

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
JULY 24, 2017

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for a regular session in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administration Building) located in Danbury, North Carolina on Monday, July 24, 2017 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

Commissioner Ronda Jones – absent

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

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

INVOCATION

Chairman Walker 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 July 24, 2017 Agenda.

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Commissioner Mendenhall moved to approve the July 24th Agenda as presented.

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

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

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

County Manager Morris commented:

- Reminder – Board of County Commissioners’ Planning Meeting – Tuesday, August 1st at 6:00 pm
- Provided the Board with information from Interim Economic Development Director Sudderth/staff regarding advertising on WFMY “Road Trippin” (short videos promoting Stokes County)

Chairman Walker noted:

- Understand the numbers show that tourism is up in Stokes County

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life – “He shall have dominion also from sea to sea and from the river unto the ends of the earth”

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- Would like to say welcome to everyone here tonight
- What a great place to live in, the United States of America is not perfect, but rest assured that I do not know of any place else I had rather live than right here in Stokes County in the United States
- As we move forward, always encourage our community members to come out to our meetings
- It is very important for me to see people come out and be a part of the governmental process
- Everyone may not agree on every single thing, but that is part of the Constitution that gives you the right to have your own opinion
- Thanked everyone for coming out to tonight’s meeting

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Would also like to thank everyone for coming out to tonight’s meeting
- Good to see everyone out
- Thank you for taking part in your county government
- Provided Board members with copies of the Stokes County Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Report for Fiscal year 2016-17 – lot of good things going on in Soil and Water

Chairman Walker commented:

- Thank everyone for being here tonight
- Always nice to see people in our audience, coming to our meetings to see firsthand how government works

Chairman Walker noted that Commissioner Ronda Jones had a scheduling conflict with tonight's meeting time and asked to be excused.

Chairman Walker, without objection, excused Commissioner Jones from tonight's meeting.

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.

The following spoke during Public Comments:

Sri Ananda Sarvasri

1060 Tyler Road

Walnut Cove, NC

Re: Happiest, Healthiest, Greenest County in the Nation

Mr. Sarvasri read and provided the Board the following "Solving Social Problems – All Our Social Problems Are Due to One Thing":

Solving Social Problems

All Our Social Problems Are Due To One Thing

We have so many social problems:

- Drug Addiction
- Obesity
- Crime
- Family Violence
- Unemployment
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Health Problems: Cancer, Heart Disease, Diabetes, and More

All these social problems have one underlying cause: A lack of knowledge.

When we look at the causes of the actions that ultimately lead to problems, we find there are dependencies. First there is Awareness. Nothing happens without awareness. If we are not aware, conscious, then there is no basis for life at all. If we are unconscious, obviously, nothing is possible. So Awareness, Consciousness is primary.

Consciousness, Awareness, Is The Container of Knowledge

Awareness varies from moment to moment. Sometimes we are only dimly aware and therefore we are not very effective. Sometimes we are at peak awareness, and at such times we are at peak performance.

Awareness can be increased, and because it is the container of knowledge, with greater awareness, greater

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knowledge is possible. With greater knowledge, we are more effective and create fewer problems for ourselves.

Knowledge Creates Values That Together Become the Basis Of Decisions

The more knowledge we have, the more capable we are of making good decisions. Without knowledge in any field we are incapable of making effective decisions. The more conscious we are, and the more knowledge we have, the better our values will be and therefore, the better our decisions will be. Knowledge is the basis of our values. With greater knowledge and better values, we make fewer mistakes. We are more effective in life. We make better decisions.

Decisions Are the Basis of Action

We act in a certain way because we have decided to do so. All our actions are based on the decisions that we make. If we want better actions, then we must make better decisions. To make better decisions, we need better knowledge and the values that come with knowledge. To have better knowledge, we must be more conscious, more aware. All our actions are based on decisions which in turn are based on values, knowledge, and awareness (consciousness).

All the problems that we see in society are the result of actions based on decisions, based on lower values, limited knowledge, and limited consciousness.

Consciousness > Knowledge > Values > Decisions > Actions > Results

If we want to solve our social problems, we must increase consciousness, knowledge, and values, because they are the basis of all future decisions and actions with their inevitable results.

What knowledge is most important? The most important knowledge for all people is the knowledge of how to care for ourselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. The more knowledge of this kind, the more powerful we become as a human being. Unfortunately, the knowledge of how to care for ourselves is never taught to us in any of our institutions. The single most important thing leaders can do is to provide the knowledge of self-care, physically, mentally, and emotionally. This knowledge is available in my book "Extraordinary Healthcare" and ebook, "[The Guide](#)" online.

As the county explores options in how to prevent and treat addictions, and to improve the quality of life in Stokes County, this formula will be quite valuable. Whether in the schools or the public at large, the single most effective programs will be those programs that expand consciousness and knowledge about our potential for physical, mental, and emotional health. This knowledge naturally instills greater values that inspire better decisions and actions.

Ellen Peric

1095 Wheeler Smith Road

Lawsonville, NC

RE: **Arts Update**

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

- Would like to congratulate the Arts Council's Administrative Assistant Sharon Williams on her upcoming retirement – July 31, 2017
 - Arts Council held a small celebration on July 18th
 - We wish her much happiness in the future
- Summer is all about Art Camps
 - Visual Art Camps – July 17th-21st at Mount Olive Elementary School

- New Perspective Art Camp – July 31st – August 4th – Mount Olive Elementary School
- Pottery Camp – July 10th – 14th at West Stokes High School
- Drama Camp – July 24th – 28th at Mount Olive Elementary School
- Hanging Rock Art Camps - July 6th, 13th, and 20th
- Apple Gallery - July 26th – August 22nd
 - Will host local Artists David Kirkland, Painter and Artist Tony Farrar, Potter
 - Free Reception – Friday, July 28, 2017 (5:30 – 8:00 pm)
- Danbury Songwriters Series continues every Thursday at The Arts Place at 7:00 pm
 - Jack Benedict and Russell Lapinski will be at The Art Place this Thursday, July 27th
 - Rebecca Dresser and Dell Guthrie – Thursday, August 3rd
- NC Premier Theater Presentation - Saturday, July 29th
 - “If JFK Survived Dallas” – a play written and performed by Philadelphia Attorney Dennis McAndrews, Esq
 - Shows are at 3 pm and 7 pm at The Arts Place – tickets are on sale now
- Reach the Peaks
 - Hiking challenge is scheduled for September 30th
 - Tickets are on sale now through Brown Paper Tickets
- The Arts Place Renovation Update
 - Completion of The Arts Place building is on hold until new architect drawings for the lift (lift will go from the main floor to the upper level) are completed
 - Original plans did not include a lift
 - Once plans are reviewed and approved, construction can move forward
- Thank you

