

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
March 7, 2016, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC*

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Commissioners in attendance: Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Whit Gibson (*arrived at 7:35 p.m.*), Betty Blue Gholston and Guy McCook. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston, Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman.

At 7 p.m. Chair McCall called the meeting to order. Commissioner Gholston delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the March 7, 2016 agenda as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Chair Carol McCall, on behalf of the Commissioners, presented retiring Parks and Recreation Director Shannon Newton with a plaque and a Scotland County flag on her 16 years of service to the community.

Public Forum

Mr. David Richardson introduced himself as the LRCOG Area Agency on Aging Program Administrator. Mr. Richardson discussed his background as an attorney with Legal Aid North Carolina and his experience working with seniors.

No one else spoke and Public Forum was closed.

Community Report: Update on Historic Properties activities

Historic Properties Commission Chairman Lee Gaunt said the Commission has been working with the TDA on how to better present the John Blue Complex to the public. One such proposal is to name the complex the North Carolina Rural Heritage Center with four subcategories that include the John Blue House, Heritage Village, Museum of Agriculture and History and Indian Museum of the Carolinas.

Mr. Gaunt said there would be a Civil War Reenactment April 9 at the John Blue grounds with a full schedule of events and commentaries.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to endorse the new complex name. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Report on disc golf course project

Assistant Athletic Supervisor Chris Hopper discussed improvements to the disc golf course and provided an overview of how disc golf is played, which is a low-cost activity. Mr. Hopper said there is a big following for the game, which could attract tournaments to the area. Mr. Hopper

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requested permission to seek sponsorships from local businesses for each of the 18 holes. Sponsors would get their name on a sign at the hole for a \$250 one-time donation. The Scotland County Recreation Foundation would handle the donations.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the effort to seek sponsors in support of the disc golf program. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Shared Use Agreement with Scotland County Schools

County Manager Patterson said the agreement is an update of a document that's been in place. Now Spring Hill ballfields and the Covington Street playground are specifically identified as well as Tennis Center as shared use facilities. The School System would be held harmless if there is a Memorandum of Agreement for with the intent of increasing physical activity.

Mr. Patterson said in the past all agreements were very specific and any modifications had to go back to both boards for approval. The updated document allows staff to add specific facilities to the agreement without seeking action by both boards. Mr. Patterson said the high school is specifically carved out of agreement.

Attorney Johnston suggested the County designate a contact since the schools designated the PIO as its contact. Mr. Johnston suggested the document be pre audited.

The Commissioners discussed moving forward with the document pending inclusion of County contact and pre audit as suggested by the County Attorney.

Commissioner Davis suggested the Laurel Hill School playground be added to the document since facilities for recreation are limited in Laurel Hill.

(Commissioner Gibson arrived at 7:35 p.m.)

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to approve the Shared Use Agreement with Scotland County Schools and request that Laurel Hill Elementary be added to the document. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approve minutes of the February 1, 2016, regular meeting; February 15, 2016, joint meeting; and February 17, 2016 midyear retreat.
- b) Approve Tax Office request for January 2016 release of funds in the amount of \$232.32 and in the amount of \$566.62, and discoveries in the amount of \$5,672.88.
(incorporated by reference)
- c) Approve Health Department request to add a new LabCorp test for Neisseria Gonorrhoea at \$15.
- d) Budget amendments
 1. **Health:** Approve receipt of Medicaid funds in the amount of \$10,000 for

Pregnancy Care Management, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars.

- 2. Health: Approve receipt of Medicaid funds in the amount of \$5,000 for Care Coordination for Children, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars.**
- 3. Home and Community Care Block Grant: Approve receipt of additional HCCBG funds in the amount of \$4,938, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. A local match of \$549 is required.**

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

Policy Committee report

Vice Chair Gibson said the Policy Committee revisited the Substance Abuse Policy to address a concern that the list of safety sensitive positions be expanded to include more positions from DSS and the Health Department if they transport clients, particularly children. Vice Chair Gibson recommended acceptance of the policy. Vice Chair Gibson noted that the Sheriff's Department has its own drug policy.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Substance Abuse Policy. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Vice Chair Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint Ms. Cindy Morton to an unexpired term on the Aging Advisory Council; reappoint Ms. Dee Hammond and Ms. Elizabeth Cooley to the Board of Equalization and Review; appoint Ms. Lyle Calhoun Shaw to an unexpired term on the Historic Properties Commission; reappoint Ms. Carol Butler, Ms. Margaret Herring and Ms. Dora Abernethy to the LRCOG Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee; and reappoint Mr. Curtis Leak to the Southeastern Economic Development Commission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Update from the County Manager

Mr. Patterson presented the budget calendar. The County Manager intends to present a balanced budget by the end of May. He asked the Commissioners to look at potential dates for work sessions. The budget public hearing would be held at the June regular meeting with adoption later in the month. As requested by the Commissioners, the County Manager will look at a reduction in the tax rate plus a COLA for employees

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Mr. Patterson said there would be no change recommended in the solid waste availability fees, but he would recommend an increase in the water rates to ensure a positive cash flow and net income for the enterprise funds.

(Commissioner Alford was excused at 8 p.m.)

Commissioner comments

Commissioner McCook discussed the NACo Legislative Conference, which was productive since the Scotland County contingent met with all elected officials or their staff in order to refresh the relationships and remind them of Scotland County and how they can help.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Carol McCall
Chair