school buses costs a lot of money
- This is to help people get to a job, help economic development, help indigent people who need trips to the doctors/dialysis, help those who are not as fortunate as most people to have a car to drive to those needed appointments
- Without transportation, we have people in the county who are hurting
- In meeting after meeting, hear the need for transportation
- Director Cockerham named over about a half of a dozen that need transportation in Stokes County
- For us to turn a cold shoulder on this when we approve this and that and are not willing to put some money toward transportation, I can't explain that to our citizens
- This is for a circulator route in King, then a route in Walnut Cove and then the northern part of the County and then eventually a connector route to connect it all to make it work like it is supposed to
- That is when someone in the northern part of the county can get to a needed doctor's appointment in Winston Salem
- That is when people from one part of the county can get to the other part of the county when needed
- Without trying to make progress with transportation, we are just spinning our wheels
- This is the first step in the right direction

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that we are providing transportation to the total Stokes County citizens with a small caveat – recently learned that since King is in the urban area, rural general grant funding can't be used for that area which means there is a gap in funding to provide service to those folks

Transportation Director Cockerham responded:

- The Elderly and Disabled Funding from the State goes to provide transportation to dialysis
- We have already used 6 months of funding in 3 months' time
- That fund goes very quickly
- Use the general public fund as a fall back, to help subsidize the Elderly and Disabled trips to dialysis
- One of the goals of the King circulator is to provide a scheduled service within the urban area provided by urban funds which puts us doing the right thing with the right fund
- Citizens will be able to know when and where the service is going such as the park, library, doctor offices, etc.

Commissioner Lankford continued:

- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that before all that can be implemented, all the facts and numbers must be obtained and then request made for funding
- Just wanted to make sure that current transportation provided by YVEDDI is not going to be impacted

Vice Chairman Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that current funding received by YVEDDI is state funding (pass through the county)
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that there could be a 50% match
- Would like to know what the City of King thinks about this circulator route?

Transportation Director Cockerham responded:

- Presented the concept to the City of King in June
- City of King requested the concept be presented to the League of Government which was done at the July meeting
- There is federal grants that YVEDDI already receives
- The goal is to have a connector route in the county
- Routes can be modified or changed in order to meet the citizens' needs

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that a letter of support from King has not been received yet
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that transportation for workers going to Winston Salem would not be in this circulator route
- Have been looking at those who use the PART System for several months, believe there is anywhere from 10-15 cars daily; not sure these people are from Stokes since the lot is actually in Forsyth County
- Would like to know if people in Stokes County could ride the circulator route if they worked in Stokes County?

Transportation Director Cockerham responded:

- Rockingham County, who already has similar circulator routes, started their routes and found out that the routes had to be changed to accommodate the needs of their citizens
- Don't know where people need to go
- Sometimes you have to make the services available and then see where routes are needed

Vice Chairman Booth continued:

- Can't easily compare Stokes and Rockingham because of the industries and jobs
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that if the grants stop, new funding sources would have to be found or either reduce services or discontinue the service
- Grants are not a sure thing
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that the grants being mentioned are all one year

Chairman Inman commented:

- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that the request tonight is only for a letter of support
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that YVEDDI can't get the information needed without a letter of support
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that the Board still must make a decision once the information has been received and analyzed

Commissioner Walker commented:

- A letter of support is no obligation on the part of the Board but allows YVEDDI to obtain the needed information
- Confirmed with Director Cockerham that after the information is obtained, the Board can continue to support the circulator route or stop its support of the circulator route

The motion carried (4-1) with Vice Chairman Booth voting against the motion.

Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council

Chairman Inman noted that there was one remaining appointment for the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council and that the County had received an application from Louise Nelson.

Chairman Inman opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Jones nominated Louise Nelson.

Chairman Inman entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Jones moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Walker seconded

and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Inman polled the Board:
Commissioner Jones: Louise Nelson
Commissioner Walker: Louise Nelson
Vice Chairman Booth: Louise Nelson
Chairman Inman: Louise Nelson
Commissioner Lankford: Louise Nelson

Chairman Inman noted that Louise Nelson was unanimously appointed to serve on the Walnut Cove Senior Center Advisory Council.

Proposed Agreement – Town of Walnut Cove – Law Enforcement Services

Chairman Inman entertained a motion regarding the Proposed Agreement with the Town of Walnut Cove for Law Enforcement Services which was presented at tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Agreement with the Town of Walnut Cove for Law Enforcement Services. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

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

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

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

- 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 Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board re-entered the opened session of the October 24th meeting.

Cooperative Extension

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve funding 50% of the stipend (county share = \$208 per month county) for Bryan Cave who will be serving as Interim Cooperative Extension Director for Stokes County for no longer than 3-4 months. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried (4-1) with Commissioner Lankford voting against the motion.

Health Department

Chairman Inman entertained a motion.

Commissioner Walker moved to appoint Wanda East as “Acting Health Director” upon the departure of Health Director Scott Lenhart in November and to approve the stipend payment of \$500 per pay period for Ms. East while serving as “Acting Health Director”. Vice Chairman Booth seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

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

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

J. Leon Inman
Chairman