

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF STOKES )  
 )

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FEBRUARY 27, 2017

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, February 27, 2017 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Jimmy Walker  
Vice Chairman Ernest Lankford  
Commissioner James D. Booth  
Commissioner Ronda Jones  
Commissioner Ronnie Mendenhall

County Personnel in Attendance:  
County Manager Richard D. Morris  
Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins  
County Attorney Tyrone Browder  
Finance Director Julia Edwards  
DSS Director Stacey Elmes  
DSS Program Manager Marsha Marshall  
EMS Director Greg Collins  
Sheriff Mike Marshall

Chairman Jimmy Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

#### **INVOCATION**

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

Commissioner Mendenhall delivered the invocation.

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to approve or amend the February 27, 2017

Agenda.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the February 27<sup>th</sup> Agenda as presented.

Vice Chairman Lankford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners**

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

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to show partiality in judgment.”
- YVEDDI
  - Recently attended a YVEDDI Board meeting
  - Got hit with a situation that the County needs to really look at – the county facility that is being rented to YVEDDI for Headstart
  - YVEDDI has some problems with the facility that the County needs to take care of before YVEDDI decides to lease from someone else
  - Would request Manager Morris to look into this situation

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- Would like to thank each person for being here tonight
- It is always a pleasure to have everyone come out to our meetings
- By attending the meetings, it shows me that you take a firm interest in the governmental process in Stokes County
- Would like to say to the citizens, if you have not been able to attend any of the meetings of the Concerned Citizens of Stokes County, as far as, the heroin/opium drug situation, it is now getting to a point that I hope all the citizens in Stokes County will take part
  - It is not only in Stokes County, it is all across North Carolina and the United States
  - If you get a chance, please try to attend the next meeting

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Would also like to welcome everyone to the meeting tonight

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Would like to welcome everyone tonight
- It is always good to see a diverse group attending the meeting
- See different people from different areas here tonight for different things

Chairman Walker commented:

- Welcome everyone tonight
- Hope everyone who has come out tonight, leaves feeling like their time has been well spent being involved with whatever brought you here tonight

- Want each of you to know that you are always welcome
- Don't always have people attending with the same views
- For whatever reason you are here for, we are glad that you are here
- We have a few issues in the County that we are currently working on
  - Animal Control
    - Want the citizens to know that we are working on this issue
    - It has been a challenge in some ways
    - Feel we are making some real progress trying to get the pieces to fit
    - Working with some key people from the State
  - Opioid Drug Issues
    - Concerned Citizens is holding another meeting tonight at the First Christian Church in King regarding the Opioid Drug Issues
    - These folks are beginning to make some good progress
    - Have some representatives from the group here tonight
    - Tonight, we have the Mental Health/Substance Abuse problems on the Information Agenda along with the Opioid Issue on the Discussion Agenda

County Manager Morris had no comments.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Walker 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. Speaker can speak on any topic with no interruptions.

The following spoke during Public Comments:

**Sri Ananda Sarvasri**

1060 Tyler Road

Walnut Cove, NC

**Re: Happiest, Healthiest, Greenest County in the Nation (Food)**

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

### **Solving the Right Problem**

- "Stokes County faces some serious problems. The problems are not unique to Stokes County, but we do have the potential to reverse the trends and make Stokes County the happiest, healthiest, greenest county in the nation.
- The main problems are:
  - Deteriorating Health – Epidemic levels of diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and other diseases that hardly existed 100 years ago.
  - The social cost of crime and law enforcement is extremely expensive. Incarceration rates are 500% higher than they were in the 1970s.
  - We have epidemic levels of drug addiction, such as heroin addiction. Drug use, abuse, and addiction are increasing.
  - Academic achievement could be improved dramatically.

- All our health and social problems have a common cause. That cause is a lack of education about how to take care of ourselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. To date, I have presented 12 solutions, along with scientific proof. These solutions can dramatically improve the quality of life in Stokes County. Yet, what I observe here and nationwide, is that we are solving the following wrong problems:
  - Instead of reducing recidivism through education that would reduce crime; we build more prisons.
  - Instead of reducing disease through education (to reverse our junk food lifestyle), we build more hospitals and clinics.
  - Instead of addressing the cause of drug addiction through education and treatment, we incarcerate addicts and break up families.
  - Instead of improving academic achievement by teaching how to learn faster and easier, we give failing grades.
- All the problems in Stokes County would be reversed if we focused on solutions and funded those solutions rather than funding expensive crisis interventions that these problems cause, like a bigger jail.
- We need to solve the right problems with the right solutions, even if they are not the most profitable. We are always choosing profit over right action. We wage expensive wars because they are profitable. Wars against nations, against cancer, against drugs, against crime, but they never solve the real problems. The solution is education about how to care for ourselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. We have to restore normal biochemistry and neurochemistry through education. I am asking Stokes County to fund educational programs to transform the quality of life here. If we can spend \$4 million on a new jail, we ought to spend at least \$1 million on education that will truly solve our problems. In this new budget, please set aside a large amount for this kind of education. At least a million dollars or more. The County will save millions in return.

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

PO Box 573

Walnut Cove, NC

RE: **Our Governor (HB2)**

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

"Our Governor needs to hear from us, because he is constantly pushing for the repeal of HB2 that prohibits men who think they are women, from using the women's bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers; and that repeal would jeopardize safety, civil ethics, and morality in society.

Is our Governor not insane to want to allow men-who think, or claim they are women- transgender women or gender-fluid-to be able to use the women's bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers, once the prohibition of HB2 is removed?

Is not insanity – "the state of being seriously mentally ill" – the dictionary definition? To think or claim you are a gender of which you are not, is a state of being seriously mentally ill; and those working to normalize that mental illness share that perverse insanity. Standing in front of a mirror naked should convince one of what gender they are. Even my friends in the Amazon jungle knew what gender they were without a mirror. It is not very hard to understand a self-evident truth – men are men according to their physical design, and women likewise.

Is our Governor ignorant of how quickly a young girl or woman can be raped, especially if men are allowed to use the women's facilities?

Our Governor has proposed higher punishments for sexual assaults against women if HB2 is repealed. Has higher punishments for crimes, stopped crime in America? Safety is like a guard rail – it is protection, and in law – a prohibition. We need the law on our side to prohibit – first, then comes the punishment after the crimes has been committed.

Has our Governor no concept of the need for a wholesome and safe place to live, without men (claiming they are women) coming into the women's bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers? Is it not strange one's mind cannot grasp logical conclusions? Or can one's mind be so psychology warped it cannot acknowledge reality and danger?

The major sports organizations and businesses against HB2 are hypocrites, since they do not allow men claiming they are women (transgender women) to play on the women's sports teams, let alone shower with them.

Therefore, please take action to contact those necessary to remove from office our mentally ill Governor, who-threatens morality, threatens women's safety, and threatens our children's mental stability; for who knows what will be likewise taught in government schools if truth – which identifies with reality, does not prevail.”