Chairman Walker expressed appreciation to those who spoke at tonight’s meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Minutes

- Minutes of July 10, 2017 - Regular Meeting

Tax Administration Report – June 2017

Refunds More Than \$100 – Real and Personal Property

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Refunds more than \$100 – Real and Personal Property (June 2017) at the July 10th meeting for the Board’s review with consideration at the July 24th meeting:

| Refunds Mores Than \$100 Real/Personal | | | |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Name | Bill Number | Amount | Reason |
| Daniel L & Amy McKenzie | 3232-2016-2016-01 | \$112.64 | Boat Sold in 2015 |
| Daileen M Davila Cruz | 35851420 | \$142.99 | Vehicle Total Loss |
| Elizabeth Y Patrick | 23943665 | <u>\$128.75</u> | Vehicle Sold |
| Total Amount | | \$384.38 | |

Tax Administration – Proposed Resolution – Annual Settlement for Fiscal Year 2016-17
Property Taxes

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following proposed Resolution – Annual Settlement for Fiscal Year 2016-17 Property Taxes at the July 10th meeting for the Board’s review with consideration at the July 24th meeting:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)

RESOLUTION

COUNTY OF STOKES)

WHEREAS, Section 105-373 of the North Carolina General Statutes provides for an annual settlement of the property taxes charged to the Tax Collector: and

WHEREAS, that, in keeping with this requirement, the attached settlement summary was provided to the Stokes County Board of Commissioners by the Stokes County Tax Administrator, Jake M. Oakley;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners:

- (1) Orders the insolvent amount for 2016 be entered into the minutes as the accepted insolvent amount, and further, that said insolvent amount be credited to the Stokes County Tax Administrator in his settlement. And;
- (2) Orders the tax liens for 2016 property taxes for the purpose of collection to be recharged to the Stokes County Tax Administrator. And further;
- (3) Orders that the settlement for delinquent (prior years taxes) be entered into the minutes, and that the uncollected balance of said taxes be recharged to the Stokes County Tax Administrator for the purpose of collection. And finally;
- (4) Orders that the 2016 property tax settlement by the Stokes County Tax Administrator be accepted in accordance with Section 105-373(e) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Adopted this the day of July 2017.

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Jimmy Walker – Chairman

Ernest Lankford – Vice Chairman

James D. Booth – Commissioner

Ronda Jones – Commissioner

Ronnie Mendenhall – Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene Bullins – Clerk to the Board

Tax Administration – Proposed Resolution – Order to Collect Fiscal Year 2017-18

Tax Administrator Jake Oakley presented the following Order to Collect Fiscal Year 2017-18 at the July 10th meeting for the Board's review with consideration at the July 24th meeting:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA) ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
) IN ACCORDANCE WITH G.S. 105-321(b) FOR THE
COUNTY OF STOKES) COLLECTION OF FY 2017-2018 PROPERTY TAXES

TO: THE STOKES COUNTY TAX ADMINISTRATOR

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes set forth in the 2017 tax records filed in the Office of the Stokes County Tax Administration (General County Taxes and Educational School Fund Taxes), and in the tax bills herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise set forth. You are further authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the 2017 taxes charged and assessed as provided by law for adjustments, changes, and additions to the tax records and tax bills delivered to you which are made in accordance with law per G.S. 105-321(b). Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien on real property of the respective taxpayers in Stokes County.

You are hereby authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the taxes of Special Districts (King Fire District, Rural Hall Fire District, Walnut Cove Fire District, Stokes County Service Fire District, the Town of Danbury, City of King and the Town of Walnut Cove), and in the tax bills herewith delivered to you, in the amounts and from the taxpayers likewise set forth. You are further authorized, empowered, and commanded to collect the 2017 taxes charged and assessed as provided by law for adjustments, changes, and additions to the tax records and tax bills delivered to you which are made in accordance with law per G.S. 105-354. Such taxes are hereby declared to be a first lien on real property of the respective taxpayers in each Special Tax District of Stokes County.

This order shall be full and sufficient authority to direct, require, and enable you to garnish wages, to attach rents, cash receipts, checking accounts, and savings accounts; levy on and sell any real or personal property of such taxpayers, for and on account thereof, in accordance with law.

Witness my hand and official seal this ____ day of July 2017.

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Jimmy Walker – Chairman

Ernest Lankford – Vice Chairman

James D. Booth – Commissioner

Ronda Jones – Commissioner

Ronnie Mendenhall – Commissioner

Attest:

Darlene Bullins – Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

North Carolina Commissioners' Annual Conference – Stokes County Youth Delegate

Chairman Walker introduced Youth Delegate Jeremiah Moorefield who will be representing Stokes County 4-H Youth Development at the upcoming NC Association of County Commissioners' (NCACC) Annual Conference in August.

