

MINUTES
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting, June 4, 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 Clarence McPhatter (*arrived at 7:05 p.m.*). Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Joyce McDow. 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. Chairman Willis delivered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Forum

Ms. Nancy Shelley, Ms. Brenda Gilbert and Ms. Jan Schmidt discussed the success of the first Storytelling Festival of Carolina. They shared plans for the 2008 event. Ms. Schmidt said she hoped the group used the funding it received wisely to start something good in the County. The group asked the Commissioners to consider providing \$3,500 toward the 2008 festival.

Chairman Willis read a letter from Mr. Charlie Fipps, Laurel Fest Chairman, thanking the Commissioners for their support of the festival.

Item 1. Public Hearing: FY 2007-2008 Budget

Chairman Willis opened the Public Hearing for the FY 2007-2008 budget plan and asked if anyone wished to speak for or against the proposed budget. No one came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Item 2. Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant Program for an Industrial Spec Building

(Rescheduled to the June 26, 2007 special meeting)

Item 3. Landfill Methane Gas Project

(Rescheduled to the July 9, 2007 regular meeting)

Item 4. Consent Agenda:

a) **Approval of minutes of the Board of Commissioners, May 1, 2007 budget work session, May 3, 2007 budget work session, May 7, 2007 regular meeting, May 24, 2007 budget work session.**

b) **Approve request by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to increase the number of members serving on the Advisory Board from nine members to a board comprised to up to 15 members.**

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c) Budget Amendments:

- 1) **DSS:** Approve receipt of additional State Funding in the amount of \$11,630 for Adult Day Care and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars involved.
- 2) **Home Community Care Block Grant:** Approve \$36,224 County match for \$363,243 Grant (\$326,019 is State/Federal Funds) to be budgeted in FY 2007-2008 and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the funds.

(d) Approve surplus of the following listed vehicles and authorize the disposition of said vehicles by the County Manager:

Make/Model	VIN #	Mileage
1990 Dodge Spirit	1B3XA46K0ME547849	85,416
1997 Ford Thunderbird	1FALP62W0VH14206	101,451
1992 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W9RX181611	75,976
1992 Ford Crown Victoria	2FACP72W4NX206584	160,122
1997 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W9VX216075	197,186
1979 Ford Fleetwood	S21GHGJ3142	33,943
1994 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W1RX145279	166,502
1996 Dodge Ram 3500 Van	2B7KB31Z2K171143	195,088
1993 Ford Crown Victoria	2FACP71W7PX158485	214,193
1995 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W2TX117689	157,899
1993 Chevy Blazer	1GNCS13W9P2181439	151,984
1995 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W6SX171267	128,337
2000 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAFP71W9YX215767	136,977
1991 Dodge Dakota	1B7FL16G5MS208753	183,910
1985 GMC 1500	1GTDC14N3FJ512214	23,629
1986 Ford Ranger	1FTCR10T6GUB91073	43,311
1990 Ford E350 Ambulance	1FDKE30M6MHA53383	168,459
1991 Ford E350 Ambulance	1FDKE30M9NHA21528	132,991
1982 Inte Bus	1HVBA1853CHB19675	227,299
1994 Ford E350 Bus	1FDKE30G3RHB49201	128,641
1994 Ford	2FALP71W5RX148797	157,532
1999 Chevrolet Tahoe	1GNEC13R5XR101870	128,928
1999 Ford	2FAFP71W7XX183982	135,370
2001 Ford	2FAFP71W51X197791	162,165
2001 Ford	2FAFP71WX1X197799	143,631
2003 Ford	2FAFP71W73X129723	116,107
2003 Ford	2FAFP71W73X129723	116,107

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

Item 5. Update from the Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager

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Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager Kevin Patterson said there were several capital project ordinances brought before the Commissioners for consideration.

Mr. Patterson said the \$400,000 CDBG Capital Project Ordinance is grant funded.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the CDBG Capital Project Ordinance. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

CDBG Capital Project Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of Scotland County, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the Scattered Site Housing Grant to be financed by a federal Community Development Block Grant.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the grant document and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

CDBG operations	<u>\$400,000</u>
	<u>\$400,000</u>

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Federal Grant	<u>400,000</u>
	<u>\$400,000</u>

Section 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agency, grant agreements and federal regulations.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursements requests should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Finance Officer is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

Sections 8. The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future cost and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2007

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Mr. Patterson then discussed the \$529,000 Recreation Complex Capital Project Ordinance. Mr. Patterson said \$350,000 would be used for the lighting with the remainder earmarked for completion of the soccer fields. He added that any remaining funds might be used for Market Park upgrades.

County Manager Crumpton said it is important to complete the soccer fields because soccer fields at St. Andrews are no longer available to the community because of scheduling conflicts with the College.

Vice Chair Gholston said she is concerned that the Recreation Complex project will take away from repairs and updates at the other parks in the County.

Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton discussed planned upgrades at Market Park and Laurel Hill.

