

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners special meeting
4 p.m. Monday, June 19, 2006, Scotland County Annex, 231 East Cronly Street*

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting, 4 p.m. Monday, June 19, 2006
Scotland County Annex, 231 East Cronly Street, Laurinburg, NC**

At 4 p.m., Chairman J.D. Willis called the special meeting to order. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Betty Blue Gholston and Commissioners John Alford (*arrived at 4:10 p.m.*), Leon Butler, Charles “Scoofer” Jordan, Joyce McDow and 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 Jordan delivered the opening prayer.

I. County/City Joint Proclamation honoring the Scotland High School 4-A champion baseball team

Motion was made by Commissioner McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to approve the County/City Joint Proclamation Honoring the Scotland High School 4-A Champion Baseball Team. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

WHEREAS, the Scotland High School Baseball Team, under the direction of Coach Tommy Britt and Staff, is to be recognized and honored for their outstanding 2006 baseball season; and

WHEREAS, by their exceptional efforts, this dedicated team of young men won the Mid-Southeastern Conference Championship, the State East Regional Championship, and progressed to winning the 4A State Championship Title; and

WHEREAS, the incredible athleticism and commitment of these young men, along with their coaching staff, are to be admired and honored for the way they preformed and represented the City of Laurinburg and Scotland County; and

WHEREAS, seven of these distinguished and talented seniors have completed their high school careers will go forward and represent our Community playing baseball at the college level; and

WHEREAS, six team members won recognition as “All Conference” and “All Regional,” two players were chosen for “All-State;” and

WHEREAS, through individual efforts, Derrick Lowery was chosen as MVP of the State Finals, and Nick Liles was chosen in the 29th Round by the San Francisco Giants; and

WHEREAS, Coach Tommy Britt was named Coach of the Year by the *Fayetteville Observer*, Region 4 Coach of the Year, and NCHSAA State Coach of the Year; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Laurinburg City Council and the Board of Commissioners of Scotland County do hereby honor the Scotland High School Fighting Scots Baseball Team and Coaching Staff for their outstanding achievements and commend them for their display of sportsmanship and leadership for the City of Laurinburg and Scotland County.

II. Resolution seeking State funding for the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Base Regional Land Use Advisory Commission

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Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve the Resolution Seeking State Funding for the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Base Regional Land Use Advisory Commission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

WHEREAS, the Fort Bragg / Pope Air Force Base Regional Land Use Advisory Commission (RLUAC) was organized in 1991 for the purpose of balancing the need to protect the military training areas from incompatible urban development, the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem from destruction, and the safety of the civilian population living near the bases;

WHEREAS, for nearly fifteen years RLUAC has been very successful in raising the public awareness of these important issues and encouraging sustainable land use practices;

WHEREAS, to become a permanent influence in the Fort Bragg region, RLUAC incorporated in September 2004 and achieved tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) corporation in February 2006;

WHEREAS, since RLUAC's membership is limited to Fort Bragg, Pope Air Force Base, seven counties, and eleven municipalities, its opportunities to raise funding in support of its budget are very limited (local government dues only generate approximately \$11, 000 annually);

WHEREAS, RLUAC's modest budget obligations cannot be met without an annual appropriation from the North Carolina State Budget;

WHEREAS, the County of Scotland is a member of RLUAC and supports its mission, as stated in the adopted Bylaws;

WHEREAS, the County of Scotland intends to continue financially supporting RLUAC with its own annual payment of membership dues.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Scotland formally requests the North Carolina General Assembly to approve an annual and reoccurring appropriation of \$35,000.00 to support the RLUAC budget.

Adopted on this 19th day of June 2006.

III. Commissioners/Tourism Development Authority joint meeting to discuss marketing director position

County Manager Crumpton said TDA Chairman Bo Butler was unable to attend the meeting, although the issue of a TDA marketing position still should be discussed.

(Commissioner Alford arrived at 4:10 p.m.)

Chairman Willis suggested the TDA discuss the position with the Chamber since it is more closely aligned with their activities.

The Board of Commissioners by consensus agreed not to take on the marketing position at this time.

IV. Report from County Manager on regional landfill options

County Manager John Crumpton gave a PowerPoint presentation provided by the Coastal Regional Solid Waste Authority. Mr. Crumpton discussed how the Authority came to be and why it regionalized in 1991. Mr. Crumpton said one reason the Authority does so well is the lack of competition east of I-95. The County Manager displayed the working face of the operation, which is surrounded mostly by farm and timberland.

County Manager Crumpton said in order to attract Hoke, Richmond and Moore counties into making a long term commitment to a regional solid waste authority, the County must develop other reasons for the counties to make that commitment other than the rate because there would be competition from the private operators.

