

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF STOKES)
)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
MONDAY MARCH 26, 2018

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, March 26, 2018 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

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

County Personnel in Attendance:
County Manager Jake M. Oakley
Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver
County Attorney Ty Browder
Finance Director Julia Edwards

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

INVOCATION

Chairman Mendenhall delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion to approve or amend the March 26th Agenda.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the March 26th Agenda..

Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion.

County Manager Oakley commented:

- I have a request to add Budget Amendment #52 to the consent agenda.
- This amendment is to accept \$51,000.00 that has been given to the clean water management trust fund for the Dan River Recreation Township.
- Commissioner Booth knows about this as it came through some of his work with Soil & Water.

Commissioner Jones amended her motion to approve the March 26th Agenda as presented with the addition of Budget Amendment #52. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS - Manager/Commissioners

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I wanted to talk about the Elder Orphans Program, which provides safety checks for older members of our community.
- We are an older community.
- It is an emergency reverse 911.
- When the call goes out the elderly person will hit 1 if they are ok and 2 if the need assistance.
- If they do not answer the phone and hit 1, there will be a welfare check.
- I don't think this would cost a lot of money if any and may be something we want to look into as our community gets older.
- On a personal note March has been very interesting.
- I have gone to one funeral of a family member who died from an overdose and another who committed suicide.
- No one goes unscathed on these issues.
- On a good note my daughter passed her dental exam and is now also a doctor.
- Two doctors in two weeks, so I can't complain.
- It has been a little of a rollercoaster.
- I spent a good amount of time in Raleigh over the past two weeks.
- The first for Oil and Gas finally got together for a meeting.
- It has been a long time coming.

- It is quite controversial
- I am the only female on the Board and the youngest.
- I believe it will prove to be an interesting Board.
- I am not quite sure to be honest with you how comfortable I feel on the Board.
- I am going to give it my best and see how it goes.
- Governor McCrory did appoint me so I would like to do my best with that.
- Also while I was in Raleigh the Joint oversight committees were meeting.
- They are going over all the licensing boards and those of us who are still working are being affected.
- I am hoping to see something done about this in short session.
- If this does occur, it will lift some of the regulations and help people get into fields and begin working.
- We had a good conversation.
- I have attended several park boards over at Hanging Rock and they are really working hard over there.
- The Farmers Market opens Saturday April 21st.
- It will be open on Saturdays from 11-2.
- Attended PTRC meeting in Raleigh last Wednesday.
- It was extremely interesting.
- The average person in the U.S. drives 50 minutes to work.
- Each minute after that contributes to mental health issues.
- Every additional 20 minutes of a commute has the same negative effect on job satisfaction as receiving a 19% pay cut.
- This was interesting to me in line with some of our recent conversations regarding pay.
- The President signed a significant travel increase.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Welcome to everyone.
- Whatever has brought you here I hope you find this to be time well spent.
- The process goes better when we have citizen participation.
- Regarding transportation, we need to get the word out on the connector route.
- YVEDDI has established a route through Stokes County.
- It is a very nominal cost; I believe it is a dollar or so.
- You can get on a various stops throughout the county.
- Want to mention about the Opioid crisis.
- Many people have been affected by it.
- I feel like this Board and other members of our county are making a good effort on this.
- I heard some news recently that our county and Yadkin were two that were a little more affected than some of the other counties.
- It doesn't just affect those addicted.
- We are working on this and if anyone has any suggestions or ideas of things we could be doing I would really appreciate it.
- School safety is very much on people's minds these days.
- Again I think we are making a good effort.

- Our Sheriff has worked hard to make our schools safe.
- Went to a DSS Appreciation Luncheon Friday.
- It was very nice and I like to see recognition in various departments.
- I hope this is something that will continue.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- I would like to thank everyone for being here.
- Thank our Lord Jesus Christ for his leadership and guidance that he gives me in life and while doing my job here as a County Commissioner.
- Thanks for his wisdom and grace that he gives me in his word.
- I would like to give you a personal invitation to the Farmers Appreciation Dinner being held at North Stokes April 5th.
- It is sponsored by many businesses in Stokes County.
- It is a free event.
- It' sponsored by Stokes Soil and Water, FSA Extension, and NC Forestry.
- This is in recognition of our farmers and all they do for Stokes County.

Chairman Mendenhall commented;

- As always I just want to say thank you for coming out.
- I wish the room was full every meeting.
- I believe in participation by the people.
- It is important for Stokes County citizens to be informed on what is going on in their county.
- I was talking with someone over the weekend as the NCAA basketball tournament was going on.
- They were talking about the ability to be successful.
- In particular they were talking about Duke and Carolina.
- Seems if one of those teams are always in the final 8 or final 4 every year.
- We spoke about preparation for success.
- To me to have success you have to be prepared.
- Someone I respected very much when I was growing up was John Wooden, coach at UCLA.
- He won 10 national championships.
- "Failing to prepare is preparing to fail" is one of his quotes on success.
- If you really think about that anyone who has won 10 national championships knows a lot about success.
- We will have our last Goals/Budget work session tomorrow at 1pm.
- This will be the last one until we receive our County Manager's budget at the end of May.
- We have worked hard on this budget for the citizens of Stokes County.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- Ethics for Life: 'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye.' Psalm 32:8

- This is something we can all get prepared for as you were saying before Commissioner Mendenhall.
- This instructs us how to live.
- I attended a NCACC meeting since our last meeting.
- They announced with the insurance we have with the pool that there will not be an increase on property and workers comp.
- In fact they are going to give some incentives on training for property and damage.
- Hopefully we will get some payback on more than just no increase in premium.

County Manager Oakley commented:

- No comments at this time.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Commissioner Lankford, I and Shannon need to reschedule our task force meeting.
- It appears we have not been able to get suitable date as of yet.
- With the Board's permission we can just get together and pick some new dates.