**Texie Jessup**

6621 NC 89 W

Westfield, NC 27053

Re: **Francisco**

Ms. Jessup presented the following comments to the Board of Commissioners:

- Thank you for allowing me to speak
- We, from Francisco, are here again to ask for your permission to use Francisco School for community functions
- We now have entered the second year of inactivity for the building
- You know what happens to a building the longer it is left empty
- The people of the Francisco Community have cleaned and improved all that we are able to do at this time
- Would really like to reap the fruits of our labor
- Can't plan for summer activities
- Kids get out of school in early June
- Have a partnership with Surry Telephone that we call “Cat Rules”
- We would like to use part of the gym for some of those activities
- We can't even plan for those activities
- Would like to be able to use that building as soon as we can
- The gym and the agriculture buildings are the two buildings we would like to use
- The Little League is the one who uses the concession stand – third part of the Memorandum of Understanding that we are requesting to be amended
- Thank you

**Ramona Timm**  
708 Summit Street  
Walnut Cove, NC  
Re: **Letter to Mr. President**

Ms. Timm presented the following comments to the Board of Commissioners:

- Thank you for the opportunity to speak
- Would like to share a letter regarding the attacks being made on our President
- Read the following letter to President Donald J. Trump

Dear President Donald J. Trump

Thank you, thank you, and thank you for the great job you are doing as President!

You have brought hope back to the Christians, the Patriots, the Constitutionalists, and the anti-communists.

As you take on draining the swamp of the snakes and rats, do not forget the mice that are eating someone else's cheese. May the Walmart mouse remind you that socialism is the enemy of freedom, since socialism is destructive to one's individual freedom, and predator on one's right to property. Socialism and freedom are mutually exclusive, yet government uses socialism to solve the needs of the country, and not principles in law to secure individual rights and freedom. Socialism is the lower stage of communism according to Karl Marx and has been used to steal the people's rights and country from them.

I hope you enjoy the enclosed articles, and the picture of "Justice Lifts the Nations" by Paul Robert – indicating right and wrong were established by the Law of God as recorded in the Bible. The God who gave us life, gave us the laws of right and wrong to live by; and it does not change by national boundaries.

You are absolutely right in saying – fake news is the enemy of the people! The communists' guidebook – "The Art of War" by Sun Tzu mentions the first thing to do is to get into the enemy's camp and spread false information – fake news.

As you well know the Constitution's Article IV, Section 4, "guarantee to every State in the union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against invasion..." That Republican Form of Government – a Republic, is based on virtue and therefore would have to discriminate against the immoral and the base. Only virtue can offer the highest possibility of greatness, representation alone does not fill its ancient definition.

My wife and I are encouraged by your boldness to speak the truth and address our dangers. Keep it up.

We are praying for you."

Respectfully Yours, Erwin A. and Ramona Timm

- If they think his election was a squeaker, they are dead wrong.

**Ellen Peric**  
1095 Wheeler Smith Road  
Lawsonville, NC  
Re: **Our Governor (HB2)**

Ms. Peric presented the following comments to the Board of Commissioners:

- Here today to speak about how our Governor has remained calm and collective over the HB2 issue

- He has gone back time and time again to try to get our state out of this mess
- The Governor has not had a lot of cooperation
- He has called for resumption and negotiations around HB2
- He has made clear his opposition to the idea of placing basic human rights on the ballot as a referendum
  - That was in response to a badly flawed proposal in the state house that would have allowed cities to enact non-discrimination ordinances but only if a small minority of voters were given a chance to place the measure on the ballot that would veto such measures
- The bill would literally allow people to vote on whether or not gay people could be fired or denied services simply because they are gay
- The Governor's statement said, "I have two concerns with the measure. First, it subjects the rights of the minority to a vote of the majority. It would be like putting the Civil Rights Act to a popular vote in cities in the South during the 1960. Except today, it would come with the perils of modern campaigns. Which is my second concern. Image the endless campaigning, months of one side demonizing the other about whether LGBT citizens have rights. Toxic 30-second TV ads. Nasty mail filling up your mailbox. And North Carolina is still in the national news for all the wrong reasons."
- Think the legislators would do well to start dealing with the Governor and get down to seriousness and good faith
- Let's return our state to some place where people would like to come to do business
- Thank you

**Horace Stimson**

1931 Horseshoe Road

Westfield, NC

Re: **Francisco School**

Mr. Stimson presented the following comments:

We support the MOU revisions to permit limited use of buildings by Our Communities (OC) to: (1) test various activities, (2) gain experience with property management, (3) increase community involvement and (4) raise funds to better position OC to create and implement a feasible and sustainable plan for Francisco Elementary School (FES).

Like you, OC recognizes the need to reduce the impact of opioid challenges. Continuing to provide playground access for youth and families in Northern Stokes helps to address this issue. Limited use of certain buildings only enhances these efforts.

Prior to the last meeting, some of you were aware that the Task Force and OC Working Group participants met with insurance professionals, identified a carrier, and took the following actions. When insurance was first raised during the Feb Working Group meeting, we acted swiftly.

Steps being taken for inclusion in FES Plan: file application, conduct on-site inspection, receive insurability report, and obtain a quote for property, liability (incorporating special events / activities), and D&O insurance. Target date is late March / early April.

In the meantime, steps are being taken to obtain event insurance for OC activities (before ownership) that relates directly to the MOU revisions. We are now aware of risks that drive up rates, have received rough costs, and application lead times. This responds to County concerns about coverage of an OC entity. Planning is underway for an April 29<sup>th</sup> event: Combining Francisco Community Market Day...Celebrating Homegrown and Handmade with Francisco Fire and Rescue Community Day.

Last December, the nonprofit signed and sent to the County Manager and Environmental Health, a septic system operator contract as required in anticipation of using some or all of the buildings on a limited basis.

First inspection completed on Feb 4<sup>th</sup> and forwarded directly to Environmental Health.

Invoice received last evening and check mailed this morning to continue meeting our obligations to the County and our Septic System Operator for the use of the buildings

We now ask your approval of the MOU revisions and any County follow-up actions to permit requested use by late March / early April. Your favorable decision can have a positive impact as this challenging effort moves forward.

Please recall that County permission was granted in October to use the schoolyard and Ag. Building for Francisco FarmFest, along with Environmental Health Services approval to use a couple of classrooms in the 1950s building for food service safety.

Thank you.

Three-minute time limit called.

Chairman Walker, with no other speakers, closed the time for public comments.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Consent Agenda:

### **Minutes**

- Minutes of February 13, 2017 - Regular Meeting

### **Various Department - Budget Amendment #58**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #58.

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



Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	<b>General Fund</b>			
	See details below	<u>\$4,696,536.00</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$4,711,536.00</u>
	<b>Totals For General Fund</b>	<b>\$4,696,536.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,711,536.00</b>
	<b>Health Title XIX Fund</b>			
	See details below	<u>\$525,156.00</u>	<u>\$(28,000.00)</u>	<u>\$497,156.00</u>
	<b>Totals for Health Title XIX Fund</b>	<b>\$525,156.00</b>	<b>\$(28,000.00)</b>	<b>\$497,156.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds due to the quarterly review as of 01-31-2017.

