

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners reconvened meeting with Board of Elections
11 a.m. December 16, 2005, Scotland County Annex, 231 East Cronly Street, Laurinburg**

Reconvened Session

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners and Scotland County Board of Elections
11 a.m. Friday, December 16, 2005, 231 East Cronly Street, Laurinburg**

At 11 a.m., Chairman Willis reconvened the meeting in the Annex Conference Room, 231 East Cronly Street, Laurinburg. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Willis, and Commissioners John Alford, Leon Butler, Charles "Scoofer" Jordan, Joyce McDow and Clarence McPhatter (*arrived at 11:40 a.m.*). Commissioners not in attendance: Vice Chair Betty Blue Gholston. 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 Board of Elections reconvened its meeting. Board of Elections members present: Chair Janna Wegner and members Joyce Hamby and Dalores Ingram. Staff present: Temporary Deputy Assistant to the Elections Director Anne G. Tindall.

Ms. Wegner introduced Mr. Tom Janyssek, Elections System & Software. Mr. Janyssek discussed the M100 Precinct Ballot Counter, which produces a paper ballot to ensure a paper trail. He outlined the positive features of the equipment. Mr. Janyssek also explained the AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminal, ADA compliant voting equipment, which makes the ballot but does not tabulate it.

(Commissioner McPhatter arrived).

A public forum was conducted, which allowed citizens to ask questions, test the voting equipment and submit an evaluation form.

Ms. Wegner presented the Commissioners with the following resolution of voting equipment purchase recommendations approved by the Board of Elections.

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND THE PURCHASE OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the Scotland County Board of Elections has the authority and duty to recommend a voting system of a type, make and model approved certified by the State Board of Elections for use in some or all voting places in the county at some or all elections in accordance with G.S. 163-165.9; and

WHEREAS, the Scotland County Board of Elections has witnessed a demonstration, in the county or at a site designated by the State Board of Elections, of the type of voting system being recommended and also witnessed a demonstration of at least one other type of voting system certified by the State Board of Elections; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Elections and the Office of Information Technology Services has a Statewide Term Contract with certified vendors; and

WHEREAS, grants from the HAVA Election Fund may be used by the Scotland County Board of Elections for purchasing voting equipment from a certified vendor and the County is entitled to receive up to \$167,709 from the HAVA Election Fund based on the formula of \$12,000.00 per precinct, \$12,000.00 per One-Stop sites, plus \$1.00 for each voter that turned out in the 2004 presidential election but not less than \$10,000.00 or more than \$100,000.00; and

WHEREAS, a HAVA grant in the amount of \$31,923 was received by the Scotland County Board of Elections in 2004 and must be encumbered prior to December 31, 2005;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Scotland County Board of Elections hereby recommends the following certified voting equipment to the Board of County Commissioners;

Voting Type: Model 100 Precinct Ballot Counter and AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminal
Vendor: Election Systems & Software **Estimated Cost:** \$201,585

Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager Kevin Patterson discussed requirements for spending State HAVA (Help America Vote Act) appropriations. Mr. Patterson said he was unsure what the difference would be between the State appropriation and the County's actual dollar amount until the State administers the funds. Mr. Patterson estimated the County investment in the new equipment might be \$50,000.

Commissioner Butler questioned the need to purchase 14 voting machines instead of 10 for the actual precincts. Ms. Wegner said the State recommends 1,500 voters per precinct. She said the previous Elections Board recommended the four larger precincts be split because population growth would be inevitable. She said that is why the current Board of Elections is recommending an equipment purchase for 14 precincts.

Ms. Ingram said the State also requires the County purchase two additional voting machines for back up.

Commissioner McDow suggested that the County see how the next election goes before it commits to the purchase of four extra voting machines.

County Manager Crumpton said the State currently would only cover the expense of 10 machines for the 10 precincts, and there would be no guarantee it would cover the cost of more machines.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Jordan to approve the purchase of 10 machines for the precincts, one one-stop and two backup voting machines. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to go into closed session in the County Manager's Office 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 McPhatter to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk

J.D. Willis
Chairman