Chairman Mendenhall and the Board had no issues with this request.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Mendenhall 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:

Ellen Peric
1095 Wheeler Smith Rd.
Lawsonville, N.C. 27022

RE: Arts Update

The Apple Gallery

Student Art Show with art from all Stokes County High Schools will be presented the month of April. April 13th will be the free reception at 5:30 and the announcement of the scholarship winners. We had 10 students apply for scholarships this year. This show is always a highlight of our year.

Jayebird Gallery at Hanging Rock State Park

The Stokes County Arts Council presents Jerrie Poindexter and her Photography Exhibit in the Jayebird Gallery inside the Hanging Rock State Park Visitors Center during the months of March and April 2018.

Social Services Recognition Lunch

It was an honor to be chosen as the venue for this recent event. The Arts Place looked lovely and we hope everyone enjoyed the event.

Big Ron Hunter and His Awesome Band

Rescheduled to April 14th – 7pm at The Arts Place

Ron Hunter grew up on a farm in Rural Hall. As a boy, Ron recalls, “we had everything we needed on the farm”, and that included an old guitar that his father showed him a thing or two on. Ron always remembered what his father showed him, and the guitar became a lifelong companion, never far from his side. Until his recent years his audiences have been local, but lately, he has performed around the country as well as Belgium, France, and Costa Rica. Known as the “Happiest Bluesman Alive”, Big Ron Hunter now brings his inspired sound back home to you. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 day of the show.

John Cowan returns to The Arts Place with Darin and Brooke Aldridge

March 31st at 4pm

Join Stokes Arts as we welcome John Cowan back to the stage at The Arts Place of Stokes with special guests Darin and Brook Aldridge. Seating is limited. Tickets are \$30 for SAC members and \$25 general admission. There will be a meet and greet with artists after the show.

Coffee & Canvas

April 6th at 6pm

Spend your Friday night learning painting techniques from instructor Justine Luzwick; who guides you through the entire painting process. Registration includes all materials, snacks, and complimentary coffee from Higher Grounds Coffee.

April Milam

1034 Nance Rd.

King, N.C. 27021

RE: Backyard Chickens Permit

We moved here about 4 years ago from Alabama. We moved for my husband’s job and we chose Stokes County because we wanted to be in the country. We bought a little over 2 acres so we could enjoy gardening and things of that nature. We also get to hear people shooting late at night, the smells of a tobacco farm near by being spread with chicken manure, typical country things. We do not mind all that. We like to be a good neighbor and want to continue that.

We would like to propose that there would be a way to have backyard chickens. Not many and plenty of restrictions could be available. That is part of what we wanted when we moved out to Stokes County. We are zoned residential agricultural, although we cannot have chickens. If you are interested I have a sample application and regulations for you to review. It could include annual buy in and renewal, which would be nice for a little extra money for the county.

Andy Stevens
157 Old Garner Rd.
King, N.C. 27021
RE: Animal Shelter / FOSS

Good Evening Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, County Manager, and Staff. For the record I am running as a candidate for one of the three contested seats for this County Commission I am speaking before tonight.

Tonight you have on your Discussion Agenda an item to consider changing the Lease Agreement with The Friends of Stokes Shelter. Over a week ago, I raised several questions about the existing lease to this assembled group. Questions that a reasonable reader would find not to be clear and direct in the document. To date, I have not yet received a response to my request. Perhaps you will answer these questions during tonight's discussion of the Lease agreement. If so, that will be great. The rumor, apparently correct, is tonight's discussion will merely change the length of the Lease agreement to support potential grant applications. I suggest if this is necessary, find a better solution. Sell or give the property to FOSS so they can freely accomplish what they want without government involvement or contractual responsibility. I say this as both a County taxpayer and an advocate and volunteer for the Friends of Stokes Shelter. Let's cleanly totally separate this private activity from County government. No matter what FOSS or other non-government groups may propose to do or accomplish in the future it is important to note that volunteer, non-government efforts do not take away from or replace the responsibilities Stokes County Government has to maintain an adequate Animal Control Facility. Unless Stokes County Government wants to continue the unnecessary termination of animals it acquires through its efforts, without waiting for or depending on the efforts of others.

That being said, the existing state of affairs of the Stokes County Animal Control Facility is best described as pitiful. The building that was inadequate years ago continues to be inadequate today for the needs and responsibilities for which it exists. Granted, the County Commission turned day to day responsibility for its operations over to the Sheriff, but since that washing of hands our Sheriff has yet to be provided the resources to turn what was and continues to be a clearly deficient facility into something Stokes County can be proud of.

My criticism tonight is not with our Sheriff. I've spoken with him at length about Animal Control and I believe he has plans and suggestions this Commission could quickly put into place. Not only that, our Sheriff's efforts and focus are needed more than ever to protect our citizens, school children, and school facilities from harm. Animal Control, even under his direction should have in place dedicated leadership and supervision that does not require our Sheriff's daily intervention. No, my criticism is that for the last four years since deficiencies were noted at our Stokes County Animal Control Facility very little has been done to permanently correct, upgrade, or enhance the facility. The good news is I was informed via email that this very morning that some of you have recently visited the facility and are now aware of what a cursory examination of a first time visitor recognizes to be wrong. I too visited the facility and so I can say with assurance, deficiencies and shortcomings exist. I encourage you to take immediate steps to address this situation with the developing County budget.

More good news received this very morning by an official email suggests perhaps you will. It certainly is a matter that I will lend my voice to bring greater attention to as I run for a seat on this Commission. Our Stokes County community at large is eagerly waiting to see what you will do.