Mr. Crumpton said the County would need at least a 20-year agreement, which would be the length of the bond and the indebtedness. Mr. Crumpton said the counties would be responsible financially for any revenue shortfall. He said the Authority must set rates according to its costs.

Mr. Crumpton said there are ways for the flow of waste to leave the County without it coming to the Authority. He said there would be nothing in the agreement that would pledge a certain amount of waste to the landfill. Solid waste companies can compete, and you must be ready for that, said the County Manager.

He explained that the CRSWA is doing well financially because of the waste volume increases since 1991. Mr. Crumpton said the volume growth has been substantial due to the substantial growth in the area. Mr. Crumpton added the Authority has done well enough to now finance all new development.

Mr. Crumpton showed a map of the CRSWA region to demonstrate why it would not make sense for waste to leave the Craven County area. Mr. Crumpton then showed a map of the regional area surrounding Scotland County. He said there is a large network of transfer stations west of I-95, which would allow waste to go other places. He said the transfer station network also is why the waste companies are interested in developing a landfill in the area.

Mr. Crumpton said a regional waste authority site with a 25 to 30-year lifespan would be an advantage since surrounding landfills are now looking to expand and extend their service. He said other advantages would include control over the landfill including volume intake, which would be the responsibility of an appointed authority and the ability to close the transfer station and C and D landfill, which would not have to be re-permitted.

County Manager Crumpton said disadvantages would be competition for the solid waste market in the area, getting local governments to commit to long term agreements, controlling the flow of volume and doing it legally, the capital investment and environmental issues. Mr. Crumpton explained that a local authority still would have environmental issues, and if there was a local challenge, who would pay for it?

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Mr. Crumpton said although the Hoke, Moore and Richmond county managers expressed interest in a local authority, the subject has not been brought to their boards because they don't have a formal agreement.

Mr. Crumpton said there would be significant competition for the 1,000 tons a day volume generated by the four counties.

Mr. Crumpton said the development of a pro forma and future projections are beyond the expertise of the staff. He suggested the Board consider Dr. Greg Richardson, Solid Waste Consultant, if there is a desire to develop such projections.

Commissioner Alford said he is not in favor of developing a regional authority because of legal concerns, competition for the waste and having to borrow money knowing there would not be a profit any time soon. All these concerns, Commissioner Alford said, would be assumed by a private company.

Vice Chair Gholston and Commissioner McPhatter disagreed and said they would rather investigate a four-county authority.

Commissioner Butler said he would like more information on the investment and financial aspects of an authority.

Chairman Willis said it is time for the Commissioners to decide today whether or not they want to proceed with this issue.

Vice Chair Gholston said she would support a regional landfill but not a mega landfill because it is more important to the citizens to control the environmental issues.

Commissioner Alford said the landfill issue is about money, not about trash.

Commissioner McPhatter said developing a regional authority would be the same as putting up the money as incentive for an industry to locate to the County.

Finance Officer/Assistant County Manager Patterson said the LGC changed how landfills are financed and securing a long term bond would be difficult. He said such bonds go out seven years but preferably five years.

Chairman Willis directed the County Manager and the County Engineer to provide more financial information for the Commissioners.

The Commissioners agreed to hold a special meeting 4 p.m. Thursday, June 29, 2006 in the conference room of the County Annex.

V. Budget Follow up

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County Manager Crumpton said requests for funding from the Borderbelt AIDS Resources Team and Hospice of Scotland County must be resolved by July 1, 2006.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan and duly seconded by Commissioner McDow to excuse Commissioner Alford from voting on the Borderbelt AIDS Resources Team (BART) funding request. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

The Commissioners discussed the BART funding request. There were questions as to how much the agency actually wanted and a discussion about where it might locate its offices to avoid a rental fee.

Commissioner Jordan suggested that if the Commissioners approved funding for BART, it should be for one year only to avoid setting a precedent.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to fund BART at \$5,000 and Hospice of Scotland County at \$6,000 for one year only.

Discussion: Chairman Willis reminded the Commissioners that Hospice must be funded at the full 10 percent match in order to receive the Block Grant funds.

County Attorney Johnston said the motion should be changed to allow Commissioner Alford to vote on the Hospice funding.

Vice Chair Gholston withdrew the motion.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gholston and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve \$6,000 to Borderbelt AIDS Resources Team (BART) for one year only. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. (Commissioner Alford was excused and did not vote on this request.)

Motion was made by Commissioner Jordan and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to approve \$13,913 to Hospice of Scotland County for one year only. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner McDow provided an update on proposed legislation for Medicaid relief as well as other issues now being reviewed by the General Assembly.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis
Chairman