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

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
	<b>General Fund</b>			
100.3431.413	Sheriff's Dept – Extra Duty	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
	<b>Health Title XIX Fund</b>			
110.3982.100	Transfer from General Fund	<u>\$324,561.00</u>	<u>\$28,000.00</u>	<u>\$352,561.00</u>
	<b>Totals –Health Title XIX Fund</b>	<b>\$354,561.00</b>	<b>\$58,000.00</b>	<b>\$412,561.00</b>
	<b>Governing Body</b>			
100.4110.112	Retiree Insurance	\$ 90,682.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 94,182.00
	<b>Administration</b>			
100.4120.351	Maint. & Repairs Auto	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,200.00
	<b>Finance</b>			
100.4130.180	Professional Services	\$ 63,375.00	\$ (1,500.00)	\$ 61,875.00
100.4130.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$ 66,100.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 66,600.00
	<b>Tax Administration</b>			
100.4140.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 360,328.00	\$ (2,000.00)	\$ 358,328.00
100.4140.340	Printing	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,100.00
	<b>GIS/Mapping</b>			
100.4141.260	Departmental Supplies	\$ 4,750.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,750.00
	<b>Superior Court</b>			
100.4160.441	Juvenile Detention	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
	<b>Elections</b>			
100.4170.010	Salaries & Wages-Overtime	\$ 200.00	\$ (190.00)	\$ 10.00
100.4170.020	Salaries & Wages-Part Time	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,800.00

100.4170.190	Board Reimbursement	\$ 3,225.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,525.00
100.4170.260	Departmental Supplies	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 7,750.00
100.4170.390	Precinct Officials	\$ 32,500.00	\$ (1,500.00)	\$ 31,000.00
100.4170.430	Rental of Buildings & Equipment	\$ 1,300.00	\$ (500.00)	\$ 800.00
<b>Register of Deeds</b>				
100.4180.170	Other Fringe Supplemental Pension	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 3,150.00
100.4180.090	Social Security Tax	\$ 7,711.00	\$ (150.00)	\$ 7,561.00
<b>Public Buildings</b>				
100.4190.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 278,722.00	\$ (5,800.00)	\$ 272,922.00
100.4190.020	Salaries & Wages-Part Time	\$ -	\$ 5,800.00	\$ 5,800.00
100.4190.250	Auto Fuel	\$ 15,000.00	\$ (7,000.00)	\$ 8,000.00
100.4190.353	Maint. & Repairs Grounds	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
100.4190.510	Equipment	\$ 33,065.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 33,071.00
<b>Information Systems</b>				
100.4210.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 147,228.00	\$ 19,000.00)	\$ 128,228.00
100.4210.000	Printing	\$ 100.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 800.00
100.4210.000	Maint. & Repairs Auto	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
<b>Vehicle Maintenance</b>				
100.4250.350	Maint. & Repairs Equipment	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,800.00
<b>Sheriff's Department</b>				
100.4310.020	Salaries & Wages-Part Time	\$ 172,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 192,000.00
100.4310.021	Salaries & Wages-Extra Duty	\$ 12,400.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 27,400.00
100.4310.250	Auto Supplies	\$ 199,567.00	\$(60,000.00)	\$ 139,567.00
<b>Medical Examiner</b>				
100.4360.000	Medical Examiner	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b>				
100.4370.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 288,773.00	\$(70,000.00)	\$1,218,773.00
100.4370.020	Salaries & Wages-Part Time	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 280,000.00
100.4370.230	Medical Supplies	\$ 105,500.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 150,500.00
100.4370.250	Auto Supplies	\$ 110,000.00	\$(20,000.00)	\$ 90,000.00
100.4370.321	Postage	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00
<b>Animal Control</b>				
100.4380.250	Auto Supplies	\$ 5,500.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 4,500.00
100.4380.351	Maint. & Repairs Auto	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,500.00
100.4380.260	Departmental Supplies	\$ 17,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 16,000.00
<b>Solid Waste</b>				
100.4720.130	Unemployment Insurance	\$ 1,338.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 2,988.00
100.4720.250	Auto Supplies	\$ 85,200.00	\$(25,000.00)	\$ 60,200.00
100.4720.350	Maint. & Repairs Equipment	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Planning</b>				
100.4910.250	Auto Supplies	\$ 8,000.00	\$ (2,500.00)	\$ 5,500.00
<b>Cooperative Extension</b>				
100.4950.351	Maint. & Repairs Auto	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,400.00
100.4950.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$ 158,190.00	\$ (4,000.00)	\$ 154,190.00
<b>Health Department</b>				
100.5100.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 546,285.00	\$(25,000.00)	\$ 521,285.00
100.5100.020	Salaries & Wages-Part Time	\$ -	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 10,100.00

<b>Environmental Health</b>				
100.5192.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 200,595.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 195,595.00
100.5192.180	Professional Services	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
<b>Social Services</b>				
100.5310.440	Misc. Contractual Services	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
<b>Senior Services</b>				
100.5860.262	Other Supplies	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,300.00
<b>Transfers</b>				
100.9820.989	Transfer to Health Title XIX	\$ 324,561.00	\$(28,000.00)	\$ 296,561.00
<b>Contingency</b>				
100.9910.000	Contingency	\$ 19,991.00	\$ 45,734.00	\$ 65,725.00
<b>Total General Fund</b>		<b>\$4,696,536.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,711,536.00</b>
<b>HEALTH TITLE XIX FUND</b>				
<b>Adult Health Program</b>				
110.5101.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 191,763.00	\$(15,000.00)	\$ 176,763.00
<b>Child Health Program</b>				
110.5102.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 103,959.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 98,959.00
<b>Family Planning</b>				
110.5103.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 170,494.00	\$(25,000.00)	\$ 145,494.00
<b>Prenatal Program</b>				
110.5105.000	Salaries & Wages	\$ 58,940.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 75,940.00
<b>Total Health Title XIX Fund</b>		<b>\$ 525,156.00</b>	<b>\$(28,000.00)</b>	<b>\$ 497,156.00</b>

### **Sheriff's Department, Social Services & Contingency - Budget Amendment #59**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #59.

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

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
<b>Sheriff's Department</b>				
100.4310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$1,738,041.00	\$7,625.00	\$1,745,666.00
<b>Social Services</b>				
100.5310.000	Salaries & Wages	\$2,054,973.00	\$5,672.00	\$2,060,645.00
<b>Contingency</b>				
100.9910.100	Leave Contingency	\$77,372.00	\$(13,297.00)	\$64,075.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$3,870,386.00</b>	<b>\$00.00</b>	<b>\$3,870,386.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Contingency for the payoff of terminated, resigned, retired, dismissed, and Compensatory Time (over limit) employees for January and February.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$00.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues

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

### **Sheriff's Department - Budget Amendment #60**

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #60.

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

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
	<b>Sheriff's Department</b>			
100.4310.511	Equipment – Non Capitalized	<u>\$17,458.00</u>	<u>\$6,288.00</u>	<u>\$23,746.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$17,458.00</b>	<b>\$6,288.00</b>	<b>\$23,746.00</b>

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate insurance claim funds to replace two (2) vehicles which were totaled.

This will result in a **net increase** of **\$6,288.00** in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following revenues will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received this fiscal year.