Andy Cromer
1344 Lunsford Rd.
King, N.C. 27021

RE: Superior Court Judges Chambers located at 710 Kirby Rd. King N.C. 27021

I come to speak to you regarding the item on the agenda regarding the discontinuation of the lease of the office space in King. Over the last several years this has been my home away from home so to speak when I wasn't behind the bench. It was a place I ended up having my office in. I didn't choose it, I am not sure that any of you chose it when it was first done. The history of having an office or chambers outside one of the counties we now serve as District 17B is that when the court houses were built in Danbury and Dobson, neither Stokes nor Surry had a resident that was elected to be Superior Court Judge. The new court house in Surry County is different but I don't think it was designed originally to have office space for the judges in it. We are pretty unique in that across that state. If Judge Puckett and I were to think about it we probably cannot name another county that has a judicial office that is not located in the court house. Last week Judge Puckett told me that this item was on the agenda. The building we occupy is on a month to month lease at this point. The landlord is Chris Smith. I just want to let you all know that I have been using that and I believe Judge Puckett has been using it some. Many times my office is wherever they send me. Superior Court Judges are different than District Court Judges. A little history on this, when Judge Long became Superior Court Judge he moved from Caswell, then Judge Carter started the office in King when he was senior resident.

I know you have to make these significant budget decisions and I am also quite aware that spending money on a building you are leasing is losing money. You could buy a house probably. I get that. Where do we go when this happens? I would ask when this move takes place that you take into account the sensitivity of picking up and moving right away. Right now I am serving in Guilford County. I spent about 16 hours in that office last week working on orders. It is not just for my convenience. I just ask that when we move this office, we move to a place that when the public sees a Superior Court Judges office that don't think that it is necessarily tied to the Sheriff's office or anyone in particular. It needs to be close to the court room. I don't want the public to perceive that we are an arm of the Sheriff's Department. We have one of the better Sheriff's in the state if you ask me. We always have, but the public perception. I know you are very aware of this. I have read your ethics established and know public perception is important to each of you. We are just set alone on Kirby Rd. and I think 3 or 4 of us have a key to the building. I think the public perception is that we aren't there a whole lot. If we were to move right now we don't have a dedicated place in Surry or Stokes court house. When this move is envisioned by you, I ask that you engage us so that the integrity of what the judicial office must have can be kept in this new space.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Minutes

- Minutes of February 26, 2018– Regular Meeting

Administration – Budget Amendment #47

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #47.
To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

Account Number	Account Description	Current Budgeted Amount	Increase (Decrease)	As Amended
Capital Projects Fund				
400.5921.600	Chesnut Grove Roofing Project	\$672,091.00	\$(241,744.00)	\$430,347.00
400.5921.601	Chesnut Grove Paving Project	\$50,000.00	\$(4,365.00)	\$45,635.00
400.5921.602	Germanton Roofing Project	\$400,000.00	\$(161,807.00)	\$238,193.00
400.9820.211	Transfer to School/F. Tech Fund	\$ -	\$407,916.00	\$407,916.00
	Totals	\$1,222,091.00	-	\$1,222,091.00
School/F. Tech Fund				
211.9100.000	Debt Service – Fund Balance	\$713,002.00	\$407,916.00	\$1,120,918.00
		\$713,002.00	\$407,916.00	\$1,120,918.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds back to the School/F. Tech Fund for the school roofing, paving and light projects.

This will result in a net increase of \$407,916.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following will

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

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
School/F. Tech Fund				
211.3981.001	Transfer from Capital Projects		\$407,916.00	\$407,916.00
	Totals		<u>\$407,916.00</u>	<u>\$407,916.00</u>

Social Services – Budget Amendment #48

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #48. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
100.5470.003	Special Adoption Assoc.	\$25,000.00	\$(6,000.00)	\$19,000.00
100.5310.510	Equipment	<u>\$52,387.00</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>\$58,387.00</u>
	Totals	\$77,387.00	-	\$77,387.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate funding for the Special Adoption Assistance Fund to the Equipment line for the purpose of purchasing two computers. This is 100% Federal Funds.

This will result in a net increase of \$0.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received in this fiscal year.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
Totals				

Social Services – Budget Amendment #49

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #49.
To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
Mental Health MOE Fund				
111.5200.014	Youth Haven		<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>
100.5310.352	M & R Building			
	Totals		\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate fund balance for Youth Haven to assist with supporting costs in excess of allowable billing/revenues for adult substance abuse and mental health services in the County.

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

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
Mental Health MOE Fund				
111.3991.000	Fund Balance	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$40,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$40,000.00

Administration– Budget Amendment #50

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #50.
To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
Solid Waste				
100.4720.510	Equipment	<u>\$40,000.00</u>	<u>\$80,000.00</u>	<u>\$120,000.00</u>
	Totals	\$40,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$120,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate insurance claim funds and fund balance to purchase a loader for the landfill due to a total loss after a roll-over accident.

This will result in a net increase of \$80,000.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received in this fiscal year.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
General Fund				
100.3839.850	Insurance Claims	\$13,989.00	\$30,328.00	\$44,317.00
100.3991.000	Fund Balance	\$1,814,908.00	\$49,672.00	\$1,864,580.00
	Totals	\$1,828,897.00	\$80,000.00	\$1,908,897.00

Administration– Budget Amendment #51

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #51.
To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
General Fund				
Vehicle Maintenance				
100.4720.510	Equipment	\$27,823.00	\$33,886.00	\$61,709.00
	Totals	\$27,823.00	\$33,886.00	\$61,709.00
Capital Reserve Fund				
201.4250.006	Vehicle Maintenance	\$119,734.00	(\$33,886.00)	\$85,848.00
201.9810.000	Transfer to General Fund	\$16,200.00	\$33,886.00	\$50,086.00
		\$16,200.00	-	\$135,934.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To transfer funds from Capital Reserve Fund to purchase a 30k drive on lift with (2) 15k rolling jacks.

