

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners reconvened meeting
July 13, 2009, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

**MINUTES
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Reconvened Meeting, July 13, 2009
Scotland County Complex, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg NC**

At 6 p.m. Chairman J. D. Willis reconvened the meeting. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Willis and Commissioners Bob Davis, Joyce McDow and Guy McCook. Commissioners not in attendance: Vice Chair Betty Blue Gholston and Commissioners John Alford and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman.

Chairman Willis opened the Public Hearing for the Revolving Loan Fund Plan. He asked if anyone wished to speak in favor or against the plan. No one came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Commissioner McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook to approve the Revolving Loan Fund Plan. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Economic Developer Greg Icard asked the Commissioners to approve a resolution approving forms and guidelines for the Revolving Loan Fund.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner McDow to approve the resolution approving forms and guidelines for the Revolving Loan Fund. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING FORMS AND GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION OF FY
2009 USDA RBEG**

WHEREAS, Scotland County wishes to establish a Revolving Loan Fund program in order to foster growth within the community to help reduce unemployment and seek to improve the quality of life for our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Scotland County Board of Commissioners hereby collectively gives approval of signature and signifies approval of the guidelines in the following:

- Form RD 1942-46, Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions
- Form RD 400-1, Equal Opportunity Agreement
- Form RD 400-4, Assurance Agreement
- Form AD-1047, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Matters
- Form AD-1048, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion
- Form AD – 1049, Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

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- Form RD – 1940-1 Request for Obligation of Funds

Adopted this the 13th day of July 2009.

County Manager Kevin Patterson introduced applications for Public School Building ADM Funds. Mr. Patterson said the funds were available last year but the paperwork was delayed. Mr. Patterson said the monies were utilized and the applications are for reimbursement. The Board of Education is meeting tonight and is also expected to approve the applications, Mr. Patterson said.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the Public School Building Fund ADM Fund applications. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Laurinburg City Mayor Matt Block introduced new City Manager Ed Burchins. Mayor Block said Mr. Burchins previously worked for Leak-Goforth consulting firm and has more than 25 years of experience as a city manager. Mr. Burchins said he looks forward to working with City and County elected officials and appreciates the strong working relationship both boards share.

Chairman Willis said he and Mr. Patterson met earlier with Board of Education Chairman Jimmy Bennett and Superintendent Rick Stout to discuss proposed funding to expand Wagram Primary. Chairman Willis said the Schools propose to apply for a \$3 million no-interest stimulus loan. The Schools also would close East Laurinburg School, move those students to Shaw and rearrange grade levels at Shaw.

Chairman Willis said the loan principle would be paid back over 12 years at \$250,000 a year, and the Schools propose to use State Lottery Funds, which are earmarked for school capital projects.

Chairman Willis said he is concerned the State might change direction of Lottery Funds and divert them from capital projects to school operating expenditures at which time the County would be responsible for payment of the \$250,000.

Chairman Willis suggested that if that occurred the Schools might transfer \$250,000 from local school expenditures to capital expenditures with the appropriate resolution. Chairman Willis he would like to request State legislation to back it up.

Chairman Willis said the County has its own capital needs that require attention and next year, the County will have to give the Schools its full local operating fund increase estimated at between \$600,000 and \$800,000. On top of that, the Chairman said, more State cuts are coming.

July 31 is the deadline for the Board of Education to apply for the stimulus loan.

Commissioner McCook asked the County Manager to provide more detail on the County's current obligation to the Schools.

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Chairman Willis said he would explain the School request to the absent Commissioners so the Board could meet Thursday with the Board of Education to discuss the loan.

In a related matter, County Manager Patterson discussed how the County makes monthly payments to the Schools based on tax collections. Mr. Patterson said the Schools now would like equal payments of \$877,000 a month.

Chairman Willis said the County Manager could honor that request, but if there is a cash-flow problem, the County Manager should revert back to the previous monthly payment plan.

County Manager Patterson said there is a possibility the County could apply for a HUD neighborhood stabilization program since two census tracts on either side of 401 South are considered eligible. Mr. Patterson said he would bring more information to the next meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to recess to 6 p.m. Thursday, July 16, at 1405 West Boulevard. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis
Chairman