

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
April 4, 2016, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC*

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Commissioners in attendance: Chair Carol McCall, Vice Chair Whit Gibson and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston and Guy McCook. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and Clerk to the Board Ann Kurtzman. County Attorney Ed Johnston was excused.

At 7 p.m. Chair McCall called the meeting to order. Commissioner McCook delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Public Forum

Chair McCall read a proclamation that recognizes April 10 to 16 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

WHEREAS, dedicated public safety telecommunicators daily serve the citizens of Scotland County by answering their requests for law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services and by dispatching the appropriate assistance as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, the professional public safety telecommunicator is that vital link between the citizen or victim and the public safety provider who may apprehend a criminal, save their possessions from fire, save their life or the life of a loved one; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our officers and firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained by the telecommunicator and the dispatcher's activities providing radio, telephone and computer services; and

WHEREAS, the critical functions performed by professional telecommunicators also include those related to highway safety, road maintenance, public utilities and other services that affect the health and safety of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, emergencies can strike at any time, we rely on the vigilance and preparedness of these individuals 24 hours a day, 365 days a year; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), an organization of over 16,000 people in the United States and Canada, has set aside this week in April to recognize telecommunicators and their crucial role in the protection of life and property;

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the Scotland County Board of Commissioners, I hereby proclaim the week of April 10-16, 2016, to be National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Scotland County, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism help keep our community and citizens safe.

Signed this 4th day of April, 2016

Chair McCall then read a Proclamation in Recognition of April as National County Government Month.

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serve more than 300 million Americans to provide essential services that create healthy, safe, vibrant and economically resilient communities; and

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WHEREAS, Scotland County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, well-being and safety of residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, through National Association of Counties (NACo) President Sallie Clark's "Safe and Secure Counties" initiative, NACo is encouraging counties to focus on strengthening the safety and security of their communities; and

WHEREAS, in order to remain healthy, vibrant, safe, and economically competitive, America's counties provide public health, justice, emergency management and economic services that play a key role in everything from the daily health of residents to disaster response; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties encouraged counties across the country to actively promote programs and services to the public they serve; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Chair Carol McCall, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as National County Government Month and extend my appreciation on behalf of the Scotland County Commissioners to all County employees who work tirelessly to protect the health, safety and welfare of all citizens and strive to make Scotland County a safe and secure County.

Chair McCall asked County employees to stand and be recognized. Vice Chair Gibson asked the telecommunicators to introduce themselves.

No one else spoke. and Public Forum closed.

Liaison Committee report

Vice Chair Gibson said that with all that is going on with the schools regarding consolidation and the construction of a new school that future current expense talks will be put on hold until the schools have more definitive plans in place. Commissioner Davis said there was a consensus at the March 15 meeting that a current expense goal of \$9.7 million could be attainable. The Liaison Committee will meet again April 19.

Consent Agenda

- a) **Approve minutes of the March 7, 2016, regular meeting and March 14, 2016 special meeting.**
- b) **Approve Tax Office request for February 2016 release of funds in the amount of \$196.85 and in the amount of \$45,851.63, refunds in the amount of \$567.72 and discoveries in the amount of \$1,397.18. (incorporated by reference)**
- c) **Approve City of Laurinburg request to hold Independence Day fireworks July 4, 2016, pursuant to NCGS 14-413.**
- d) **Approve Health Department request to reclassify one Nutritionist I position to a Nutritionist II effective in the 15/16 budget year.**
- e) **Approve Public Works request to surplus a 1995 Hyundai 200 LC Excavator VIN E3237M, a 1995 JCB 214 Back Hoe VIN 6556 and a 1985 International truck VIN 7830.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

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Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint Mr. Chris English to the Southeastern Economic Development Commission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to appoint Mr. Kevin Garnett as Chairman of the Board of Equalization and Review for 2016. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Update from the County Manager

Mr. Patterson said he and staff members have been meeting with architects on accessibility issues at the Morgan Center to make sure the needs do not outstrip the funds available for the project.

Mr. Patterson said the U.S. Motto Action Committee, a private group that raises funds to put In God We Trust on governmental buildings, contacted the County about the possibility of putting In God We Trust on the courthouse. Mr. Patterson said a representative from the group is expected to make a presentation at a regular meeting in the near future.

The County Manager said Duke Energy will conduct maintenance this month on 139 miles of power lines in Scotland County. Mr. Patterson said the removal of large trees from private property will be the responsibility of property owner.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gibson to go into Closed Session in accordance with N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of business in the area served by this body. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

The Commissioners discussed the need for a method or policy to collect on aging accounts associated with the landfill.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gibson to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Carol McCall
Chair