<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Current Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>As Amended</b>
100.3839.850	Insurance Claims	<u>\$60,893.00</u>	<u>\$6,288.00</u>	<u>\$67,181.00</u>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$60,893.00</b>	<b>\$6,288.00</b>	<b>\$67,181.00</b>

### **Tax Administration Report – December 2016**

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

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Releases more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (January 2017) at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

<b>Releases More Than \$100 Name</b>	<b>Real/Personal Bill Number</b>	<b>Property Amount</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Matthew George	294701-2016-2016	\$271.95	Correction to Basement Size/Percent Finished
Ralph L McGee III	293049-2016-2016	\$307.23	Adjustment to Home Value Per Field Review
Oakley's Con. Mart #3	5856-2015-2015	\$100.38	Business Personal Property Sold in 2013
Oakley's Con. Mart #3	5856-2016-2016	\$101.07	Business Personal Property Sold in 2013

Caterpillar Financial Ser	282171-2016-2016	<u>\$9,187.60</u>	Amended Listing
	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$9,968.23</b>	

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

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (January 2017) at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

<b>Refunds More Than \$100</b>	<b>Real/Personal</b>	<b>Property</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Kathleen M. Anderson	31984299	\$107.05	Vehicle Totaled
John W. & Lydia K. Cater	26425260	\$318.83	Vehicle Sold
Michael Stuart Lee	26570243	\$103.27	Vehicle Sold
Robert T. Thorton	25421194	\$106.57	Vehicle Sold
Gary A. & Amanda D. Tucker	23603735	\$126.00	Vehicle Sold
Brian L. & Cassandra L. Welch	28302450	<u>\$132.49</u>	Vehicle Sold
	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$894.21</b>	

### **Tax Administration – Advertisement of 2016 Tax Liens**

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Advertisement of 2016 Tax Liens at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- As of 02-01-2017:

<b>Delinquent 2016 Tax Bills</b>	<b>Number of Bills</b>	<b>Principal Due</b>
General County	3818	\$1,442,424.77
Education Fund	3818	\$ 93,065.73
Town of Danbury	16	\$ 1,162.84
City of King	169	\$ 106,170.80
Town of Walnut Cove	73	\$ 15,662.84
King Fire District	365	\$ 18,241.16
Rural Hall Fire District	89	\$ 4,044.23
County Service Fire District	2672	\$ 112,204.19
<u>Walnut Cove Fire District</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>\$ 18,174.72</u>
<b>Total Bills Delinquent</b>	<b>3,818</b>	<b>\$1,811,151.28</b>

**Proposed Resolution – Proclaiming Farmer Appreciation Day in Stokes County**

Clerk to the Board Darlene Bullins presented the following proposed Resolution –  
Proclaiming Farmer Appreciation Day in Stokes County for the Board's review and consideration  
at tonight's meeting (February 27<sup>th</sup>):

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING  
FARMER APPRECIATION DAY  
IN STOKES COUNTY**

**Whereas**, the County of Stokes, the Stokes Soil & Water Conservation District, the Cooperative Extension, Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the NC Forest Service desire to host the Farmer Appreciation Day to recognize the contributions of our farmers to Stokes County; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that the county's farmers contribute greatly to Stokes County's economic base; and

**Whereas**, the Board believes that all county citizens benefit from farming activities in some manner; and

**Whereas**, the Board agrees that a Farmer Appreciation Day would show our county's support for the existing farming community and honor past activities that have contributed so much to the culture and heritage of Stokes County; and

**Whereas**, the Board recognizes and appreciates the local businesses within the County that provides funding for a BBQ and Chicken Dinner with live entertainment to be held at **South Stokes High School** with all Stokes County citizens invited.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT**

The Stokes County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims **Thursday, April 6, 2017** as **Farmer Appreciation Day** in Stokes County and extends its appreciation and gratitude to the county's farmers for their many contributions to Stokes County.

Adopted by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners this the 27<sup>th</sup> day February 2017.

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**Chairman Jimmy Walker**

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**Vice Chairman Ernest Lankford**

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**Commissioner James D. Booth**

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**Commissioner Ronda Jones**

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**Commissioner Ronnie Mendenhall**

Attest:

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

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

### **Mental Health/Substance Abuse Liaison to Stokes County**

Chairman Walker introduced DSS Program Manager Marsha Marshall, who was in attendance for tonight's meeting, to present information regarding a Mental Health/Substance Abuse Liaison for Stokes County.

DSS Program Manager Marsha Marshall presented the following information to the Board of County Commissioners:

- First of all, I am coming to you today not as a DSS employee or even a county employee. I come to you as a member of the Stokes County Child Protection/Child Fatality Team and the Stokes County Concerned Citizen Group. I am sure all of you are aware of the drug problem our entire country is facing and unfortunately Stokes County has not escaped this problem.
- In 2016 EMS responded to an astounding number of drug overdoses and administered 90 doses of Narcan. If you are not familiar with Narcan, this is something first responders have on hand that will counteract the life threatening effects of an opioid overdose. Unfortunately, this doesn't counteract any other drug overdose, only opioid so I'm sure there were many more overdoses EMS responded to.
- As of the beginning of February 2017, EMS has administered 15 doses of Narcan so far.
- As you are aware, Stokes County currently lacks services to meet the needs of substance abusers and the ones available are not easily accessed for various reasons. Not only does Stokes County need treatment options, we need to be providing education in an attempt to prevent one from ever becoming an addict. As a member of these groups, I have been a part of many discussions of what we can do as concerned citizens and there have been many great ideas but with great ideas comes the need for funding. Like anything else, it will take money to put these ideas to use. Maybe that means different agencies such as the court system, adult probation, juvenile services, DSS and Mental Health working together to share the cost. I don't know. All I know is we as a community have to be willing to do whatever we can to address this epidemic if we want to truly help these people who are in desperate need of services.
- As a DSS employee who works in the Child Welfare Department, I have personally experienced the difficulty in accessing substance abuse programs. It is a complex system and not an easy one to navigate through. I am a non-substance abuser and I struggle with locating and accessing treatment for clients, so just imagine what an

addict goes through. CPS currently has a seventeen year old open for assessment and this particular teen recently overdosed on Heroin. It took two doses of Narcan to revive her. Since then, this kid has been assessed by mental health in an attempt to get her a care coordinator. She was denied for this service, denied because she was not attempting to kill herself when she overdosed but rather accidentally overdosed.

