

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

**MINUTES  
Scotland County Board of Commissioners  
August 2, 2010 Regular Meeting  
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, Bob Davis, Guy McCook and Clarence McPhatter. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Joyce McDow. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Edward Johnston, Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman. Chairman Willis delivered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Public Forum**

**Mr. Gerard Morrison of Hamlet** asked the Commissioners to support the Million Father March through approval of a resolution that encourages fathers and male caregivers to accompany their children to school on the first day.

**Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Million Father March Resolution. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**Resolution To Support The Million Father March (MFM) In Scotland County, The Sandhills Region Of North And South Carolina, The United States Of America, And The World**

**Whereas**, the Million Father March (MFM) has grown out of recognition of the power of male involvement in the education of students; and,

**Whereas**, the Million Father March (MFM) is an opportunity for men to show their commitment to the educational lives of their children on the first day of school and throughout the school year; and,

**Whereas**, a father who actively participates in the educational and social development life of a child is invaluable and irreplaceable; and

**Whereas**, research clearly and consistently shows that children whose fathers take active roles in their children's educational lives earn better grades, get better test scores, enjoy school more, are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college, and have fewer behavior problems when fathers speak and listen to their children regularly and are active in their lives; and,

**Whereas**, some fathers are absent because of military service, death, incarceration, mental and/or physical health, and other reasons; and

**Whereas**, men and male caretakers of all races and faith backgrounds are encouraged to accompany children to school on their first day of school.

**Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners supports Scotland County's Million Father March (MFM) and urges men, fathers, male relatives, caregivers, and all citizens concerned about the future of our youth to play a significant role in the success of this March.

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

Adopted this 2nd day of August 2010

**Mr. Quinn Swartout, Hill Creek Road**, said he put in paved roads in a subdivision in error because he did not understand the word “private” on a plat map. After the roads were installed, Mr. Swartout said, he learned that private is not private according to the Scotland County Ordinance on Subdivisions, and he did not know the roads had to meet NCDOT specs. Mr. Swartout said he does not want to throw out his \$66,000 investment. He asked the Commissioners to change the subdivision ordinance.

County Attorney Johnston said Mr. Swartout would have to apply for a revision to the Subdivision Ordinance through the Planning and Zoning Board. The Planning and Zoning Board would then bring its recommendation on the application to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Alford reminded Mr. Swartout that he would be responsible for road maintenance as a result of EMS, school buses and other vehicles using the road.

**Ms. Diana Altman, Chair of the Literacy Council**, updated the Commissioners on happenings at the agency and the level of its involvement in the community. Ms. Altman said the Literacy Council currently is experiencing a serious financial situation and that the agency has not generated enough funding as it had in the past. Ms. Altman said she is grateful for the Community Assistance Grants provided by two of the Commissioners. She asked the Commissioners to consider the role of the Literacy Council in the community, and she asked the governing body for its support in keeping the doors open.

Chairman Willis and Commissioner Guy McCook, who also is Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chairman, recognized the Parks and Recreation staff for the exceptional service it provides the community. The staff was presented with a framed cover of a North Carolina Parks and Recreation Association magazine cover and article in which the local agency was featured.

Chairman Willis then asked for Ms. Sarah F. McCoy Massey to please come forward. Chairman Willis read the following proclamation:

**A Proclamation Honoring Mother Sarah F. Massey**

**WHEREAS**, Mother Sarah F. McCoy Massey celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday July 29 at Unionville Missionary Baptist Church surrounded by family, friends and a chorus of well-wishers;

**WHEREAS**, the milestone birthday party, held July 31 at the Church, where her father Harvey McCoy was one of the founders, prompted those in attendance to recognize and thank Mother Massey for her selfless outreach to the community as a mother, mentor and wise counselor to young people;

**WHEREAS**, the event also recognized Mother Massey for her contributions to the Wagram community as the owner for 40 years of Massey Grocery Store, where she provided credit to men, women, boys and girls when times were tough and where she instilled the value of paying bills on time and maintaining good credit;

**WHEREAS**, Mother Massey is one of nine children, was married to the late Hyder Massey, Sr., and is mother to five sons and a loving grandmother and great-grandmother;

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners wishes Mother Massey a happy birthday surrounded by all her loved ones now and for years to come.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** the Scotland County Board of Commissioners applauds Mother Massey as a living example of one who firmly believes there is no such thing as “never say never” because you are never too old to fulfill your dreams.

Presented this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2010

**Item 1. Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant funding application**

Economic Developer Greg Icard said this is the second required Public Hearing for a CDBG funding application. Mr. Icard said \$180,000 would be requested in CDBG funds to run a 2,200-foot sewer line to Veridian Biomass and also fund a lift station.

Chairman Willis called the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or against the CDBG application. No one came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to approve making application to the Community Development Block Grant Program to fund the sewer line extension. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**Item 2. Public Hearing: Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP)**

EMS Director Roylin Hammond said Transportation wished to apply to the DOT for Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) funding for transportation purposes.

Chairman Willis called the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or against the ROAP application. No one came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve making application to the Rural Operating Assistance Program. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**Item 3. a) Settlement for 2010 Current Year Taxes  
b) Request for Approval of Late Application**

Tax Administrator Mary Helen Norton reported charges to the Tax Collector totaled \$20,490,666.51 for the FY 2009-2010 tax year. Ms. Norton said settlement for delinquent taxes totaled \$4,045,069.58.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to approve the 2009-2010 tax settlement. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

Ms. Norton said Mr. Sam Cribb applied for the Builder’s Inventory Property Tax Deferral on May 24, 2010 although the application period, according to State statute, is during the month of January. Ms. Norton said the statute allows for acceptance of a late application by the

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

Commissioners if the applicant shows good cause. Mr. Cribb said he did not file until May because a State representative told him the deadline was June 1.