This will result in a net increase of \$33,886.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received in this fiscal year.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
General Fund				
100.3982.960	Transfer from Capital Reserve Fund	\$16,200.00	\$33,886.00	\$50,086.00
	Totals	\$16,200.00	\$33,886.00	\$50,086.00

Administration – Budget Amendment #52

Finance Director Julia Edwards submitted Budget Amendment #52.
To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
Economic Development				
100.4920.184	Professional Services		\$51,000.00	\$51,000.00
	Totals		\$51,000.00	\$51,000.00

This budget amendment is justified as follows:

To appropriate Clean Water Management Trust funds for the Dan River Recreation Stewardship

This will result in a net increase of \$51,000.00 in the expenditures and other financial use to the County's annual budget. To provide the additional revenue for the above, the following will increase. These revenues have already been received or are verified they will be received in this fiscal year.

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Current Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>As Amended</u>
100.3301.427	Clean Water Management Trust	\$50,000.00	\$51,000.00	\$101,000.00
	Totals	\$50,000.00	\$51,000.00	\$101,000.00

Danbury Public Library – Barn Quilt Request

We'd like to hang a barn quilt on the empty section of brick to the right of the library. Once it's up we can register to be on the **Barn Quilt Trail** and be a tourist destination. There was an article on it in the Stokes News a few weeks ago. It's a national movement, and if you'd like to see the ones already registered in Stokes County, click on the link below, click on NC, and click on Stokes County. We think it would be beautiful but would also bring a lot of tourists to the area.

Tax Administration – January 2018

Present –Use Value Late Application

Per NCGS 105-277.4(a1), "Late Application ...an application may be approved by the Board of Equalization and Review or, if that board is not in session, by the Board of County Commissioners."

We have (3) late applications for year 2018 on which the Tax Office is recommending approval:

<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Carmichael, Nathan L.	6942-03-11-4186	41.29	Late Delivery
Carmichael, Christine C.	6945-03-13-5636	77.14	
Smith, Danford Dale	6956-00-05-6007	95.17	Late Delivery
Baske, John J.	5999-00-55-6529	26.99	Late Delivery
Baske, Whitney B.	5999-00-54-6304	43.31	

Resolution – Farmers Appreciation Day

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 North 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 5, 2018** 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 ____ day March, 2018.

Chairman Ronnie Mendenhall

Vice Chairman Jimmy Walker

Commissioner Ronda Jones

Commissioner James Booth

Commissioner Earnest Lankford

Attest:

Shannon Shaver Clerk to the Board

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of Budget Amendment #52. Commissioner Booth seconded the motion.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion.

With no discussion the motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – INFORMATION AGENDA

Chairman Mendenhall noted there were no items on today's Information Agenda.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – DISCUSSION AGENDA

Danbury Head Start Building – YVEDDI & County of Stokes Agreement

County Manager Oakley presented the following information regarding the Danbury Head Start Building:

County Manager Oakley commented:

- There could be additional costs that come with this regarding environmental testing, water and sewer and other things to get the POD back up, in addition to the \$10,000.00 that YVEDDI is willing to pay for the demolition.
- This is something that the Board has been discussing and considering.
- Now is the time to take action and prevent the taxpayers from footing the bill for the demolition.
- It is my recommendation that we move forward with this partnership with YVEDDI.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/comments/questions:

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I think this just needs to be moved to Action tonight.
- We discussed this last time and don't need to discuss again.
- The \$10,000.00 is solid and we now have an agreement, which is what we requested last time.
- We have waited long enough to take care of this.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I am interested in Danny Stovall's thoughts on this as he is involved in a lot of contracts and building.

Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall responded:

- I have not been closely involved in this.
- The one red flag I see is the asbestos removal.
- I haven't heard any mention of that.

Commissioner Jones responded:

- In line 4. the agreement reads "YVEDDI shall insure that any asbestos testing is done prior to demolition, and that any asbestos is removed in accordance with all environmental laws and regulations".

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- With that are you comfortable?

Support Services Supervisor Danny Stovall responded:

- Yes I am.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- With that Mr. Chairman I am on board with Action for tonight's meeting.

With no further discussion and full consensus from the Board this item is moved to Action at tonight's meeting.

Social Services – Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

County Manager Oakley presented the following proclamation to the Board:

County Manager Oakley commented:

- I am requesting the Board move forward with this for the month of April.
- They are asking for support from the community and the Board in making the community aware of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/comments/questions:

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I agree this is something important.
- We have a lot of abuse in our county.
- I support this.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- I am in support of this.
- We can add to consent at the next meeting.

- Commissioner Jones commented:
- I am in support of this.
- Consent at the next meeting is fine with me.

County Manager Oakley commented:

- This is a proclamation for the month of April.
- If you carry to the next meeting that will be April 9th.
- My recommendation is that it is moved to Action at this meeting.

With no further discussion and full consensus from the Board this item is moved to Action at tonight's meeting.

Danbury Parking

County Manager Oakley presented the following information to the Board:

- My original request was for the Board to move forward with the proposal for the parking in Danbury.
- After reviewing some areas in the contract that we have, I am not completely satisfied with some things, especially the time of lease.
- I would love to see something more than 5 years.
- I would like to request that this be table and we revisit at a later date.
- I would like to move forward with some County owned property and try to get additional parking behind The Arts Place.
- Once this is complete if we feel additional parking is needed we could then come back to the historical society.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/comments/questions:

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I agree with this recommendation.
- The area did not provide as many spaces as we thought we would get.
- We also need some spaces for permanent parking and this is not there.
- The numbers just don't check out.
- I support the decision to table.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- I have some problems with the contract.
- We are going to be putting a substantial amount of money into this and it could be cut out in 5 years.
- The no permanent parking would cut Soil and Water completely out, with the 3 county vehicles and the no till drill that were in the other parking lot.
- I am in favor of tabling this and seeing about the county owned property.

