

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
February 5, 2007, Commissioners Chamber, 1405 West Boulevard*

**MINUTES
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting, February 5, 2007
Scotland County Complex, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg NC**

At 7 p.m. Chairman J. D. Willis called the regular meeting to order. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Betty Blue Gholston and Commissioners John Alford, Leon Butler, Guy McCook and Joyce McDow. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager John A. Crumpton, Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Edward Johnston and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman. Commissioner McCook delivered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Willis called Public Forum. No one came forward to speak, and Public Forum was closed.

Item 1. Economic Development Public Hearing -- Pilkington

Attorney Johnston, presiding over the Public Hearing, explained that its purpose was to receive input on a proposed incentive agreement between the County and Pilkington. The incentive grants would total \$417,500 to Pilkington over a five-year period. Pilkington would make a local taxable investment of \$25 million.

Mr. Johnston called the Public Hearing, and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or against the proposed incentive agreement.

Chamber of Commerce President Jim Frank Henderson said he favors the incentive agreement because retention of existing industry is important. He said the alternative would have resulted in Pilkington moving its operation to Ohio, which would mean a loss of jobs.

No one else came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Commissioner McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to accept the agreement that provides \$417,500 in incentive grants to Pilkington over a five-year period.
Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 2. Public Hearing: CDBG Block Grant Scattered Site Program

County Attorney Johnston, presiding over the Public Hearing, explained the purpose of the hearing was to consider a program amendment to transfer funds to the relocation and clearance activities of the County's FY 05 Community Development Block Grant Site Program.

County Attorney Johnston opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or against the program amendment.

LRCOG Housing Administrator Adrian Lowery spoke in favor of the amendment. Mr. Lowery said it was determined that several units were not in a condition to be rehabilitated, and relocation and clearance was recommended for the units. Mr. Lowery said the LRCOG recommends the program amendment accommodate six units in the Scotland County CDBG Program.

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
February 5, 2007, Commissioners Chamber, 1405 West Boulevard*

County Attorney Johnston asked if anyone else wished to speak at the Public Hearing. No one came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve the Scotland County FY 05 CDBG Scattered Site Program Amendment. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 3. Sheriff's Department: State of the Department Report

a) Vehicle and equipment request

Sheriff Shep Jones said the Sheriff's Department was reorganized, which resulted in five additional deputies. He asked the Commissioners to equip each of the new deputies with a patrol vehicle. Sheriff Jones explained how the additional deputies would allow for strategic zoned patrol in specific areas at all times.

Sheriff Jones discussed the condition of vehicles in the current fleet, many of which have high mileage and require frequent and costly maintenance.

Commissioner Alford commented that the request, if approved, would provide the Sheriff's Department with 10 new vehicles in this fiscal year. He asked if the Sheriff's Department intended to ask for its usual five vehicles in the next fiscal year. Commissioner Alford said he was concerned that the 15 new vehicles purchased within a short time frame would result in all of them wearing out at the same time.

Chairman Willis said the five-vehicle rotation would continue each fiscal year. He added that the Sheriff's Department needs the equipment to do its job and it reorganized in order to provide quality service.

Sheriff Jones added that the new vehicles would result in a savings because of reduction in maintenance costs. He added that because of the condition of some vehicles, they should not be on the street and should be transferred to less demanding positions.

County Manager Crumpton added that the Sheriff's Department recently lost a vehicle in a fire and, along with insurance money, an additional \$12,000 would have to be allocated to replace it.

Motion was made by Chairman Willis and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to approve the purchase of five fully equipped vehicles for the Sheriff's Department plus appropriate an additional \$20,000 to the Department for equipment purchases. Vote: In Favor: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Gholston and Commissioners Alford, McCook and McDow. Vote: Against: Commissioner Butler. Motion approved.

b) Jail Health contract

Mr. Jeffrey Reasons, Southern Health Partners President, discussed a proposal by his company to handle the medical care for Jail inmates. Mr. Reasons said the Southern Health contract would provide nursing time 12 hours a day, seven days a week.

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
February 5, 2007, Commissioners Chamber, 1405 West Boulevard*

Mr. Reasons said the contract price is \$209,331 and would cover substantially all costs in inmate medical care, medical supplies prescriptions and lab costs. Mr. Reason said the contract would cover up to 120 inmates with a per diem cost on an inmate population above that number.

The Commissioners discussed the cost-savings potential of such a contract. County Manager Crumpton said from a risk management standpoint the jailors would no longer have to dispense medicines, which is a liability issue.

County Attorney Johnston suggested that if the Commissioners approve the contract, that item 8.3 Hold Harmless allow for joint control of the defense. Mr. Johnston said the contract should also allow for a pre audit certificate.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McDow to approve the Southern Health Partners contract, which would include modification for joint control in section 8.3 and a pre audit certificate. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 4. Solid Waste Ordinance Amendment: Second Reading

County Engineer Jim Blackwell explained the proposed revisions to the County's Solid Waste Ordinance (#22). Mr. Blackwell said wording includes "construction" and "landfill" under solid waste facilities, which were not in place when the ordinance was adopted. He said the proposed amendment to the ordinance allows for the acceptance of waste from the adjoining counties plus Moore County. Mr. Blackwell said the amended ordinance also would allow the County to reserve the right to approve or license all solid waste collectors/haulers.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner McDow to approve the amendments to the Scotland County Solid Waste Ordinance. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 5. Consent Agenda:

- a) Approval of minutes of the Board of Commissioners, January 8, 2007 regular meeting; January 16, 2007 reconvened meeting; and January 18, 2007 reconvened meeting.
- b) Approve Tax Department request to release of funds in the amount of \$33.01 and in the amount of \$65,286.33 of property taxes and approve refunds in the amount of \$105.87 and in the amount of \$4,007.74.
- c) Approve the order for the Tax Department to advertise the unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year that are liens on real property the week of March 19, 2007.
- d) Approve resolution supporting the submission of an application for the FY 2007-2008 Scotland-Hoke Criminal Justice Partnership grant.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF STATE FUNDING APPLICATION FOR
SCOTLAND-HOKE COUNTIES CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

WHEREAS, Scotland and Hoke Counties joined together in 1996 to form the Criminal Justice Partnership Board to provide services to probationary offenders with substance abuse problems, and;

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
February 5, 2007, Commissioners Chamber, 1405 West Boulevard*

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Partnership Board for Scotland and Hoke Counties has obtained State grant funds since its beginning to provide these services which include intensive outpatient substance abuse counseling to offenders on probation referred by the Court system; and

WHEREAS, Scotland and Hoke Counties through the Criminal Justice Partnership Program have experienced strong indications which reflect successful behavior modification, educational achievement and life skill development for these individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Scotland and Hoke Counties Criminal Justice Partnership Program has operated entirely without cost to either County; and

WHEREAS, the Scotland and Hoke Counties Criminal Justice Partnership Board is applying to the State Department of Correction, Division of Community Corrections, for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Funding in the amount of \$146,976;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Scotland County Board of Commissioners endorses the application to the North Carolina Department of Correction, Division of Community Corrections for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 funding by the Scotland and Hoke Counties Criminal Justice Partnership Board.

This the 5th day of February 2007.

e) Budget Amendments:

- 1. Tourism Development Authority: Approve transfer of \$30,000 from the TDA fund balance to the grants line item for FY 2006-2007.**

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

Item 6. Update from the Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager

Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager Patterson discussed an application by the County Schools for \$14,450 in State lottery funds for the school bus garage. Mr. Patterson said the usage is not appropriate since State lottery funds must be earmarked for educational facilities. Mr. Patterson said he and school officials are working on an amended form.

Chairman Willis said it is important not to violate the Statute, and approval should be considered after the Schools amend the application.

The Board of Commissioners by consensus agreed to consider the application for State lottery funds by Scotland County Schools once it has been amended to comply with the State Statute.

Mr. Patterson reported on the fiscal budget which, he said, is projected at \$2.2 million under budget. He said since revenues are expected to be under budget, the County could expect about a \$1 million increase in Fund Balance this year.

Reviewing revenues and expenditures by department, Mr. Patterson said Public Buildings experienced a shortfall because not enough funds were budgeted to cover the cost of utilities.

Item 7. Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to reappoint Mr. Jimmy R. Bennett to a four-year term on the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to reappoint Mr. Sam Cribb to a four-year term on the Planning and Zoning Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 8. West Point Stevens Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Feasibility Study

County Manager Crumpton said there is interest by other counties and local governments in taking public the West Point Stevens water plant with its seven-million-gallon water and seven-million-gallon wastewater treatment capacity. Mr. Crumpton said the LRCOG would act as the lead in getting a feasibility study conducted. Mr. Crumpton asked the Commissioners to consider approving a resolution to sponsor the Clean Water Management Trust Fund Application. He said Hoke County agreed to pay the required match.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Clean Water Management Trust Fund Application. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Resolution Authorizing Clean Water Management Trust Fund Application

WHEREAS, the County of Scotland is hereby applying to the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund (“the Fund) for grant funds to undertake a feasibility study for the purpose of determining the viability of the West Point Stevens wastewater treatment facility as a regional plant; and

WHEREAS, if the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund approves funding of the project as described in this grant application, the Fund will prepare a Grant Agreement for execution by the County of Scotland on behalf of the County and other partners including Hoke and Robeson, the municipalities of Laurinburg, Raeford and Maxton, and the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement will specify the terms and conditions under which the Fund will provide the grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement will require the County of Scotland to perform certain functions and obligations in order to carry out the work described in this grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Commissioners of the County of Scotland assures the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund that it understands the functions and obligations to which the County of Scotland is committing itself in order to carry out the work described in the grant application, and further agrees that the County of Scotland will proceed with diligence to perform those functions and obligations to accomplish the work described in this grant application.

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
February 5, 2007, Commissioners Chamber, 1405 West Boulevard*

Adopted this 5th day of February, 2007

Item 9. County Manager's Report

County Manager Crumpton said the Housing Authority (Opportunity, Inc.) is exercising its right to extend by six months its option on the purchase of Central School. The option was set to expire January 31, 2007.

Mr. Crumpton reintroduced the subject of the Sheriff's Department vehicle that was destroyed by fire. He said the County received \$12,500 in insurance and asked if the Commissioners would consider approval of an additional \$12,500 to purchase a new vehicle.

The Board of Commissioners by consensus agreed not to replace the Sheriff's Department vehicle destroyed by fire.

County Manager Crumpton asked the Commissioners to consider appropriating \$29,300 from Fund Balance to address facility concerns at the Jail that directly affect security and operations at the facility.

Motion was made by Commissioner McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appropriate \$29,300 for facility improvements at the Jail. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to go into Closed Session held 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. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Closed Session was held in the Health Education Room.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to recess to 12 p.m. February 7, 2007 for a Planning Retreat in the Commissioners Chamber. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis
Chairman