Commissioner McPhatter said the roof at the Washington Park shelter needs repair and some work needs to be done at Lincoln Park.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook to approve the Recreation Complex Capital Project Ordinance. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Recreation Complex Capital Project Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of Scotland County, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the construction of lights and sport fields to be financed by an Installment financing and transfers of fund balance from the General Fund.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the grant document and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Lighting	\$350,000
Sports fields	<u>179,000</u>
	<u>\$529,000</u>

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Transfer from fund balance from General Fund	\$179,000
Installment financing	<u>350,000</u>
	<u>\$529,000</u>

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Section 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agency, grant agreements and federal regulations.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursements requests should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Finance Officer is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

Sections 8. The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future cost and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2007

Mr. Patterson then discussed the \$1 million Roofing Capital Project Ordinance for the Courthouse roof and the \$800,000 Industrial Spec Building Capital Project Ordinance.

Mr. Patterson discussed the possibility of financing the Courthouse roof project over a seven-year period while the spec building could be financed through Fund Balance. Mr. Patterson explained how reversing the funding plans on the two projects would be financially beneficial.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Roofing Capital Project Ordinance and Industrial Spec Building Capital Project Ordinance. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Roofing Capital Project Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of Scotland County, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the construction of a roofing system to be financed by installment financing and reserves.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Engineering	\$75,000
Construction	<u>925,000</u>
	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

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Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Proceeds form installment financing	\$800,000
Transfer form General Fund fund balance	<u>200,000</u>
	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

Section 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the NC State Treasurer and Local Government Commission.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursements requests should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Finance Officer is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

Sections 8. The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future cost and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2007

Industrial Spec Building Capital Project Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of Scotland County, North Carolina, that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following capital project ordinance is hereby adopted:

Section 1. The project authorized is the construction of an industrial spec building to be financed by a State Department of Commerce low interest loan and General Fund Reserves.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the grant document and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Design, & Construction	<u>\$800,000</u>
	<u>\$800,000</u>

Section 4. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project:

Transfer of General Fund Reserves	\$400,000
Department of Commerce Loan at 2%	<u>400,000</u>

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\$800,000

Section 5. The Finance Officer is directed to report to maintain within the Capital Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agency, loan agreements and federal regulations.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due. Reimbursements requests should be made to the grantor agency in an orderly and timely manner.

Section 7. The Finance Officer is directed to report, on a quarterly basis, on the financial status of each project element in Section 3.

Sections 8. The Budget Officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of past and future cost and revenues on this capital project in every budget submission made to this Board.

Section 9. Copies of this capital project ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2007

Mr. Patterson distributed maps showing the Scotland/Richmond counties boundary line. He said the study of the line resulted in no impact on the taxpayer, and Scotland County does not lose any property. Mr. Patterson said the Commissioners would have opportunity to approve a resolution recognizing the boundary before it is forwarded to the State for approval.

Commissioner McCook asked about the cost of lighting at the Recreation Complex and whether it could be done at a lower price as previously suggested by staff. County Engineer Jim Blackwell said the cost of the lighting was reduced, which allowed the County to add other amenities to the project.

Item 6. Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to reappoint David Kang to a second two-year term on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint James Pegues as the Sheriff's representative to the Community Child Protection Team. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 7. County Manager's Report

County Manager John Crumpton asked the Commissioners to consider a two-year or four-year appointment for Tax Assessor May Helen Norton. Mr. Crumpton recommended a four-year appointment as it would align with the 2011 County revaluation schedule.

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Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to approve a four-year appointment for Tax Assessor Mary Helen Norton, which would expire June 30, 2011. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

County Manager Crumpton asked the Commissioners to consider approval of the Resolution of Support for the Clean Water Act of 2007.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to approve Resolution of Support for the Clean Water Act of 2007. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Resolution of Support for the Clean Water Act of 2007

WHEREAS, North Carolina's continued prosperity depends on protecting the State's water resources for current use and future generations; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina is expected to grow by 3.5 million people to exceed 12 million by the year 2030, placing pressures on the State's water resources and local water providers; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina's businesses, traditional and emerging industries all depend on reliable supplies of clean water, reasonable utility costs, well-maintained water infrastructure and an attractive natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the 1998 Clean Water Bonds delivered significant benefits to North Carolina communities and citizens, supporting 1,103 projects in 97 counties, which

- Helped create or retain 42,000 jobs
- Corrected major regulatory violations in 97 communities
- Addressed failing septic systems and contaminated wells in 59 counties
- Resulted in 50 communities receiving sewer service for the first time
- Encouraged regional efficiencies, sound planning and conservation practices; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public water, sewer and storm water utilities will require investments totaling \$16.63 billion to keep pace with necessary improvements and population growth over the next 25 years, including \$6.85 billion in investments within the next five years;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Scotland urges the North Carolina General Assembly to enact the "Clean Water Act of 2007," which provides for a \$500 million bond issue to be expended over the next five years, and an annual appropriation of \$50 million recurring funding to address urgent needs.

Adopted this 4th day of June, 2007.