- This would be more of a benefit to everyone with more parking spaces available.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I find this a little interesting that we were going in one direction strongly.
- Now we are abruptly going in another direction.
- I am wondering how all these pieces fit together.
- I have no problem going through with the historical society.
- It is almost a done deal.
- I don't want to confuse them after they were trying to help us.
- I am not exactly sure what other property we are talking about.
- If I remember correctly this space was looked at before and we could not work out an agreement with CenturyLink.
- It's a nominal amount of money.
- I don't mind making a donation to the historical society.
- They form a good group in the county.
- I have not had a chance to research the option very much.
- I would like to see the plans for this.

County Manager Oakley responded:

- This is something I will work on in the GIS department.
- I will get in touch with CenturyLink to see if we can utilize the space owned by them.
- We do have plenty of area that is county owned without the CenturyLink portion.
- Even the historical society did not understand why we went to them first when we had county land there.
- It came about because we were looking at land that adjoined this.
- We can get started on this quickly while the particulars on this are worked out.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- Just want to make sure where we are on this.
- We are going to try and develop the space behind The Arts Place while continuing to work with the historical society.
- I just wonder how long this will take and what the cost would be compared to the original idea.

County Manager Oakley responded:

- I will continue to work on this.
- Ty and I have gone back and forth on this lease.
- The Historical Society is happy with the lease now but there are still some things that need to be worked out for the County.
- Regarding the county owned property, it will of course be more expensive to turn into a parking lot but it will provide more parking without restrictions and a possible time limit if the lease were to end in 5 years with the historical society.
- We would need to take the timber out, build the area up, and add a stairway up to the area behind The Arts Place.
- We could utilize the space on the side and behind the building for handicap parking.

- It was submitted to the Board.
- I figured this would take longer than the Historical Society but that is not proving to be true so I would really like to get started on this other site.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I have felt all along that we needed a parking lot that was antonymous.
- Leasing complicated things.
- We have already gone through a proposed lease situation that got us into a scramble to find parking.
- We have not control over it.
- It is not a ton of money but it is still money.
- 5 years is not a lot of time.
- If we find down the road we still need the additional parking we can revisit.
- I feel in the next 10 to 15 years our parking situation is going to get substantially worse.
- This has taken a bit longer than expected so this is our opportunity to just bite the bullet and move on this.
- I am all for tabling this and come back when this lease is better for all parties.
- 15 to 17 spaces is not a lot of parking.
- They are going to need it from time to time.
- This was honestly just going to be a Band-Aid.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- I am in total agreement to table this at this point.
- As we all know when you lease rather than own it can be complicated.

With no further discussion and consensus from the Board this item is tabled and County Manager Oakley is given permission to move forward with his request.

Friend of Stokes Shelter (FOSS) – Lease Amendment Request

County Manager Oakley presented the following information to the Board:

- We have received a request from FOSS to increase the time frame of the existing Lease Agreement from twenty five (25) years to fifty (50) years.
- This will allow FOSS to apply for larger Grant Funding. Ty Browder and I have reviewed and found there will be no risk to the County in doing this.
- If this meets Board approval, County Attorney Browder will amend the existing lease and allow FOSS to move forward.
- Although I have not heard of a fifty year (50) lease before.
- I would recommend a forty (40) year lease, which would include a twenty five year (25) year lease and three five (50) year renewals totaling forty (40) years.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/comments/questions:

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- I agree with the recommendation our County Manager has put out.
- I have never heard of a fifty year lease.
- Twenty five years would give the group plenty of time to establish.
- This would also give the County time to see that they are going in the right direction.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- You are saying it is ten years now with three five year extensions.
- This would change the ten to twenty five.
- The Arts Place has less time than this and they have went out for grants totaling over a million dollars.
- Forty years should not hinder any grants.

County Manager Oakley responded:

- That is correct.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I am wondering like one of our folks that spoke earlier in public comments, if there is a way just to give them the property.
- With the stipulation that if it ever ceased to operate as an animal shelter that it would revert back to the County.
- Could we get an answer from Ty on this?

County Attorney Browder responded:

- You could do that.
- You can maintain better control through the lease.
- It is easier to enforce a lease rather than automatic reverting.
- Also if the land is in their name and they happen to be sued the land could end up tied up in a judgement.
- The County is better off keeping it as a lease.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I agree with Ty.
- We have to protect the County first.
- I believe changing the lease to the twenty five years with the five consecutive extensions is more than fair.
- It should get the job done.
- It is not as though we would pull the rug out from under them.
- It was in total good faith and good will that we lease this property to them when we did to help them move forward not to hinder them.
- We have been in total support of this from the start.
- Forty years is a long time.

- It may be totally obsolete in that time with building codes and things of that nature.

With no further discussion and full consensus from the Board, Chairman Mendenhall directed the Clerk to add this item to the Action Agenda at the next meeting.

Lease of Office Space in King

County Manager Oakley presented the following information to the Board:

- The County is leasing an office space at 710 Kirby Rd. in King for several years.
- The lease has not been renewed and has been rented on a month to month basis with Chris Smith, owner of the property.
- This space was used as a satellite office by some County Departments.
- It has been the sole office space for the Superior Court Judges.
- It has come to my attention that this space is no longer being utilized by any of the County Departments.
- I would propose we discontinue this lease.
- The savings to the County would be around \$33,500.00 per year.
- The County can provide adequate office space to the Superior Court Judges in the Court House.
- This would provide a significant savings to the taxpayers and the County.
- I would hope the Superior Court Judges will agree to this.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- I have only been on the Board one year.
- I had no idea we were paying \$33,500.00 per year for this lease.
- I am looking at this as a taxpayer and what a savings this will be.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for discussion/comments/questions:

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- When we received this information I was very shocked that no departments were in the building.
- It appears to me this is the best option at this time.
- This is a lot of money for one office.
- Especially in my understanding that there is nice office space available at the Court House.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- I have been on this Board for seven years.
- Since this has been month to month we didn't see a lease come before us.
- We can do some renovations and provide office space and save the County this money.