- Something here just doesn't make sense to me and I am not here to blame anyone, I am here to see if changes can be made to make services available to those truly in need. I am uncertain of how to make these changes and that is what brings me to you. We as a concerned county need to begin thinking about what it is going to take to really help these addicts. The Child Protection Team recommends to you that a substance abuse liaison be considered. I'm not sure who would oversee such a position but I am confident this type of position could make a difference. A position such as this could coordinate with the court system, juvenile services, DSS, etc. to connect addicts to the services they need. Clients could be referred to a liaison to be screened for the types of substance abuse that is affecting their lives, for their desire for treatment, and, for other needs that would help them to lead productive lives. This would be an advocate for those who neither have the knowledge nor the ability to help themselves. A liaison would work with the individual, community providers and other professionals to recommend an appropriate treatment path for them. The liaison, with the person's consent, would also be able to communicate to family members or caregivers the status of the person's case so that they can support their loved one through this difficult process.
- Another focus that has been discussed by both groups that I am a member of is education. In my opinion, there is no better way to educate our children than to go into the school system. In my opinion, that means bringing real life people into the schools who have been effected by drug addiction whether it be the recovering addict or a family member of a recovering addict to our children. I don't know.
- You may have seen in the news recently where "Talk It Out" has come to Stokes County. I think that is a wonderful start.
- The topic focused on alcohol. I think we could focus on something different. Does not have to be opioid every time, can even texting while driving.
- In my opinion, the impact drugs has on family's needs to be in their faces on a regular basis meaning we need someone talking with our kids at least quarterly at least in the Middle and High Schools so that is always fresh in their minds. They need to be shown the harsh facts, if that means someone on hard meth, so be it.
- A liaison could also be responsible for contacting organizations, individuals, groups, etc. to schedule events in our middle and high schools. The goal of this would be to prevent our kids from ever making the decision to try any drug. The reality in the world today is that one time use can lead to an addiction. I also come to you today as a parent of a teenager and seven year old and even though I think I have raised my children to make good decisions and to never use drugs, I know that children raised the way I have raised mine have become addicts. It is real and it is here and we as a county need to step up and put things in place to stop this epidemic or at least slow it down. If it saves only one person's life that is one life and it could be the life of someone you know.
- Thank You



Chairman Walker requested Program Manager Marshall, as a member of the Concerned Citizens' Group, to provide the Board with an update.

Program Manager Marshall responded:

- Understand at tonight's meeting, they would be assigning individuals to certain groups to work on certain issues whether it be treatment, prevention, education, etc.
- Each group would have a specific task/goal

Chairman Walker expressed appreciation to Program Manager Marshall for the presentation.

### **Farmer Appreciation Day – April 6, 2017**

Chairman Walker noted that Commissioner Booth requested time to speak about the Farmer Appreciation Day Resolution recently approved in the Consent Agenda.

The Board had no issues with Commissioner Booth speaking about the Resolution.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Meant to comment on the proposed Resolution during the approval of the Consent Agenda
- Farmer Appreciation Day is scheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2017 at South Stokes High School (6:00 pm)
- Good food, great entertainment
- Normally have anywhere from 500 to 700 attendees
- Would like to extend an invitation to everyone
- Want everyone to come out and have a good time

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

### **Opioid Issue in Stokes County – Discussion**

Chairman Walker noted the Opioid Issue in Stokes County was placed on tonight's Agenda to see what part the Board of County Commissioners could play in helping to make this situation better.

Chairman Walker requested permission from the Board to allow other members from the audience to speak on the subject.

The Board had no issues with allowing members from the audience to speak.

Chairman Walker called on Sheriff Mike Marshall for the law enforcement perspective.

Sheriff Mike Marshall commented:

- Do not know the answer to fix this preexisting problem; however, do feel like education is the key to turn the problem in the future
- For example, if you have a leaky roof, you don't want to replace the floor before you fix the roof
- In the midst of all this, everyone is trying to work on the floor but they are forgetting about the leaky roof
- Need to work on the educational part in our schools to deter drug use
- Have several school officials here who have been in the school system for many years
- Need to try to stop it before it happens
- Know there is an effort being made
- Do not know if there is enough effort being made or if there is enough funding available
- In order to address the current problem on hand, we need to work on the problem before it exists

Chairman Walker opened the floor regarding the information provided by Sheriff Marshall.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that the current Dare Program administered to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students could be expanded
- Not sure how much information should be provided to students, as mentioned by Program Manager Marshall

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Would have to make sure the information provided to students would not have a lifetime effect on the student even though some students need to see the lifetime effects
- Need to work with the schools' guidance counselor
- Do believe education is the key to help eliminate this program

Commissioner Booth continued:

- Have to remember the peer pressure in middle and high schools

Sheriff Marshall continued:

- Need to look at the program to make sure what is being provided to students and decide exactly what is needed to give out to the students
- There are programs that work hand in hand, but this Opioid problem is a real issue

Chairman Walker commented:

- Confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that there is a Dare Program for both the middle school and the high school
- Requested the Sheriff share his thoughts from a law enforcement perspective regarding the expansion of the Dare Programs

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Definitely feel that expansion of the programs can help

Chairman Walker continued:

- Right now, trying to find any help available regarding this problem, maybe even in a budget work session

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Have some officers that are going to training this Spring regarding this issue to try to get a better idea of handling this particular problem in the middle and high schools
- Will be glad to provide information once those officers return from the training

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Shared with the Board of Commissioners at the last meeting that 19% of state funding is going toward the consequences
- Education is the actual answer, but there has to be a whole list of things included in that education
- Feel the kids need the harsh reality of what will happen
- Kids need to learn how to cope with being offered street drugs, to know what this is going to cost futuristically in terms of having a healthy family
- It is just more to it than saying drugs are bad
- Need to make kids realize what this can do to them long term
- If we could get all these entities to contact the legislators to request that the 19% funding be added to or changed towards the prevention as opposed to consequences, maybe this would help
- This is a statewide problem, not just Stokes County
- It has to be changed, education is the key
- Need to draw talents from every agency mentioned by Program Manager Marsha Marshall

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Agree with what the commissioners were saying about education
- Believe that funding mentioned by Commissioner Jones needs to be returned to each county
- Every county has different levels of funding due to their economics
- Believe we know what our needs are better than state officials
- Believe we could meet our needs if the funding was allocated directly to counties
- Some state officials feel like one glove fits all, it definitely does not
- Other counties have more resources
- Our educators in Stokes County do an excellent job with what resources they have available along with county staff
- We need that state funding to come directly to us

Commissioner Jones confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that he had no idea regarding how to

get funding from the state to be sent directly to the County.

February 27, 2017

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Information that I have heard is that the state is talking about legalizing marijuana for medical use
- Know some states have already legalized marijuana for medical use, then it will be legalized for recreational use
- Think this is going to be a hard issue to deal with since there are so many that want to sell drugs

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- What I would like to say comes from my educational background
- I have heard what Commissioner Jones and Sheriff Marshall have both stated about bringing all the agencies together
- Understand there are going to be groups assigned at the Concerned Citizens' Meeting for specific duties
- Certainly, the Dare Program in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade is a very important program
- But there is one thing that we must remember and feel that sometimes we want to deny or turn our heads to it – teachers have students for 7.5 hours per days
- Those children go home and a lot of the children go into bad situations at home
- Those children are at home 16.50 hours
- Sometimes those children may not even have an adult influence when they get home or have an adult influence that is a negative influence
- Some children may be going home to parents who are using drugs
- Definitely education is one of the key factors
- Catching those children at an early age is a must
- Recently did an interim superintendent position in Virginia
  - Had an experience with a PreK student where the mother would not come to school to pick the child up who had been in some trouble at school
  - Took the child home and could not get anyone (people were at home) to answer the door
  - Very bad situation
  - The incident ended up with having to call in Social Services
- There are some really bad situations out there that our kids are living in and deal with daily
- It is going to take a team effort of everyone working together, in my opinion, to get this thing turned around

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- We see that every week

Chairman Walker commented:

- Seems like from what I am hearing, there are multiple aspects within this
- There seems to be about 4 things that we need to be looking at in dealing with this issue that is not exclusive to Stokes County:
  - Education

- Prevention
- Control (Law Enforcement)
- Treatment
- We have talked about education and prevention thru programs such as the Dare Program
- Requested Sheriff Marshall to update the Board on what his and/or other departments that he is aware of are doing regarding this opioid issue

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Last year, we increased the amount of drug cases worked by shifting people around
- Went from an average of 1,600 arrests to approximately 4,400 (from FY 2015-16)
- Most of it has gone from street drugs to prescription drugs
- The reason you hear so much about heroin is because it has gotten cheaper and easier to access
- Most of it is being shipped into the United States – not created here
- It is coming in from various countries
- Heroin is the biggest thing right now as far as street drugs
- Hear a lot of people say that prescription drugs are not a problem – prescription drugs are a problem
- My officers can buy 90 Xanax at one buy with the prescription drug probably having been stolen
- Measures have been put in place by the state to try to control doctor shopping
- Get numerous reports of medicine being stolen
- Patients, with cancer, have to have some of these prescription drugs to live
- The one thing that is hard to deal with is people putting things out on social media – loved ones having cancer with tremendous pain
- People put on Facebook about Mom or Dad, who people know are dealing with cancer being put back in the hospital – those are the houses that are targeted
- Seeing more and more of this
- Social media can be helpful, but it can be harmful especially when it is connected to a break-in such as when someone posts that they are going on vacation for a certain period of time
- The main street drug right now is heroin

Chairman Walker questioned Sheriff Marshall what would be his recommendations, as Sheriff, for the Board of County Commissioners in dealing with this issue.

Sheriff Marshall responded:

- Educate for the children, you are not going to change every one of them, but I would be happy to get 1 out of 20
- Would love to see them all be clean
- Would love to see some type of treatment in Stokes County, particularly at the hospital (in-house substance abuse)
- Have a place when someone who really wants to beat the habit can go for treatment, but keep in mind, the person has got to want to come clean

- Within 15 to 20 minutes of giving Narcan, the person is usually awake and cussing you out because you messed up the high
- Narcan, for heroin, is a miracle drug, in my opinion – can bring someone back from no heartbeat to moving around in a matter of minutes
- The thing you must remember is that it does not work for everyone and must be given within a particular timeframe
- Just ordered more Narcan for the Sheriff's Office

Chairman Walker confirmed with Sheriff Marshall that his number one recommendation for this Board is to work toward having available substance abuse treatment in the County and have some type of inpatient therapy at the hospital.

Chairman Walker called on EMS Director Greg Collins for comments.

EMS Director Greg Collins commented:

- Concur with what Ms. Marshall and Sheriff Marshall have said
- This is a wide spread problem
- EMS has given 90 doses of Narcan during 2016
- As of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, EMS has given 26 doses of Narcan
- Have given more since the information was provided to Ms. Marshall
- Continues to be an ongoing problem
- Since Christmas, know of two people that have overdosed multiple times
- Spoke about one incident at the last Concerned Citizens' Meeting
  - Had a patient who overdosed and CPR was performed, revived him, and transported to the hospital
  - Like Sheriff Marshall said, he became belligerent and mad and had the capacity to refuse; therefore, he was allowed against medical advice at the hospital to refuse
  - He came home and within 12 hours, he was dead because he did the exact same thing
- Know of one family where the mother died from an overdose and her child was transported with an overdose
- The liaison would be a great thing
- Hope the liaison would be a substance abuse professional with a behavioral health component
- The medical health system is hard to navigate for those who know how to navigate it; for those who can't and don't have the support group help, it is more critical
- We need to educate and prevent
- We have to treat those who are already on drugs – emergency and follow up treatment
- As Sheriff Marshall stated, they have to want the treatment, it can't be forced
- Inpatient and outpatient services are definitely needed and extremely important
- Also need follow up to make sure patients are doing follow up treatment
- Liaison needs to assist EMS, DSS, Court System, and Law Enforcement Agencies

- Members from EMS and the Sheriff's Department have been through Crisis Intervention Training
- It takes many hours sometimes to get a patient the needed services
- Wish I had the silver bullet to fix this
- The problem has been around for many years
- It is a growing problem
- Has become more evident because it has blossomed

Chairman Walker opened the floor for questions/comments.

Chairman Walker commented:

- Have heard 3 things so far
  - Liaison for substance abuse and behavioral health
  - Education
  - Treatment within our County

Chairman Walker confirmed with EMS Director Collins that his recommendations included treatment within our County along with education and liaison.

Chairman Walker called on Katie Lee Langan from Cardinal Innovations for comments.

Counselor Katie Lee Langan commented:

- I am a Community Engagement Specialist for Cardinal Innovations for Stokes and Rockingham Counties

Chairman Walker questioned Counselor Langan if the liaison was something that Cardinal could possibly work with.

Counselor Langan responded:

- Cardinal does have a position, Member Engagement Specialist, who does some of that kind of services
- Don't think it is to the extent to what the County really needs
- Will take this information back to Cardinal to see if it is something that we can provide
- Think it is truly needed
- You can call the toll free number and ask for a Member Engagement Specialist
- This Specialist will work directly with the client/consumer to help them navigate the system
- Connects the client/consumer only to what is available from Cardinal
- Believe the position would do much more than provide treatment options
- If anyone can't get help when calling a Member Engagement Specialist, please let me know immediately

Chairman Walker confirmed with Counselor Langan that she serves in some capacity as a liaison.

Chairman Walker opened the floor for questions/comments.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Counselor Langan that we had some of the needed services through Cardinal
- Confirmed with Counselor Langan that the County can contact her if the client/consumer is not getting the services needed

Chairman Walker confirmed with Counselor Langan that she would follow up with Cardinal officials regarding the liaison position for the County.

Chairman Walker requested DSS Program Manager Marsha Marshall to please respond to what Counselor Langan has stated.

Program Manager Marshall responded:

- The biggest issue and we were just discussing this earlier, is treatment options within Stokes County
- Need to know how to draw those services to Stokes County for our people
- Going to Winston for treatment is not feasible for a lot of our citizens
- Don't know how to appeal to those treatment agencies to bring those services to Stokes County
- Need to figure out how to get treatment services to Stokes County
- The liaison would be connected to all the agencies already mentioned today
- Jeana Barneycastle, who is here today, could possibly speak about the role of the liaison

Ms. Jeana Barneycastle commented:

- The liaison concept was brought up in some Crisis Intervention Training that both EMS Director Collins and I attended
- Rockingham County actually started a similar program
- It was brought up that there are a lot of different issues across county departments
- I, along with Manager Marshall, have full time jobs and do not have time to volunteer and make those things happen
- This is how the liaison concept was developed
- If there was a county employee who could attend all the meetings and develop ideas with those departments, that would really help
- This would be a paid employee whose responsibilities would be to make sure clients/consumers are getting the needed services – pulling all the agencies together
- Don't have time to be a liaison even though we want to help



Chairman Walker expressed appreciation to those who spoke at tonight's meeting and for all those who attended on behalf of the liaison position.