Mr. Crumpton said Mr. Paul Butler, Director of North Carolina's Southeast, has asked the Commissioners to consider approval of a letter of support for the continuation of State funding for the Partnership, which helps generate jobs and investment in Scotland County.

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Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to write a letter of support for continuation of State funding of the Regional Economic Development Partnerships. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Crumpton said counties are approving resolutions asking the Legislature to approve the State budget by July 1, 2007.

Mr. Crumpton said a new appointment is needed for BRAC-RTF, who would be his replacement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to appoint Leon Butler as the County representative to the BRAC-RTF Committee. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Crumpton said Scotland County is eligible for the Community Assistance Initiative through the Golden Leaf Foundation. Mr. Crumpton said construction of the Richmond Community College Scotland Campus is the priority project for this initiative and could receive \$1.2 million, which would relieve the County of its \$500,000 commitment.

The County Manager asked the Commissioners to review some open-ended issues regarding the funding of outside agencies in the FY 2007-2008 budget and other items.

The Commissioners discussed the funding of its share for an economic development position that would be housed at the Chamber of Commerce.

Vice Chair Gholston said the position should be with the County and be responsible for grant writing. Chairman Willis and Commissioner McPhatter suggested that the funding be removed from the budget now and discussed at a later time.

Commissioners Butler and McCook commented that the position is needed since jobs would be created through the efforts of someone working on economic development in the County. Commissioner McCook said the position would answer to an oversight committee. The Commissioners also discussed whether the economic development position should come directly under County control.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to keep \$45,000 in the budget for the position, the specifics of which would be discussed at a later time. Vote: For: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Gholston and Commissioners Alford, Butler and McPhatter. Vote: Against: Commissioner McCook. Motion approved.

Mr. Crumpton reviewed what is budgeted for some agencies: Kuumba Festival, \$4,000; Literacy Council, \$6,000; Pemo Stewart, \$10,000; and St. Andrews, \$5,000.

Mr. Crumpton said the Rape Crisis agency requested funds to support the construction of a shelter.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve \$1,000 for the Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

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The Commissioners discussed developing a policy regarding the funding of non-profits and other agencies. While Commissioner McCook said it would be good to have a policy in place for the FY 2007-2008 Budget, Chairman Willis suggested that the policy be developed for FY 2008-2009.

Commissioner Alford said considering how much is budgeted to support the Jail and people who break the law, the Commissioners should not take issue with funding requests by law-abiding citizens who would like to do something good for the community.

County Manager Crumpton said Historic Properties is budgeted for \$14,000.

The County Manager asked the Commissioners for direction on the request from Scotland S.W.A.T. to use Parks and Recreation facilities for youth basketball at a reduced rate.

Commissioner McCook asked if it is a good idea to waive facilities fees for one group and not others who might have similar requests.

Chairman Willis said since there is no policy in place regarding waived or reduced fees for facility use, perhaps the Commissioners would consider waiving the fee this year while a policy is developed.

Commissioner Alford said since the Commissioners are funding outside agencies and their sports programs, why shouldn't the Commissioners consider waiving the facility fee for S.W.A.T.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to waive the facility use fee for Scotland S.W.A.T. up to \$2,000 for FY 2007-2008. Vote: For: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Gholston and Commissioners Alford and McPhatter. Vote: Against: Commissioners Butler and McCook. Motion approved.

County Manager Crumpton said Hospice of Scotland County funding was not included in the FY 2007-2008 budget although the agency asked for a \$2,204 funding increase over FY 2006-2007 as the 10 percent match to a Council of Governments Grant.

Commissioner Butler said Hospice has an excellent fundraising record in the community. He asked if the agency would be able to provide the 10 percent match.

County Manager Crumpton said Hospice would not provide the service without the 10 percent match.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to fund Hospice of Scotland County at the same amount it received in FY 2006-2007. Vote: For: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Gholston and Commissioners Alford, McCook and McPhatter. Vote: Against: Commissioners Butler. Motion approved.

Chairman Willis said Optimist requested one-time funding in the amount of \$20,000. Optimist bases the request on the number of children it serves in the community. Commissioner McPhatter mentioned that none of the other agencies are being funded at that level.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to approve \$15,000 for Optimist. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

The County Manager said two other agencies have made requests for funds -- Laurel Fest for \$2,500 and Storytelling Festival of Carolina at \$3,500.

Motion was made by Commissioner McPhatter and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve \$2,500 for Laurel Fest. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve \$3,500 for Storytelling Festival of Carolina. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

County Manager Crumpton said the Town of Wagram is applying for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant for a community center building project. Mr. Crumpton said the Town requests a matching grant from the Commissioners in the amount of \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to approve a matching grant of up to 500,000 for the Town of Wagram's community center building project. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve a resolution asking the Governor to approve the North Carolina budget by July 1, 2007. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 8. Closed Session

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford 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 and Closed Session held in accordance with N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(6) to consider qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointments, or conditions of initial employment of a present or prospective public officer or employee. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to recess until 5 p.m., Tuesday, June 26, 1405 West Boulevard . Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis
Chairman