Ms. Norton said the statute is fairly new, which is why there have been no other tax deferral applications, and the statute does not define “good cause.”

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to deny Mr. Cribb’s request for Builder’s Inventory Property Tax Deferral.**

*Discussion: Commissioner Alford said he would favor granting the tax deferral until the house built by Mr. Cribb is sold. Mr. Alford explained that Mr. Cribb’s money is tied up in building the house and this request would help the small contractor.*

**Vote for denial: Chairman Willis and Commissioners Davis, McCook and McPhatter.**  
**Vote against denial: Vice Chair Gholston and Commissioner Alford.** **Vote: Motion approved.**

**Item 4. Consent Agenda:**

- a) **Approval of minutes of the Board of Commissioners July 6, 2010 regular meeting.**
- b) **Approve Tax Department request to release funds in the amount of \$30,072.86 and in the amount of \$70.06 and to make refunds in the amount of \$193.87 and in the amount of \$15,702.87.**
- c) **Budget Amendments:**
  - 1) **Health: Approve receipt of funding in the amount of \$16,720, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money.**
  - 2) **Health: Approve receipt of funding in the amount of \$1,500, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money.**
  - 3) **DSS: Approve receipt of funding in the amount of \$109,143, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money.**
  - 4) **Soil and Water: Approve increase in funding in the amount of \$9,180 from a FY 2010 cd “cashout.”**

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

**Item 5. Parks and Recreation Open Gym Program**

Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton distributed additional information on the Laurinburg City-hosted Summer G.Y.M . Program and then discussed the planned G.Y.M. Program for middle school students to coincide with the school year.

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

Ms. Newton discussed how the outline for the G.Y.M. Program (Growing Young Minds) came about, how it was developed and why the target youth group would be fourth to sixth graders. It received support from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Ms. Newton said depending on the popularity of the program, the age range might expand and facilities for G.Y.M. added.

Ms. Newton said the G.Y.M. Program also received support from the schools but the City of Laurinburg was interested in moving forward with a program that would target high school students while school was still out for the summer. She discussed the three-week summer program and schedule currently underway at the National Guard Armory August 3 to 19. Parks and Recreation provided the City with a part-time worker and registration services.

Chairman Willis said the City and the County committed \$10,000 to the program, and the County budgeted the \$10,000 in this fiscal year.

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the G.Y.M. Program as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

County Manager Patterson said the program will not be successful without community involvement and partnership along with reliable volunteer resources. He explained that six to 10 adult volunteers will be needed to support the program. He added that the program, if successful, would not be able to move forward with the current funding and other funding sources will have to be secured.

**Item 6. Memorandum of Understanding: Wagram Recreation Center**

County Manager Patterson said a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the Town of Wagram regarding responsibilities for the Wagram Recreation Center is included in the agenda for review by the Commissioners.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter authorizing the County Attorney to review the Memorandum of Understanding for presentation to the Commissioners at the September meeting. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**Item 7. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communities Visioning Plan**

Mr. Patterson said the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision Plan also is included in the agenda package for review by Commissioners. Mr. Patterson said a Steering Committee was formed to build on a focus for improvements countywide and not just to create a business strategy. He said four key areas are part of the Vision Plan – infrastructure and community, economic and workforce development.

Chairman Willis suggested the Commissioners review the plan and sit down with the County Manager one-on-one for a more in-depth explanation and discussion if they wish to do so.

**Item 8. Update from the County Manager**

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

Mr. Patterson said the Board of Education will host a groundbreaking for the Wagram school expansion 5 p.m., August 10. Commissioner McCook suggested the Commissioners tour the Wagram Recreation Center the same day.

**Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint Commissioner Bob Davis as NCACC Annual Conference voting delegate. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

Mr. Patterson said he met with the City Manager and members of USDA to discuss the debt currently owed by the Water Districts. USDA officials stated that if the County had an opinion from bond counsel regarding consolidating the Water Districts with the City system, then USDA would approve the project.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook authorizing the County Manager to seek legal opinion regarding the Water Districts. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

Mr. Patterson said the cost of the human rabies vaccine increased per dose. He asked the Commissioners to approve the increase in the Health Department fee to \$218, which would cover the cost of the vaccine and the cost of administering it.

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis approving an increase in the human rabies vaccine to \$218 to cover cost of vaccine and administration of vaccine. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

Mr. Patterson said the Commissioners received a letter from All in the Word Outreach Ministries concerning the acquisition of the East Laurinburg School. The Commissioners have no control over the East Laurinburg School. The letter was forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools.

The County Manager said Mr. Allen McLaurin at ZV Pate permitted the Sheriff's Department to hold training on explosives and window entry on a small house. There is a request to waive the tipping fees at the landfill for the roofing system of the house, which was destroyed.

**Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to waive the tipping fee for disposal of the roofing system of the house. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

The County Manager said the following resolutions were received: Alamance County passed a resolution opposing federally mandated collective bargaining and passed a resolution opposing cash incentives by local governments for business relocation or expansion. Alamance County also passed a resolution in support of Arizona Senate Bill 1070. Gaston County passed a resolution requesting the House reverse the ban on sectarian prayers.

*Other Information/Comments from the Chairman and Commissioners*

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting  
August 2, 2010, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

Vice Chair Gholston said Scotland Correctional Institution is hiring now that there is expansion at the facility.

Commissioner McCook said he was diagnosed with cancer. He thanked the Commissioners, County personnel and residents for their expressions of concern.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis 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. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**OPEN SESSION RESUMED**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.**

Ann W. Kurtzman  
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis  
Chairman