Chairman Walker continued:

- Very good information provided by the speakers tonight
- Recommendations have been given to the Board that need to be looked at

Chairman Walker questioned if anyone else wanted to speak.

DSS Director Elmes commented:

- You need to be aware that the MOE monies that the County provides to Cardinal Innovations can be utilized for this purpose – liaison position
- It has to be budgeted, presented, and approved
- The Board has the authority to use MOE monies for a liaison position

Chairman Walker confirmed with Manager Morris that he would follow up on the following:

- MOE monies being used for a liaison position
- Contact Cardinal to see what would be a reasonable approach to take
- Follow up with Pam Tillman to see what was the status of what was to be at one time – geriatric psychiatric beds

County Manager Morris noted that he would be glad to check on the liaison position and the status of the geriatric psychiatric beds at the hospital.

Chairman Walker confirmed that Board members had no issues with Ms. Kay Richey to speak.

Chairman Walker allowed Ms. Kay Richey, who requested to speak, to address the Board.

Ms. Kay Richey commented:

- I can't speak on behalf of the school, speaking my personal opinion
- Commissioner Mendenhall certainly has the school experience
- Want to speak on the importance of that 7.5 hours mentioned by Commissioner Mendenhall that a kid spends at school
- Have spoken to the Board in the past about Adverse Childhood Experiences and how children who are in trauma are affected and how much more likely they are to become substance abuse users along with lifelong health problems
- It impacts the county economically
- The main counteract to that trauma is positive relationships with other adults

- Primarily those positive relationships are our teachers and other personnel within the school
- Schools do have curriculums that deal with substance abuse (health curriculum)
- It is actually hard to get to it because elementary school PE teachers are only at the school one day a week
- It is more accessible in middle and high school
- Those positive relationships are those with their teacher
- Looking at a lot of changes in education along with balancing the school budget and House Bill 13 that deals with the number of teachers in the County
- Also have to look at the funding provided by the County
- Need to look at class sizes, counselors
- Schools do not have social workers
- Speaking today for myself, not the school system

Chairman Walker expressed his appreciation once again for those in attendance tonight regarding the Opioid Issues in Stokes County.

#### **External Posting – Information Systems**

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding an external posting for Information Systems:

- Request approval to post externally a vacant Information Technology Systems Analyst position
- The position became vacant when the employee transferred to the new position created in Economic Development which was approved with the adoption of the FY 2016-17 County Budget
- Have looked at the idea of contracting the position, which is not feasible
  - Not a good fit for the department
  - Not cost effective
  - Need backup when other employees in the department are absent
  - With limited staff, not able to be responsive to the other departments, can speak to department heads about their perspective on the response times
  - There is also the need for a succession plan – other two employees are not going to be there forever
- Internal application deadline is Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>
- Probably this is the area that worries me the most if something were to happen to either one of the two staff members
- Operating with many less people than similar like systems
- Would request to move to the Action Agenda to expedite the hiring process

Chairman Walker noted the request from the Manager and requested the pleasure of the Board regarding this item.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- When the Board decided to keep the position vacant, the Board made a recommendation during the budget process to contract the position
- It is not because it is the most economical way of doing things; it is a test oriented type thing
- Contracting will allow the department to get the right person for the position which is what I based my information on when the decision was made
- Have tried two or three people that have failed because of the way the department is
- Has to be the right type person before it will work out
- My recommendation is to contract in order to do an evaluation on what is really needed for the department before outside hiring is done

Chairman Walker questioned what is the pleasure of the Board regarding the disposition of this item being placed on tonight's Action Agenda?

Manager Morris responded:

- Would prefer this meeting, but next meeting will be fine

Chairman Walker polled the Board:

- Commissioner Jones – next meeting
- Vice Chairman Lankford – definitely not this meeting
- Commissioner Mendenhall – next meeting
- Commissioner Booth – next meeting

Chairman Walker, with consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the March 13<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

County Manager Morris noted that he would be glad to answer any questions from the Board before the next meeting on why contracting will not work for this particular situation.

Chairman Walker noted that could also be discussed at the next meeting.

**Appointments: Stokes County Community Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team**

Chairman Walker noted the following were recommended at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting by the Stokes County Child Protection & Child Fatality Prevention Team for appointment:

**Team Members**

Stacey Elmes (Co-Chair)  
 Emily Naylor (Co-Chair)  
 Marsha Marshall  
 Det Libby Reid- CCPT  
 Sheriff Mike Marshall-CFPT  
 Tom Langan  
 Jeannie Easter  
 Tony George  
 Katie Lee Langan  
 Jaime Kehoe  
 Dr. Sam Newsome  
 Greg Collins  
 Judge William Southern  
 Susan Hairston  
 Samantha Brewster  
 Cindy Brown Stiltner

**Team Position**

Director of the county department of Social Services  
 Director of the local Health Department  
 Member of DSS - Director's staff  
 Local Law Enforcement -officer  
 Local Law Enforcement -officer  
 Attorney from the District Attorney's office  
 Executive director of the local community action agency  
 Superintendent or his designee  
 Local mental health professional  
 Guardian ad Litem Coordinator  
 Local health care provider/county medical examiner  
 Emergency medical services provider or firefighter  
 District Court Judge  
 Representative of a local child care facility or Head Start  
 Parent of a child who died before reaching the child's 18th birthday  
 Substance Abuse Counselor

**Additional Appointees**

Ronda Jones - CCPT	County Commissioner
Jimmy Walker - CFPT	County Commissioner
Rusty Slate or Jeana Barneycastle	Juvenile Services
Tamara Veit or Susan Cockerham	Prevention Agency
Pam Hooker	Community Representative
Sheila Bowen	Community Representative
Diana Bryant	Community Representative
Wanda East	Team Coordinator

Chairman Walker opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Booth nominated the following:

**Team Members**

Stacey Elmes (Co-Chair)  
 Emily Naylor (Co-Chair)  
 Marsha Marshall  
 Det Libby Reid- CCPT  
 Sheriff Mike Marshall-CFPT  
 Tom Langan  
 Jeannie Easter  
 Tony George  
 Katie Lee Langan  
 Jaime Kehoe

**Team Position**

Director of the county department of Social Services  
 Director of the local Health Department  
 Member of DSS - Director's staff  
 Local Law Enforcement -officer  
 Local Law Enforcement -officer  
 Attorney from the District Attorney's office  
 Executive director of the local community action agency  
 Superintendent or his designee  
 Local mental health professional  
 Guardian ad Litem Coordinator

Dr. Sam Newsome	Local health care provider/county medical examiner
Greg Collins	Emergency medical services provider or firefighter
Judge William Southern	District Court Judge
Susan Hairston	Representative of a local child care facility or Head Start
Samantha Brewster	Parent of a child who died before reaching the child's 18th birthday
Cindy Brown Stiltner	Substance Abuse Counselor

**Additional Appointees**

Ronda Jones - CCPT	County Commissioner
Jimmy Walker - CFPT	County Commissioner
Rusty Slate or Jeana Barneycastle	Juvenile Services
Tamara Veit or Susan Cockerham	Prevention Agency
Pam Hooker	Community Representative
Sheila Bowen	Community Representative
Diana Bryant	Community Representative
Wanda East	Team Coordinator

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to close the nominations.