Youth Delegate Jeremiah Moorefield presented the following comments:

- Reside at 1420 Smith Road, Westfield, NC
- I am the Stokes County 4H Youth Delegate for the 2017 YouthVoice at the upcoming County Commissioners' Annual Conference in August
- I am sixteen (16) years old and a rising junior at the Stokes Early College High School
- I have been involved with 4-H for over seven (7) years
- I have served in different capacities over the years including club reporter, vice president, as well as, committee chair/reporter for the 4H County Council
- Recently, as the Stokes County delegate for citizenship focus, I had the opportunity to meet with Senator Shirley Randleman and Representative Kyle Hall
- Over the years, I have enjoyed several opportunities to learn and grow thanks to this incredible program
- 4H sees the values and strengths in every young individual and encourages our youth to make an impactful influence on the world around us
- 4H encourages me personally to reach my fullest potential by furthering my development in citizenship, leadership, responsibility, and life skills
- I want to personally thank all of you for your continued support in this valuable program
- I look forward to seeing you again in August at your Annual County Commissioners' meeting

- Thank you

Youth Delegate Moorefield noted that Extension Director Carl Mitchell and 4H Extension Agent Taylor Furr along with his family were in attendance for tonight's meeting.

Chairman Walker commended Youth Delegate Moorefield on his comments and extended the Board's appreciation for his attendance at tonight's meeting.

Chairman Walker noted that Youth Delegate Moorefield was an excellent choice to represent Stokes County at the upcoming NCACC Annual Conference in August.

Stokes YMCA Recreation Advisory Committee – Update

Executive Director Derek Edwards, YMCA, presented the following comments regarding the Stokes YMCA Recreation Advisory Committee Update:

- Others in attendance for tonight's meeting were as follows:
 - Heather Adams – serves as the Senior Engagement Director, Stokes Family YMCA
 - Amanda Dickerson – Recreation Center Program Coordinator, Stokes Family YMCA
 - Dave Gilstrap – Vice Chair – Stokes YMCA Recreation Center Advisory Committee – Afterschool & Summer Camp parent, Walnut Cove Resident
 - Pam Tillman – Administrator, LifeBrite Hospital, Stokes Family YMCA Recreation Center Advisory Committee Member
- Would like to extend appreciation to the Board of County Commissioners for the opportunity to speak at tonight's meeting
- Would like to turn the presentation over to Stokes Family YMCA Recreation Center Committee Chairman Jared Jones

Chairman Jared Jones, Stokes County Recreation Advisory Committee, presented the following power point presentation update:

Thank you for your invitation to share this evening about the Stokes Family YMCA Recreation Center and the Recreation Center Advisory Committee. My name is Jared Jones, I Chair the Advisory Committee and also serve on the Stokes Family YMCA Advisory Board.

(LifeBrite modular units)

On behalf of the Committee and Y Staff, thank you for your support and allowing us to work with LifeBrite Community Hospital of Stokes regarding the modular units adjacent to the hospital. This

location will allow the Rec Center to serve families and individuals in a much more visible location and with space that will allow us to re-instate program offerings not recently available due to the condition and location of the prior facility. We have begun meeting and working with LifeBrite Staff and Administrator Pam Tillman. These meetings ensure that we will have a productive timeline in place to occupy this location. Based upon these conversations and walkthrough of the facility; LifeBrite will require 30-45 days (possibly less) to remove property from the facility which will then allow transition of the Recreation Center to begin. We are very excited about this move and the ability to serve the communities from this location. Thank you again Commissioners and a special thank you to LifeBrite and Pam Tillman for their support. We look forward to hosting a ribbon cutting and open house once transition into the new facility is mostly complete.

Committee Member

This evening, we will highlight the work of the Recreation Center Advisory Committee, as well as, the work of the Recreation Center Staff. We will share current, as well as, forward looking programming along with our Committee's Vision and Mission Statements, Needs Assessment, Chart of Work, along with our service area demographics.

Our committee is composed of the following:

- Jimmy Walker, Chairman – Stokes County Commissioner
- Jason Duncan, Pine Hall Resident
- Sally Elliott, Director of Operations, Stokes County Center of Forsyth Technical Community College
- Dave Gilstrap, Vice Chair – Stokes YMCA Recreation Center Advisory Committee – Afterschool & Summer Camp parent, Walnut Cove Resident
- Shelley Mounce, Stokes Family YMCA Recreation Center Advisory Committee Member, Volleyball parent, Germanton Resident
- Jason Sizemore, CPA and Lawsonville Resident
- Pam Tillman, Administrator, LifeBrite Hospital
- Jane Priddy-Charleville, Owner – Priddy's General Store, Danbury
- Heather Pendleton, Principal, Piney Grove Middle School
- Jared Jones, Chairman – Stokes Family YMCA Recreation Center Advisory Committee Member
- Heather Adams – Senior Engagement Director, Stokes Family YMCA
- Amanda Dickerson – Recreation Center Program Coordinator, Stokes Family YMCA
- Derek Edwards, Executive Director, Stokes Family YMCA

We appreciate and thank each of our Committee members for their talent and for their work. We also have recently invited 2 Committee members in hopes that they join us in the future: Dr. Brad Rice and Pastor Donald McHone. We hope to grow the Committee strategically; as it relates to the service area. This Committee has met 4 times in 2017 and the work they are doing is excellent. They are passionate about this work and understand the impact that they can have. The care for

their communities is evident and the interaction they have with one another is cohesive and supportive.

Vision and Mission Statements

Early discussions in the Committee meetings were to become familiar with one another, as well as, to determine individual and committee goals and objectives. From these meetings and discussions, we were able to produce a Vision and Mission statement that will guide the Committee through their work now and in the future.

Vision - Foster Recreation, Positive Social Awareness and Healthy Living for all citizens of Stokes County.

Mission - Providing opportunities to Stokes County residents by creating a sense of purpose in individuals, families and communities. Serving as a bridge for citizens and communities by offering accessible quality programming and interactions.

Focus of Committee

As the Committee formed, there was much work centered around Needs Assessment. From this assessment, it became apparent that the focus of the Rec Center and the Committee would be built upon this nucleus list of services.

We are committed to continuing service delivery, as well as, expansion of services centered around:

- Wellness opportunities
- After School Care
- Summer Day Camp
- Adventure Camp
- Recreation

Who we serve

A pie chart is broken down by zip code of communities and as it relates to how they have been impacted by program offerings.