- I found out that the Sheriff and the Magistrates used the space at one time.
- They no longer need it and do their correspondence by Skype or something like that.
- April the 30th would be a good time to end the lease.
- That would be not the end of this month but the following month.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I would like to ask if both of our Superior Court Judges who are present at this meeting tonight would be agreeable to moving to the Court House as long as adequate space is provided.
- May I get concurrence from them?

Chairman Mendenhall turned the floor over to the Superior Court Judges present at the meeting.

Superior Court Judge Puckett responded:

- Yes I believe this would meet our needs.
- I can't speak for Judge Cromer but I believe this will work.

Superior Court Judge Cromer responded:

- I do not have a problem with moving.
- A lot of people resist change.
- I have gotten comfortable going there working.
- I'm not resisting the change.
- How quickly it happens in light of the scheduled we have is my concern.
- A couple of years ago I spoke with Judge Massey and Mr. Rick Morris about this.
- This is probably why it is still on the month to month.
- We always knew it would be up for discussion.
- To have an adequate place to move to in the foreseeable future.
- I didn't hear until last Thursday that this moved was being contemplated.
- We have one person who works in this office, Carolyn Dobbins who lives in Elkin.
- She will need to designate where her primary office will be.
- I am just a little anxious about thirty days.
- I know a month to month is a thirty day lease.
- I haven't seen the space we are going to move.
- I didn't know if you would like to have some input from Judge Puckett and myself.
- I am on board with the move.
- The only question is where are we going to move to and when?

Superior Court Judge Puckett responded:

- I think the space has already been dedicated if I understand at a meeting about a month ago.
- It was dedicated and approved was my understanding.

Superior Court Judge Cromer responded:

- I had not heard that.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- I have not seen the space either.
- Just want to be sure I am understanding what I am hearing.
- Judge Puckett seems to be totally on board.
- Judge Cromer is processing but is not resisting.
- If there is a reasonably good space provided it sounds like both are ok with that.
- The only other question I have is will the citizens be affected in any way by this move?
- Are there people who expect this office to be in King?
- Has anyone been coming there to see the Judges or is it just used by the Judges?

Superior Court Judge Puckett responded:

- I don't think you have a lot of citizens coming in from my experience.
- You may have lawyers dropping things off.
- You may have law enforcement officers coming to see us but they tend to track us down wherever we are.

Superior Court Judge Cromer responded:

- If I am there three hours I may see two people coming to find a magistrate.
- They are disappointed to find out that I am not and cannot help them.
- It has become a place for use to meet law enforcement.
- Frankly, I have met SBI at the funeral home in Pilot Mtn.
- We are kind of like Lincoln Lawyers/Judges; we go wherever we have to go.
- For Carolyn Dobbins, it has become a place where she stores all of her files.
- The old files that are stored we can probably move rather quickly.
- I think the lawyers use it.
- There have been mediations there in the past.
- There have not been many recently.
- So it is not a gather place for the citizens of Stokes County.

Vice Chairman Walker noted that District Court Judge would like the floor.

Chairman Mendenhall turned the floor over to District Court Judge Southern who was present at the meeting.

District Court Judge Southern commented:

- I just want to add about the Magistrates.
- I spoke with them on Friday after speaking with Judge Puckett.
- The work order went out on Friday to move the printer/copier from the King office to the court house with the other three.
- The majority of our Magistrates live on this side of the county so this is not a terrible inconvenience for them.
- We have one Magistrate who lives in King and she has used the office on occasion.
- I spoke with her on Friday.
- She was completely fine with not having this office.

- Maybe ten years ago the public had an expectation of a Magistrate being there.
- Once the state eliminated that full time position there ten years ago, that moved the focus here to Danbury if someone is looking to find a Magistrate.
- All of our Magistrates have individual laptops and we have a communication system that is basically Skype that can be used from their homes.
- If it is in the middle of the night they don't have to travel.

Vice Chairman Walker continued:

- I am on board with one exception.
- Thirty days seems a little quick.
- Maybe we could look a little more time than that.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I appreciate the input and the candor.
- I would like to see is compromise.
- Especially considering this has been month to month for ten years, what is another 15 days or so for that matter?
- \$33,500.00 a year to rent basically an empty building is just crazy.
- Obviously this needs to go away.
- Once again that goes back to leasing verses owning.
- I am not sure what the perception of the public is.
- Judges deal with judicial situations.
- Court houses and court rooms are judicial areas so I would think the general perception is this is where they would be.
- Times have changed with technology.
- It is just the common sense thing to do.
- I am not stuck on April 30th, or May 1st, or May 15th.
- I do think it would be nice to engage all parties.
- Would like to make this transition as smooth as possible.
- We are taking something they are used to away from them, although not with a lot of justification.
- We need to save this money for something else.

Chairman Mendenhall questioned County Attorney Ty Browder regarding the legal obligation being to provide adequate space for the Judges.

County Attorney Browder responded:

- That is correct.
- The legal obligation is to provide adequate court room and office space.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- It is our mandate as Board members to look after the taxpayers' dollars.
- To use them as wisely as we can.
- In 3 years we have spent almost \$100,000.00.
- That is quite a bit of money in taxpayer's dollars that could be used more wisely.

- I am glad we found out about this.
- I appreciate the background work that has been done on this.

Commissioner Lankford commented:

- If the ones involved in moving don't have the time could we ask the County Manager if some of our people could help move if the office space is ready?
- I don't want to rush it.
- That wouldn't be fair.
- 30 days is the goal.
- If that doesn't happen then we have to extend it.