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

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board, directed the Clerk to place the item on the March 13<sup>th</sup> Action Agenda.

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

**Francisco School Repurposing Memorandum of Understanding – Use of Gym and Agricultural Facilities**

Chairman Walker requested Commissioner Booth and County Manager Morris to speak regarding the Agenda Item.

Commissioner Booth moved to amend the Repurposing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Use of the Gym and Agricultural Facilities. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Think the Board should consider amending the MOU
- Have been in several meetings where it has been suggested for this and that with the building possibly being open for use
- Know that the community needs to hold events for fundraisers
- Need revenues so that the community could possibly take over the facilities at the end of June
- MOU has a target date of June 2017 for transfer
- I want to speak about any school in Stokes County, when a school is closed, I feel the community loses part of their identity
- Feel that a school in a community is how the community identifies itself
- People come together at a school
- If the school is closed and there is no use for the facility and grounds, it can totally lose a community's identity
- Francisco is what we are talking about – that school has been closed
- If there was any other school in the County with the same circumstances, I would be speaking the same way for that particular school
- We need to have compassion for this community and use common sense
- We should give them permission to use the gym and the agricultural building
- Concession stand is already being used
- Couple of the classrooms and the agricultural facility has already been used – FarmFest
- As the county manager brought forth at our last meeting – there is and will be insurance coverage even if the MOU is amended
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that insurance coverage is and will remain in effect even if the MOU is amended
- Our Communities (OC) is already looking into coverage for special events
- It is like the Sauratown Trails, 25 miles of trails in Stokes County that runs over private property, which the County has liability insurance on
- I participate in the Sauratown Trails
- It is up to me, as a private landowner, if I want to purchase insurance - that is my decision
- If we didn't take a chance, nothing ever would be accomplished
- If we don't take a chance, you will never get a community to come together and work to be able to use the facility and grounds
- This is how I stand
- I urge my colleagues to vote to amend the MOU

Chairman Walker commented:

- Was going to give Manager Morris a chance to speak about the insurance, but since there is a motion on the floor, will only allow commissioners to speak at this time

Commissioner Jones commented:

- Think all of us know that buildings are a living entity and when they sit around vacant, they die

- They have their own heartbeat when they are being taken care of
- This group has done their due diligence as best as they could with the obstacles that they have had which is why I am agreeing with the motion
- The OC has a deadline that this Board approved
- This Board has given the OC a timeline with an ending date of June 30, 3017
- Agreed that the OC should have an opportunity to try to make it work
- They have not had the opportunity to get what they wanted done, for that reason, feel it is only fair to give them the resources within the MOU to try to succeed
- In all fairness, we should give them a shot

Clerk Bullins requested to clarify Commissioner Booth's motion.

Chairman Walker allowed Clerk Bullins to question Commissioner Booth.

Clerk Bullins confirmed with Commissioner Booth that his motion included that the amendments to the MOU would be the recommendations from the OC.

Chairman Walker requested the Clerk to read the motion for clarity.

Clerk Bullins responded:

- Commissioner Booth moved to amend the Memorandum of Understanding for the Use of the Gym, Agricultural Facilities along with the concession stand with the recommendations from Our Communities (OC)

Chairman Walker called the question.

The motion failed (2-3) with Chairman Walker, Commissioner Mendenhall, and Vice Chairman Lankford voting against the motion.

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

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

- Vacancy will remain on the Action Agenda until an appointment is approved by the Board of County Commissioners
- Committee will be meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>

Chairman Walker opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Jones nominated Jesse Moore to serve on the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee.

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Booth moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Walker polled the Board:  
Vice Chairman Lankford: Jesse Moore  
Commissioner Mendenhall: Jesse Moore  
Commissioner Booth: Jesse Moore  
Chairman Walker: Jesse Moore  
Commissioner Jones: Jesse Moore

Chairman Walker noted Jesse Moore was unanimously approved to serve on the Stokes County Aging Planning Committee.

#### **Appointments – Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee**

Chairman Walker noted the following regarding the Stokes County Human Services Advisory Committee appointments:

- Nominated at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:
  - Register Nurse Appointment:
    - Jane Humphries
    - Joanie Shelton
  - General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
    - Diana Bryant
    - Jane Cole

Chairman Walker opened the floor for any further nominations.

There were no further nominations.

Chairman Walker entertained a motion to close the nominations.

Commissioner Booth moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Walker polled the Board:

- Commissioner Jones:
- Register Nurse Appointment:
    - Jane Humphries



- General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
  - Jane Cole

Chairman Walker:

- Register Nurse Appointment:
  - Jane Humphries
- General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
  - Jane Cole

Commissioner Booth:

- Register Nurse Appointment:
  - Jane Humphries
- General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
  - Diana Bryant

Commissioner Mendenhall:

- Register Nurse Appointment:
  - Jane Humphries
- General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
  - Jane Cole

Vice Chairman Lankford:

- Register Nurse Appointment:
  - Jane Humphries
- General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
  - Jane Cole

Chairman Walker noted the following were approved to serve on the Stokes County

Human Services Advisory Committee:

- Register Nurse Appointment:
  - Jane Humphries
- General Public Appointment with an interest in Social Services:
  - Jane Cole

### **Appointments – Winston Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization - TAC**

Chairman Walker noted the following regarding the Winston Salem Urban Area

Metropolitan Planning Organization – TAC appointment:

- Commissioner Mendenhall requested at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting that another member of the Board serve on the TAC appointment for the Winston Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization due to scheduling conflicts
- Recall that Commissioner Jones had expressed possible interest in serving on the TAC

Commissioner Jones responded:

- Have done a lot of research and thinking about this appointment

- Would love to do it, but at this time I am over committed

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- If no other commissioner is able to take the appointment, will probably only be able to attend less than half of the meetings due to the other appointments
- The TAC meets the third Thursday in January, February, March, May, July, September, and November
- Meets at 4:15 pm in the 5<sup>th</sup> floor Public Meeting Room of the Stuart Municipal Building at 100 E. First Street, Winston Salem

Chairman asked Commissioner Booth and Vice Chairman Lankford if there was any interest in serving on this committee.

Commissioner Booth responded: no

Vice Chairman Lankford responded: only if it will help Commissioner Mendenhall or possibly the Chair take the appointment; already serve as a TAC appointment on another Planning Organization

Chairman Walker responded: would look at it the way Vice Chairman Lankford stated; will leave the decision up to Vice Chairman Lankford.

Vice Chairman Lankford responded: you can have the appointment

Chairman Walker entertained a motion.

Vice Chairman Lankford moved to approve the appointment of Chairman Jimmy Walker to replace Commissioner Mendenhall's appointment to the Winston Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Chairman Walker 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(a)(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 GS 143-318.11(a)(3)

- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the price or other material terms of an agreement for the acquisition or lease of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)

Commissioner 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(a)(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 GS 143-318.11(a)(3)
- To consider and take action with respect to the position to be taken by the county in negotiating the price or other material terms of an agreement for the acquisition or lease of real property pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5)

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board re-entered the open session of the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Adjournment**

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

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

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

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**Jimmy Walker**  
**Chairman**