Community Impact:

- Danbury – 409
- Germanton – 1,042
- Lawsonville – 208
- Pine Hall, 56
- Sandy Ridge – 288
- Walnut Cove – 2,154
- Westfield – 602

The needs and desire of programming are obvious from usage and it is incumbent on the committee to communicate with these areas to determine their specific opportunities. Related to understanding

community needs; Chairman Walker asked the Y to reach out to Walnut Cove Town Officials to discuss recreation needs in their area. Derek and Heather met with Mayor Lynn Lewis and Town Manager Bobby Miller to discuss recreational needs in the Walnut Cove area. These were highly productive in understanding the needs in that specific community. This resulted in a second meeting with Leslie Brewer in Walnut Cove regarding her work and desire to create a multi-use facility (which includes Health and Wellness and recreational usage) --- these conversations are ongoing at this time.

Current Offerings

The Stokes Family Y Rec Center serves the communities of Walnut Cove, Germanton, Pine Hall, Lawsonville, Sandy Ridge and those surrounding communities. We serve these communities with opportunities to participate in programming to help meet their needs of Spirit, Mind and Body with a Christian emphasis. The Recreation Center Program Coordinator; Amanda Dickerson (located in Danbury), along with her staff does an excellent job executing this programing. Amanda provides: After School Care 5 days a week (plus out of school day care) August – June / School Year) for 12 families. This program is delivered at Walnut Cove Elementary (transportation is also provided from London Elementary). Summer Camp (June – August) registration for 2017 continues to grow and Amanda delivered an excellent Summer Camp experience to over 297 campers during the 2016 session. After School Care and Summer Day Camp have far reaching economic impacts to our communities as it provides both safe and affordable day care throughout the year so families have an opportunity to work without concern of their children's care.

Travel Volleyball is very popular and fast growing. The travel season is November to April with 10 team members along with Rec Center Staff and Coaches attending and participating in 6 USA volleyball tournaments throughout the region.

With the increased community interest in Volleyball, the Rec Center began offering Volleyball Programing. In 2016 there were 208 participants. The Program is 6 weeks of clinics, practice and games at the intermediate level; and is open to boys and girls ages 7 to 13. Program delivery occurs at Southeastern Middle School. Participants in this program come from Walnut Cove, Germanton, Pine Hall, Lawsonville, as well as, Forsyth and Rockingham Counties. Stokes County is the only county in our area that does not offer a middle or high school volleyball team for boys. We have seen increased interest from boys with regard to this program and we will begin to offer boys youth league this coming season.

In the Spring, Amanda and her staff offer a Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt which is much anticipated. This past event resulted in over 100 children and adults spending time together in the age old tradition of Easter Egg hunting and searching for the golden eggs with great prizes and visiting with the Easter Bunny.

In addition to Child Care and Youth Sports, Amanda also coordinates Family Events. During October of last year, she innovatively launched the first ever Zombie Walk in Walnut Cove. This

was a fun family oriented 5K that drew 42 participants in its first year. Amanda also promotes and supports the King of the Hill 5K/10K/Kids Fun Run. The King of the Hill race is located at the Stokes Y. This event drew 98 participants in 2016.

As we move into our new location, we will begin programming of Group Exercise Classes (Zumba, Yoga and Step Aerobics). The community use of the Cardio Strength equipment will grow and be enhanced by addition and replacement of current equipment. (Offered at no cost to community members)

Potential Programming

The current slide you are viewing indicates upcoming work of the Recreation Center Committee. In the new location, we hope to explore the possibilities of mountain bike rentals, canoes/kayaks/standup paddle boards, as well as massage therapy and nutritional collaboration. We are excited about the sports offerings of travel basketball, wrestling and boys' volleyball. An example of community minded thinking comes from the advent of a potential adventure camp to take place at Moratock Park in Summer of 2018. Committee Member Jane Priddy-Charleville shared about her firsthand experience with Camp as she was growing up in Stokes County. The Committee and Staff will work together to build this new programming from the ground up. Great ideas continue to surface in these committee settings.

Thank you for allowing us to share; we would like to end our presentation with two impact statements from Ms. Shelly Mounce (who could not be here but provided hers in writing) as well as Mr. Dave Gilstrap; who is here with us this evening.

SHELLY MOUNCE LETTER:

Hello,

My name is Shelley Mounce and I am married and have two daughters and we live in Walnut Cove. Living in such a small community, for us, is a wonderful blessing and we couldn't imagine living anywhere else. However, sometimes living in a small community you may not have access to activities or events that you would if you lived in a larger city. I am so thankful for the Stokes Y Rec Center for the opportunities they are bringing to our smaller towns.

Our first encounter with the Stokes Y Rec Center began several years ago. My daughters had been very active with dance since they were three years old – now, 12 and 14. However, several years ago the girls came home from elementary school with a flyer announcing that there was going to be a Stokes Family Y Volleyball camp held in Walnut Cove. We were so excited that something like this was being offered during the summer for the community and it was during a time that didn't conflict with dance schedules. We signed the girls up without hesitation because this was a great opportunity for them to try something new and get prepared for middle school in the event they wanted to try out for the school team. The camp price was very affordable and we saw this as a great chance to try something new!

The camp was a huge success and we have continued doing the camps each summer. These camps have given my girls the confidence and skills to now play school ball, travel ball and the desire to continue participating in the summer camps provided by the Rec Center. We have made life-long friends over the past couple of years that we would probably have never met otherwise. I, as a parent, love seeing my girls get excited to go to the camps and even more excited now that they are older and have a little more experience, to see them be “helpers” at the camp. What a great learning experience for them. With this program they have developed better social skills, learned the true meaning of teamwork, and now by helping with the camps as “Helpers”, they are learning leadership skills.

These programs are so important to our community for all age groups! My experience has been based more on elementary/middle school age, but wow what a difference I have seen with my girls and how they interact and want to help others learn a sport that they truly love. My hope is that we as a community can increase the awareness of what the Stokes Y Rec Center has to offer and back them 100%. As a parent, I am one of their biggest supporters.

Thank you for allowing them (Stoke Y Rec Center) to do what they do best and reach out to our community members and bring us together to play together and even work together in hopes of bringing activities to our small town areas. Without this group we would miss out on a lot of opportunities to improve upon our communities and help them be healthy and grow.