County Manager Oakley responded:

- I have already spoken with Public Works Director Mark Delehant.
- We can provide this once the office space is complete.

With no further discussion and full consensus from the Board, Chairman Mendenhall directed the Clerk to place this item on tonight's Action Agenda.

Poplar Springs – Small Grain Crops Lease Lottery Drawing

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – GOVERNING BODY – ACTION AGENDA

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Poplar Springs Small Grain Crops lottery drawing.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Poplar Springs Small Grain Crops lottery drawing. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Mendenhall asked Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver to proceed with the drawing.

Chairman Mendenhall announced the winner of the lottery was William Drew Smith.

There were 5 individuals participating in the lottery. Those individuals contacted the Clerk by phone or email after the advertisement ran in the paper.

The individuals were:

- April Robertson
- Kevin Newsome
- William Drew Smith
- Stanley Smith
- Van Neal

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve William Drew Smith as the winner of the five year lease for the Poplar Springs – Small Grain Crops Lease beginning August 1, 2018. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously

Poplar Springs – Small Grain Crops Lease

North Carolina

Land Lease for Small Grain Crops

Stokes County

This contract is made and entered into the ____ day of _____ by and between

the County of Stokes, hereinafter referred to as "Stokes"; and

_____, hereinafter referred to as "Tenant";

The undersigned Tenant, whose name was drawn on _____ from a lottery drawing, hereby

leases the vacant land on Hobe Kiser Road owned by Stokes, and located on the other side of Hobe Kiser Road across from Poplar Springs Elementary School, for the exclusive purpose of planting, cultivating and harvesting small gain crops in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

1. Tenant may plant only small grain crops on the land; and, no tobacco crops are allowed. The land shall not be used for any other purpose.
2. Tenant must follow Best Management Farm Practices as defined by Stokes County Soil and Water Service Agency.
3. Tenant shall obtain and maintain public liability and property damage insurance in an amount determined by the County Manager to ensure that the County of Stokes and the Stokes County Board of Education are held harmless against the risks and hazards involved in the proposed agricultural activity, and in the coverage amount of at least \$1,000,000.00. Tenant shall furnish Stokes with a certificate of said coverage.
4. Tenant may not sublease the property unless approved by the Stokes County Board of Commissioners.
5. Tenant shall not allow farming operations to interfere with school operations; and at all times will maintain a safe environment for the school, students and teachers.

6. This lease shall be for a period of five years from the above date, subject to early termination in accordance with paragraph 7 below.
7. Either party may terminate this lease upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other party.
8. Tenant is an independent contractor and neither Tenant nor his employees shall be deemed or construed to be employees of Stokes.
9. There shall be no hunting on the Poplar Springs Elementary School campus and the adjoining land leased herein. No firearms or weapons of any kind are allowed on the Poplar Springs School Campus, including buildings, grounds, ball fields, parking areas and access drives from Hobe Kiser Road.
10. All of the land leased, including areas that are not actually in cultivation, must be mowed on a regular basis.

Tenant

County of Stokes

By: _____
Ronnie Mendenhall, Chairman of Board of Commissioners

Stokes County Purchasing Department – Vehicle Lift

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the purchase of the vehicle lift presented at the last meeting.

Chairman Mendenhall turned the floor over to Danny Stovall, Support Services Supervisor.

Danny Stovall, Support Services Supervisor presented the following information to the Board:

Today the County Garage has the following vehicle lifts in service:

- 2-post lift rated up to 10,000 pounds purchased September 2013
- 2-post lift rated up to 15,000 pounds purchased June 2002
- 14,000 lbs. drive-on lift with (2) 7,000 lbs. rolling jacks purchased in September 2013
- When the above vehicle lifts were purchased the heaviest ambulance in the County's fleet had a GVW weight of 14,000 lbs. with the actual curb weight on 4,310 lbs. on the front axle and 6,835 lbs. on the rear axle.

- Lifting County's fleet of ambulances was not a problem.
- However, since EMS began purchasing the larger Ford F450 4x4 ambulances, the Garage **does not** have a vehicle lift capable of lifting that much weight.
- The GVW weight on the new Ford F450 4x4 ambulances is 16,500 lbs. with the actual curb weight being 6,460 lbs. on the front axle and 9,260 lbs. on the rear axle per the scales at the Landfill.
- Garage Staff is in desperate need of a larger drive-on lift. Staff has been using a floor jack and jack stands to change tires along with laying on the floor to change the oil on these ambulances.
- After seeking recommendations from two (2) vehicle lift manufacture reps and both reps have recommended that the County purchase a 30k drive on lift with two (2) 15k rolling jacks.
- Total budget costs for the lift, install and electrical connections is \$33,886.00
- I'm seeking guidance how to handle this issue. Purchase a new lift out of this year's budget utilizing capital reserve funds or budget for this purchase in the FY 2018/19 budget.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments:

Commissioner Booth commented:

- We are exchanging money that was for an alignment machine.
- The money is already there.

County Manager Oakley commented:

If the Board elects to approve this I request that Budget Amendment #51 that is attached here be approved.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the vehicle lift for the county garage in the amount of \$33,886.00 approving budget amendment #51. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously

Stokes County Purchasing Department – Landfill Loader

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the purchase of the landfill loader presented at the last meeting.

Chairman Mendenhall turned the floor over to Danny Stovall, Support Services Supervisor.

Danny Stovall, Support Services Supervisor presented the following information to the Board:

Our insurance settlement was for \$30,328.00 and the remaining funds would need to be budgeted from fund balance.

Below are options for purchasing a new loader utilizing NJPA contract pricing along with used costs as request by the BOCC.

- **Option #1 NJPA Contract # 032515-JDC**

\$79,591.27 John Deere 310SL Backhoe Loader Warranty – 1 year full coverage (parts & labor)

Delivery Time – 60-90 days from order date

- **Option #2 NJPA Contract #042815-JCB**

\$81,660.40 JCB 3CX 15HFCM Backhoe Loader Warranty – 2 year or 2,000 hours (parts & labor)

Delivery Time – 90-120 days from order date

- **Option #3 Used Equipment**

\$97,000 2015 John Deere 310SL (1204 hours) Ashland NC

\$90,000 2014 Caterpillar 420FIT (1547) Charlotte NC

\$84,900 2016 JCB 3CX14 Atlanta Georgia

\$82,000 2014 John Deere 310KEP (173 hours) Charlotte NC

\$82,000 2014 Caterpillar 420FST (2045) Asheville NC

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the purchase of a new loader for the landfill approving budget amendment #50. Vice Chairman Walker seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – FY 2018/19 Allocation for Stokes County

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – FY 2018/19 Allocation for Stokes County.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – FY 2018/19 Allocation for Stokes County presented at the last meeting with the addition of the \$10,000.00. Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Stokes Aging Planning Committee – Appointment Requests

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Stokes Aging Planning Committee Appointments for Brad Lankford and Nora Lankford presented at the last meeting.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Booth moved to close nominations. Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion to close nominations carried unanimously.

Chairman Mendenhall took a poll of the Board members:

Commissioner Jones:

- Nora Lankford
- Brad Lankford

Vice Chairman Walker:

- Nora Lankford
- Brad Lankford

Commissioner Booth:

- Nora Lankford
- Brad Lankford

Chairman Mendenhall:

- Nora Lankford
- Brad Lankford

Commissioner Lankford:

- Nora Lankford
- Brad Lankford

Chairman Mendenhall instructs the Clerk that Nora Lankford and Brad Lankford have been appointed to the Stokes Aging Planning Committee with a 5-0 vote.

Stokes County Board of Adjustments – Re- Appointment Requests

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Stokes County Board of Adjustments Re- Appointment requests for Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup, and for Dennis Robinson (alternate member) to be appointed in place of Don Lester who does not wish to be re-appointed presented at the last meeting.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford moved to close nominations. Vice Chairman Walker seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion to close nominations carried unanimously.

Chairman Mendenhall took a poll of the Board members:

Commissioner Jones:

- Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup for re-appointment.
- Dennis Robinson (alternate member) to be appointed in place of Don Lester who does not wish to be re-appointed.

Vice Chairman Walker:

- Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup for re-appointment.
- Dennis Robinson (alternate member) to be appointed in place of Don Lester who does not wish to be re-appointed.

Commissioner Booth:

- Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup for re-appointment.
- Dennis Robinson (alternate member) to be appointed in place of Don Lester who does not wish to be re-appointed.

Chairman Mendenhall:

- Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup for re-appointment.
- Dennis Robinson (alternate member) to be appointed in place of Don Lester who does not wish to be re-appointed.

Commissioner Lankford:

- Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup for re-appointment.

- Dennis Robinson (alternate member) to be appointed in place of Don Lester who does not wish to be re-appointed.

Chairman Mendenhall instructs the Clerk that Marvin Cavanaugh and Stephen Jessup have been re-appointed, and Dennis Robinson (alternate member) has been appointed to take the place of Don Lester on the Stokes County Board of Adjustments with a 5-0 vote.

Stokes County Planning Board – Replacement Request

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Stokes County Planning Board Replacement Request of Keith Wood to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term presented at the last meeting.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Lankford moved to close nominations. Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion to close nominations carried unanimously.

Chairman Mendenhall took a poll of the Board members:

Commissioner Jones:

- Keith Wood to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term.

Vice Chairman Walker:

- Keith Wood to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term.

Commissioner Booth:

- Keith Wood to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term.

Chairman Mendenhall:

- Keith Wood to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term.

Commissioner Lankford:

- Keith Wood to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term.

Chairman Mendenhall instructs the Clerk that Keith Wood has been appointed to replace Lewis Wood for the remainder of his term on the Stokes County Planning Board with a 5-0 vote.

Danbury Head Start Building – YVEDDI & County of Stokes Agreement

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Danbury Head Start Building and the YVEDDI and County of Stokes Agreement presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the contract with YVEDDI and the \$10,000.00 for the cost of the demolition by YVEDDI. Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Social Services – Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the Social Services – Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation presented at today's meeting.

Commissioner Lankford moved to approve the Social Services Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation for April 2018. Commissioner Jones seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

With no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Lease of Office Space in King

Chairman Mendenhall entertained a motion regarding the lease of the office space in King located at 710 Kirby Road.

Commissioner Booth moved to approve the closing of the Superior Court Judge office in King and move it to Danbury by April 30th. Commissioner Lankford seconded.

Chairman Mendenhall opened the floor for any further discussion.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I am in favor of the move.
- I just don't see that we need to rush that much.
- I could support it if it were 60 days instead of 30.

Commissioner Jones commented:

- I do not like the 30 day.
- I'm not saying it shouldn't be 31, 32, or even 35.
- I don't like the drop dead date.
- You can pro rate rent.

Chairman Mendenhall commented:

- What leads me to think we can make it by April 30th is that County Manager Oakley has stated the county employees will help with the move with anything necessary.

Commissioner Booth commented:

- This is costing us over \$2000.00 per month and that is why I stated the 30 days.

With no further discussion the motion carried with a 3-2 vote.

Closed Session

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

- 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 G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)
- 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)

Commissioner Booth moved to enter Closed Session for the following:

- 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 G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)
- 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)

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board re-entered the open session of the March 26, 2018 meeting.

Adjournment

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

Commissioner Lankford moved to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Shannon Shaver

Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Mendenhall

Chairman