Thank you for your time and I am looking forward to seeing what other exciting opportunities are coming our way for our small town communities.

Shelley S. Mounce
BB&T Enterprise Policy and Governance
RMO Analyst

Mr. Dave Gilstrap presented the following impact moment:

- I am a Stokes County resident, a business owner, a voter, and a Stokes County taxpayer
- I have a twenty-three year old son who spent more time at the YMCA than he did at home as a preteen and a teenager
- He has graduated from college with a double major; he is working and making his way through life as an outstanding community member as far as I know
- I would love to take full credit for all those things, but I think the YMCA helped to guide him in a lot of different ways
- I have a daughter who currently takes advantage of the YMCA after school program along with the summer program
- I do not hesitate to take my daughter to the YMCA programs as she is in a safe, healthy environment
- I hope you will support a place that gives kids a safe, healthy environment and a good start in life
- Thank you

Chairman Jones concluded:

We also invite you to attend a Summer Camp Cookout at Walnut Cove Elementary Thursday, July 27th at 6:00 pm. It will allow you an opportunity to see the impact of this work and to speak with parents and children firsthand about their experiences.

Thank you again for the invitation and your time.

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- I know a few years back, we were having a problem with not having after school care in the county
- Very pleased to see the YMCA step up and provide that service
- It means a lot to a parent to have a safe, healthy environment for their child to go to after school
- That is just one outstanding program provided by the YMCA, there are many more
- Appreciate what the YMCA does in Stokes County

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- Would like to thank everyone associated with the YMCA
- In my mind, you all do a terrific job
- As Superintendent of Stokes County Schools for five (5) years, I worked very closely with the YMCA and had a very good working relationship
- Your vision and mission statements are very outstanding
- Thank you for reaching out to the Town of Walnut Cove
- Every area in Stokes County is extremely important
- Even though the YMCA is located in King, you work closely with northern parts of the county which is extremely important to me
- This is not a prejudicial statement by any means, but when you are a principal at Sandy Ridge Elementary School, Nancy Reynolds Elementary School and North Stokes High School like I was for 12.5 years along with teaching/working at Southeastern Middle School and South Stokes High School for 17 years, you are hitting a lot of the areas that I know all the people and receive a lot of positive feedback and comments from them about the YMCA Programs
- Thank you again – you make a difference in Stokes County

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Would like to thank the YMCA for what they do and for what they stand for
- Feel this new facility at the hospital will be a great asset for the northern part of Stokes County
- I feel there will be growth at that new facility, much more than just exercise equipment
- Thank you for your service to Stokes County

Chairman Walker comments:

- Expressed appreciation to Director Edwards and Chairman Jones for their presentation
- It is always nice to receive information with a positive tone, particularly liked the information on potential programming and opportunities
- Encouraged by the new activities coming to Stokes County

Executive Director Edwards expressed appreciation to the Board of County Commissioners for their comments and their continued support.

Executive Director Edwards also noted that the YMCA is very blessed to have a very strong and committed committee that has a lot of potential work to do together in the future.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

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

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the proposed Agreement – Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Agreement for the Protection, Development, and Improvement of Forest Lands in Stokes County:

- Annual agreement for Fiscal Year 2017-18 which includes Stokes County funding for forestry
- Is being reviewed by County Attorney Browder
- Request Action Agenda for the August 14th meeting

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Commissioner Booth recommended placing the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

The Board had no issues with the proposed agreement.

The Board agreed to place the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board (Commissioner Jones absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

Proposed Agreement – Home & Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Provision of County-Based Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2017-18

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the
July 24, 2017

Proposed Agreement – Home & Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Provision of
County-Based Aging Services for Fiscal Year 2017-18:

- Annual agreement for Fiscal Year 2017-18 which includes Stokes County funding for the aging
- Funds are administered by the Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) Area Agency on Aging
- Request Action Agenda for the August 14th meeting

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented: (serves on the Piedmont Triad Regional Council)

- PTRC does an excellent job administering this funding
- Very good program

Commissioner Booth agreed that this is a very good program.

Commissioner Booth confirmed with County Manager Morris that the funding provides Senior Services (Meals on Wheels, Congregate Meals, & Transportation), Social Services (In-Home Aid), and King Senior Center.

Commissioner Mendenhall recommended placing the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

The Board had no issues with the proposed agreement.

The Board agreed to place the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board (Commissioner Jones absent), directed the Clerk to place the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

YVEDDI Head Start Facility – Discussion

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding budget estimates for renovation of the old YMCA building along with cost estimates for new construction for use by YVEDDI for their Head Start Program:

- Must keep in mind that the cost estimates could change once the space requirements have been set by YVEDDI

- There has been no formal space requirement/design meeting with YVEDDI staff
- All information provided tonight from Architect Perry Peterson is estimated costs
- Report from Architect Perry Peterson
 - Renovate YMCA Building – approximately 2,000 sq. ft.
 - Overall condition of the building is poor
 - Mobile unit foundation condition is questionable
 - Removal of the mobile unit is recommended
 - No handicapped accessible toilet facilities
 - Roof issues
 - Buzzards have been attacking the membrane roof
 - Efforts to stop the damage have had limited success
 - No food preparation area
 - Room size would not be optimal – maximum width would be 11'0"
 - Following items need replacement:
 - Wood roof structure is lacking air space
 - Replacement of improperly installed R-30 batt insulation
 - Wood fascia
 - Windows
 - Exterior doors
 - Wall insulation
 - Wall finishes
 - Carpet and other floor finishes must be replaced
 - Plumbing
 - HVAC Units
 - Electrical
 - Probable Costs:
 - Renovation = \$180,000 (2,000 sf @\$90/sf)
 - Asbestos Removal = \$20,000
 - Demolish Mobile Unit = \$10,000
 - Air quality remediation = \$10,000
 - Architectural/Engineering Fees = \$20,000
 - Total = \$240,000
 - New Building – Approximately 2,000 sq. ft.
 - Pre-engineered metal building
 - Proper insulation
 - Seismic design
 - Sloping roof
 - Better layout with appropriately configured classroom
 - Everything is new
 - Probable Costs:
 - New Construction – 2,000 sq. ft. @\$115/sq. ft. = \$230,000
 - Asbestos Removal = \$20,000
 - Demolish Mobile Unit = \$10,000
 - Architectural/Engineering Fees = \$16,000
 - Total = \$276,000

- Contacted YVEDDI Executive Director Kathy Payne to see if there was any available YVEDDI funding that could be used towards the renovation of the old YMCA brick building
- Confirmed with Director Payne that at this time, YVEDDI can't provide any funding for the renovations and does not feel comfortable borrowing funding for the project
- Director Payne noted that YVEDDI had taken out a loan to renovate a facility in Yadkinville
- Director Payne also noted that YVEDDI had applied for grant funding for the Yadkinville renovation project, but at this time has not received any word on funding
- If the Board does decide to move forward with renovations, the Head Start participants would not be able to stay during the renovations
- There is only \$145,000 allocated in the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget
- Believe this information provides answers to all the Board's previous questions

Chairman Walker commented:

- Have served on the YVEDDI Board of Directors for a good number of years
- Vice Chairman Lankford also serves on the YVEDDI Board of Directors
- There is a little bit of mixed feelings on the Board regarding YVEDDI's involvement in the facility particularly since that is a leased facility
- Sounds like there could have been a better time than now for YVEDDI to be involved in this renovation project

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Don't understand why the architect has increased the estimate for the cost of renovations over a hundred thousand dollars since the first estimate

County Manager Morris responded:

- The first estimate was based on the YMCA using the facility
- This renovation is a different format and totally different layout
- The first estimate submitted by the architect did not include the following estimates:
 - Asbestos Removal = \$20,000
 - Demolish Mobile Unit = \$10,000
 - Architectural/Engineering Fees = \$20,000
 - Air quality remediation = \$20,000
- Totally different renovation projects

Chairman Walker confirmed with County Manager Morris that this type of project would be bid out.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Was okay with placing the \$145,000 in a Capital Reserve Account to see if there was any funding available from YVEDDI or other possible grants
- \$240,000 to renovate and still will have an old building

- Only receive \$400 per month from YVEDDI for rent which does not include operating costs
- Confirmed with County Manager Morris that YVEDDI has another place that they feel can be licensed for the Head Start Program
- Confirmed with Vice Chairman Lankford that the program has between 17-22 participants each year
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that costs will have to be refined once requirements are provided by YVEDDI for Head Start Program
- Confirmed with Manager Morris that there are no costs included in this estimate for up fitting the facility such as for the food preparation area – will need warming stove, sink, etc.
- There is only \$36,000 between the renovation estimate and the estimate for a new facility
- Agree with Vice Chairman Lankford, the estimate has increased drastically since the first estimate
- Not sure about this project now with new estimated costs

County Manager Morris responded:

- This renovation will take the current facility down to only having four brick walls
- Everything else will have to be taken out

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- \$95,000 increase from the first estimate is quite a jump
- I can tell you now that there will be an increase to this estimate for specific requirements for a Head Start Program
- Not sure what the final total would be
- Could be less when bids come back
- Large amount of funding for a renovation project
- With the difference between the estimated costs now and what we first saw, I would have a hard time supporting this project right now

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- The concern that I have is that this is a county facility
- I am not in agreement of just tearing down old county buildings
- Should have never gotten into this shape
- If we had a building anywhere in that condition, we would probably want to fix it
- We have a county building and I am hearing there is no interest other than just taking a bulldozer and pushing it down
- If that is the way this Board wants to treat county buildings, that is okay
- I think it is our duty to maintain the facilities that we have instead of just eliminating them regardless of what you use it for

Chairman Walker commented:

- Do not see any compelling reason why this has to be decided at tonight's meeting
- Have one commissioner absent tonight

- Suggest putting it back on the Discussion Agenda for the August 14th meeting unless there is objection from the Board

The Board members did not have any issues with placing the item back on the August 14th Discussion Agenda.

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

Economic Development Director – Hiring Process

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following information regarding the hiring process for an Economic Development Director:

- I am asking for clarification regarding the hiring of the Economic Development Director's position because of it being an unique position
- This was placed in the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget at the end of the budget process actually during the motion adopting the budget
- Some counties actually have this position outside of county government
- Wanted to make sure the Board was in agreement to follow the standard county policy in which the manager hires this position
- County Attorney Browder has researched the legal aspect
- At this time, there is no funding in the Economic Development Budget for a full-time director position, there is funding in the Planning Budget as it has been for the past few years
- Would also like guidance on how quick the Board would like this position filled
- Did not want to get ahead of the Board if the Board wished to do something different

County Attorney Ty Browder provided the Board with the following legal reviews regarding the appointment of an Economic Development Director:

First legal review: Conclusion

NCGS 153A-76 authorizes a board of commissioners to create, change, abolish, and consolidate offices, positions and departments, and generally organize and reorganize the county government in order to promote orderly and efficient administration of county affairs, unless otherwise provided by law. Pursuant to this general authority, it is my opinion that, the Board may remove the position of economic development director from the general supervision and control of the County Manager; and provide that the economic development director is hired by the Board of Commissioners, and is subject to the general supervision and control of the Board, rather than the County Manager.

Second legal review: Conclusion

There is no specific statute providing for the appointment of a county economic development director; therefore, the appointment comes within the duties of the county manager in accordance with the general personnel rules, regulations, policies, and ordinances that the Board has adopted. It is therefore my opinion, that since there is no specific statute for the Board of Commissioners to appoint an economic development director, the County Manager has the exclusive authority to hire and supervise an economic development director in accordance with the Stokes County personnel policy adopted by the Board.

County Attorney Ty Browder commented:

- This is a unique position
- Wavered back and forth on this issue
- Initial opinion was that the Board of County Commissioners did have the authority to appoint or hire the Economic Development Director
- With extensive research, came to the conclusion that under NC General Statutes 153A-76, the Board of County Commissioners has the authority to create, change, abolish and consolidate offices, positions, and departments, and generally organize and reorganize the county government in order to promote orderly and efficient administration of county affairs, unless otherwise provided by law
- Have made several inquiries to the School of Government with no response
- Was able to speak to Professor Diane Juffras, expert in personnel law at the School of Government, late this afternoon
- Discussed the issue with Professor Juffras and her opinion is that if the Board of County Commissioners has adopted the county manager form of government, which you have, the hiring and supervising of the Economic Development Director falls under the duties of the county manager according to the county's personnel policy
- Professor Juffras reiterated that the Board of County Commissioners only has the authority to make appointments to those specified in the General Statutes such as county attorney, clerk, etc.
- Professor Juffras has the opinion that the Board does not have the authority to appoint this position
- Professor Juffras is the recognized expert and based on her opinion, I would defer to her expertise
- My official opinion is that you do not have the legal authority to appoint this position, comes under the county manager's duties

Chairman Walker commented:

- Interesting situation
- Would like to question County Attorney Browder regarding a statement in his correspondence "provides that the county manager "shall appoint with the approval of the Board of Commissioners..."

County Attorney Browder responded:

- Statute provides that the County Manager appoints all positions other than the statutory positions that the Board must appoint with the prior approval of the Board;

however, the Board can waive prior approval and allow the county manager to appoint these positions

- This Board has given the county manager authority to appoint all positions except those statutory positions that the Board must appoint

Chairman Walker confirmed with County Attorney Browder that this had been adopted in the County's Personnel Policy.

Chairman Walker questioned County Attorney Browder if this can be an across the board approval or can it be selective such as the hiring of the Economic Development Director?

County Attorney Browder responded:

- It has to be all or none according to Professor Juffras
- Did question Professor Juffras regarding that specific question

Chairman Walker commented:

- Seems like when the last Economic Development Director was hired, there was considerable input from the Board of Commissioners
- Confirmed with Vice Chairman Lankford, who was on the Board when the last Economic Development Director was hired, that there was a lot of discussion and the Board was very active in making that selection

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Disagree with the person that Attorney Browder has spoken to
- Would personally want more time to do my own investigation
- Not ready to discuss this any further
- Be willing to come back at a later meeting to discuss it

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- Certainly understand the differences between governmental hiring and school board hiring without any doubt, understand there are discrepancies and differences
- I do know it is common practice to have policies reviewed
- While serving as superintendent of the school system, we had annual reviews of policies and made changes that the Board wanted and there were changes made to the hiring process
- As I stated, I know there are differences between the hiring process of the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education; however, the BOE policy required that as the Agenda notebooks were sent out, a list of all new hires was included for the Board to look at and as we went into Closed Session at the next meeting, the Board had to approve the list of new hires
- No new hire could begin work until approved by the Board of Education

- Confirmed with County Attorney Browder that he could discuss the county's hiring process as long as he did not include specific individuals, only general policy
- I have a strong opinion that we need to review the county's hiring process that is in place at this time
- To me perception is reality, only been on this job six (6) months and travel with my wife all over the county, otherwise, I would not know everyone in Stokes County; we talk to people
- Going back to perception being reality, without any doubt, almost everyone I talk to believes that the Board of County Commissioners hires all department heads
- They truly believe that the Board of County Commissioners hires all department heads
- Confirmed with County Attorney Browder that at this time, our county policy only allows the Board to hire those statutorily required position such as county attorney, clerk, etc.
- What I am saying, the perception out in the public is that when a department head position comes open, this Board hires that department head which is not always accurate and when you look them in the eye and you say that the Board of Commissioners had nothing to do with the hiring of that person, they look at you sometimes with the look that they do not believe you
- Obviously, the hiring of all positions except those statutorily required was approved by a previous Board of County Commissioners
- Having some issues with the current hiring policy
- Do not know if anyone else is; each commissioner has their own opinion
- We have 30,800 voters in Stokes County with over 40,000 citizens
- When I look a citizen in the eye, I am a very transparent person, they are going to get out of me what I believe is right
- They are not going to get political talk that I have seen happen
- I am saying at this point, when someone asks me a question, I am going to give them an honest answer – a truthful answer
- I, along with my wife, have been questioned about some things regarding hiring – not going to get into any specifics
- We were very blunt when I was questioned about some specific things
- I am saying to you Chairman Walker that I feel that 90% of the people in Stokes County believe that when a department head or director is hired, it is hired by Commissioner Ronnie Mendenhall and the other four (4) commissioners
- That is all I have to say right now

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Listened as Commissioner Mendenhall spoke about every employee being approved by the Board of Education, not sure I want to do that
- If we had to interview and hire every employee, not sure we could keep the county running
- I could see hiring the department heads, but hearing from our County Attorney and Raleigh that it has to be all or nothing
- Hearing that Vice Chairman Lankford is not satisfied with all the information that has been presented tonight

- I need time to study this issue and get more information
- Confirmed with Attorney Browder that the Board can't pick and choose who they want to hire

County Attorney Browder responded:

- Read the following: NC General Statute 153-82
 - "Powers and duties of manager"
 - The manager is the chief administrator of county government. He is responsible to the board of commissioners for the administration of all departments of county government under the board's general control and has the following powers and duties:
 - (1) He shall appoint with the approval of the board of commissioners and suspend or remove all county officers, employees, and agents except those who are elected by the people or whose appointment is otherwise provided for by law. The board may by resolution permit the manager to appoint officers, employees, and agents without first securing the board's approval. The manager shall make his appointments, suspensions, and removals in accordance with any general personnel rules, regulations, policies, or ordinances that the board may adopt. The board may require the manager to report each suspension or removal to the board at the board's first regular meeting following the suspension or removal; and, if the board has permitted the manager to make appointments without board approval, the board may require the manager to report each appointment to the board at the board's first regular meeting following the appointment.
 - The way Professor Diane Juffras is interpreting this statute is that if you are going to have the county manager form of government, then you have turned these duties over to the manager – hiring, supervising, and firing
 - Now you can, if you want to, require the manager to get board's approval on all hires or you can waive that and not require board approval, but you can't pick and choose certain positions, but you can require prior approval, it has to be in accordance with the general personnel policy of the county

Commissioner Booth continued:

- Confirmed with County Attorney Browder that if this policy is changed, the manager would have to bring every hiring decision to this board for approval

Chairman Walker commented:

- This is turning into a bit more of a complex situation than I realized it would
- I am not seeing any movement from the Board in a direction of being able to make a decision regarding this matter at this time
- Questioned if he was reading the Board correctly?
- Board members acknowledged that the Chairman was reading the Board correctly

- The safest thing that I know to do at this point is to put this back on the Agenda for the following meeting and see where the Board's views are at that point unless a Board member has another suggestion

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Would like to have at least two meetings prior to this being placed back on the Agenda

Chairman Walker requested the preference of the other Board members regarding Vice Chairman Lankford's suggestion.

Commissioner Mendenhall confirmed with Chairman Walker that Vice Chairman Lankford is requesting the item be placed back on the Agenda for the last meeting in August.

The Board had no issues with placing this item back on the Discussion Agenda for the August 28th meeting.

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board (Commissioner Jones absent), directed the clerk to place the item on the August 28th Discussion Agenda.

Use of Francisco School Property for Fall Festival by Our Communities of Northwest Stokes (OC)

County Manager Rick Morris presented the following comments regarding the use of the Francisco School property for a fall festival by our Communities of Northwest Stokes:

- This item was discussed at the last meeting
- Communicated with the OC folks today to ask them what was the final date they would have to know about using the property and still do their fall festival
- OC notified county staff that determination could be given at the August 14th meeting
- Would recommend the Board wait until the August 14th meeting because of other things that are being analyzed
- Do not think the County is in a position to answer that particular question tonight

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- Agree that the Board should wait until the August 14th meeting to make sure the County follows the process and to be fair to everyone

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Agree with Vice Chairman Lankford to wait until the August 14th meeting
- Do not feel the Board can make a decision right now

Commissioner Mendenhall also agreed to wait until the August 14th meeting.

Chairman Walker commented:

- I think it is clear to me that this Board is trying to work with the OC regarding this item and other items that have been involved with this process
- I think it is the preference of the Board to try to work it out so that the OC can hold the fall festival
- Doesn't appear that the decision can be made tonight
- Apologize to the OC for any inconvenience
- Do have full consent from the Board that they prefer to wait until the August 14th meeting to make a decision

Chairman Walker requested approval from the Board to allow Mr. Horace Stimson to speak.

The Board had no issues with allowing Mr. Stimson or anyone else from the Francisco Community to speak.

Mr. Stimson commented:

- The OC is happy to try to work with the Board and understand the need to wait until the August 14th meeting
- It is a challenge for the OC because of the deadlines and lead times
- We are hopeful the Board will be in a position for a decision at the August 14th meeting
- We will figure out a way to make it work for us
- Appreciate the Board working with the OC

Chairman Walker commented:

- Feel it is safe to say there will be a decision made at the August 14th meeting

Chairman Walker, with full consensus of the Board (Commissioner Jones absent), directed the clerk to place the item on the August 14th Action Agenda.

Appointment – Stokes County Emergency Management Director

Chairman Walker questioned County Attorney Browder how this appointment of the Stokes County Emergency Management Director fits into what has previously been discussed by the Board at tonight's meeting.

County Attorney Browder responded:

- Comes under the duties of the county manager

Chairman Walker questioned what the Board is actually doing by giving their concurs regarding this appointment?

County Manager Rick Morris responded:

- The appointment of the Emergency Management Director must be an appointment by the Board of County Commissioners
- The position of Emergency Medical Services Director and the Emergency Management Director is a combined position in Stokes County
- The EMS Director has been selected so we need follow that with the appointment of the Emergency Management Director

Chairman Walker commented:

- Not trying to confuse things, but it seems like when I reflect back on the statute that County Attorney Browder researched, cannot get all the pieces to fit together

County Attorney Browder commented:

- This is a statutorily requirement of Emergency Management

County Manager Morris noted that the appointment needed to be moved to tonight's

Action Agenda due to EMS Director Collins will be leaving on July 31st.

Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion/questions/comments.

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- We should have had some discussion on this prior to having this come up and having to make this decision tonight
- We should have had some discussion on it before anything happened – if we wanted to keep it like it was where one person is doing both or if we wanted to split the position
- We did not have that option

County Manager Morris responded:

- Either way the Board must appoint the Emergency Management Director

Vice Chairman Lankford responded:

- I understand the Board appoints Emergency Management Director
- We would have had the information that we needed to do that instead of just coming up and asking for this to be approved tonight
- It is what it is, but I think we might have went the wrong direction on it

Commissioner Booth commented:

- Confirmed with Manager Morris that under the current policy, this is the way it is done

Vice Chairman Lankford commented:

- I was just saying that this is one of the statute things that is our job to appoint and that is the reason I was making that comment

Chairman Walker questioned what was the Board's pleasure regarding this Agenda item?

Commissioner Mendenhall recommended to move the item to tonight's Action Agenda.

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

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT - GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Appointment – Stokes County Emergency Management Director

Chairman Walker noted that he thought Manager Morris had a comment regarding this appointment that he did not get to make during the Discussion Agenda

County Manager Morris commented:

- It is a combined position approved in the county's fiscal year budget, so by default, he is the Emergency Management Director if he is chosen as the Emergency Medical Services Director
- That is why no additional information has been provided to the Board of Commissioners

Chairman Walker entertained a motion regarding the appointment of the Stokes County Emergency Management Director.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to accept new EMS Director Brian Booe as the new Emergency Management Director. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Jones absent.

Closed Session

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

- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the County pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)
- 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 Booth moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the County pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4)
- 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 Mendenhall seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner

Jones absent.

The Board re-entered the open session of the July 24th meeting.

Adjournment

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

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Booth seconded and the motion carried (4-0) with Commissioner Jones absent.

Darlene M. Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Jimmy Walker
Chairman