

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
May 5, 2014, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 S. Main Street, Laurinburg, NC*

**MINUTES
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Monday, May 5, 2014 Regular Meeting
A.B. Gibson Education Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg NC**

At 7 p.m. Chairman Guy McCook called the meeting to order. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman McCook, Vice Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, John Cooley, Bob Davis and Whit Gibson. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman. Rep. Garland Pierce delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair McCall to approve the May 5, 2014 agenda as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum

Chairman McCook asked if anyone wished to speak at Public Forum. No one came forward.

Chairman McCook recognized Project INASMUCH as a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Service Award.

Vice Chair McCall read an Eastpointe proclamation that declared May as Mental Health Month.

Chairman Guy McCook read the following proclamation, which he presented to Cooperative Extension staff:

WHEREAS, May 8, 2014 marks the Centennial of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act, which established Cooperative Extension, the nationwide transformational education system operating through land grant universities in partnership with federal, state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, U. S. Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia and U.S. Representative A.F. Lever of South Carolina authored the Smith-Lever Act to expand the "vocational, agricultural and home demonstration programs in rural America" by bringing the research-based knowledge of the land-grant universities to the people where they live and work; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Scotland County is a critical component of the three part land-grant university mission and works collaboratively with research and academic programs associated with the North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University to reach traditional and underserved audiences in all communities across North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Smith-Lever Act requires a partnership between county, state and federal governments and encourages priorities be established locally to meet the needs of each county; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Scotland County engages with rural and urban learners through practical, community-based and online approaches, resulting in acquisition of knowledge, skills and motivation to strengthen the profitability of animal and plant production systems, protect natural resources, help people make healthful lifestyle choices, ensure a safe and abundant food supply, encourage community vitality and prepare the next generation of leaders.

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
May 5, 2014, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 S. Main Street, Laurinburg, NC**

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners recognizes the significance of the Smith-Lever Act to the establishment of Cooperative Extension nationwide and encourages the people of Scotland County to observe and celebrate the centennial with a focus on congratulating the accomplishments of the past 100 years and ensuring a thriving future for Cooperative Extension in North Carolina, Scotland County and commend this observance to all this the 5th day of May, 2014.

Interlocal agreement with the Town of Wagram for inspection services

Mr. Patterson said the Town of Wagram initiated an agreement where the County would provide building inspection services. Mr. Patterson said the agreement is similar to what the County has been doing with other municipalities.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to approve the interlocal agreement with the Town of Wagram for Inspections services. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

County Manager Patterson said new flood maps will be coming, effective July 1, and the County is required to amend its flood damage prevention ordinance that will allow citizens in flood zones to have flood insurance. Mr. Patterson said the ordinance was prepared by the Department of Public Health and Safety and brings the Scotland County ordinance into compliance with federal standards.

County Attorney Johnston suggested revision to page 9, Section H Penalties and Violation to read class 3 misdemeanor rather than 30 days and page 23 where a number of years should be one year to make it consistent with the rest of the document.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance along with the two amendments recommended by the County Attorney. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Revenues and expenditures report

Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs said revenues as of April 25 were at 85 percent and are on target. Expenditures are at 71 percent as of April 25. They also are on target even though they do not include end of month bills and payroll.

Mr. Patterson said he anticipates the local option sales tax will be close, so he does not plan to budget any increases for it.

Chairman McCook directed staff to present another financial report at the June 2 meeting.

Consent Agenda:

- a) **Approve minutes of April 8, 2014, regular meeting.**
- b) **Approve request by Sheriff's Office to trade a four-year-old Belgian Milionis canine to its former handler in exchange for a Belgian Milionis puppy.**
- c) **Acknowledge CDBG Performance Status Report for April.**
- d) **Budget Amendments:**

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
May 5, 2014, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 S. Main Street, Laurinburg, NC*

- 1) **Health:** Approve receipt of State funds in the amount of \$7,715 for the Environmental Health Food and Lodging Program, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars involved.

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

Policy Committee update

Vice Chair McCall said on April 24 the Policy Committee reviewed the list of County resources such as vans, radios and tents that are used to support events hosted by non-profits. Vice Chair McCall said the Committee agreed to preserve the status quo but would like to address the amount of fuel used for events and liability and workman's comp issues when off-duty employees are working an event.

Vice Chair McCall said the Committee discussed a wellness program plus future health insurance options. Vice Chair McCall said wellness and health insurance will be a discussion topic at an upcoming budget planning session.

Update from the County Manager

Mr. Patterson said the City of Laurinburg approved an alternate 911 Call Center Memorandum of Understanding, which modified its share of personnel costs, capped personnel costs at \$250,000 and would terminate the City obligations of personnel costs in 10 years.

Mr. Patterson recommended the Commissioners offer a one-year MOU, which would give the City and County time to negotiate a long term agreement while the center is operational and the staffing level could be more accurately determined.

Commissioner Cooley questioned how much input the City should have on the six-member policy making board if it doesn't want to financially support the Center. Vice Chair McCall said she was concerned that a one-year MOU would not give the City and County enough time to negotiate, especially if the Center is not operational until later this year. Chairman McCook said the one year would allow both parties to hammer out differences and answer many questions. Chairman McCook reminded the Board that the six-person committee would only make policy and any budgetary decisions would have to be approved by elected officials.

County Attorney Johnston suggested the MOU should make clear that the County have ultimate decision-making authority. Chairman McCook directed the County Attorney to make the necessary changes to the MOU for an upcoming budget work session.

Mr. Patterson discussed the response by the County to the Local Government Commission letter for the 2013 audit report. Mr. Patterson said the LGC again expressed concern about the fund balance in the General Fund and the financial conditions of the Water Districts and the landfill. Mr. Patterson said the General Fund and Water Districts have shown improvements in the last two fiscal years with the expectations that they continue to improve.

The landfill is a long-term issue where a financial solution has yet to be developed. Mr. Patterson pointed out that until the General Fund and Water Districts have fund balance and retained earnings in excess of 20 percent LGC comments of concern will continue. The landfill will not be corrected until retained

***Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
May 5, 2014, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 S. Main Street, Laurinburg, NC***

earnings have increased by more than \$2.2million and it shows net income annually. The County Manager said the landfill would show a loss again this year.

The Commissioners discussed the possibility of early closure of the landfill and the possible financial impact. The Commissioners agreed to discuss options at an upcoming budget work session.

Mr. Patterson provided a budget outlook for 2015 with all department budgets, local school funding and mandated health increase at \$39.7 million. The 2014 budget was 37.4 million. Mr. Patterson said with the inclusion of a trash clean-up crew, 1.7 percent COLA for employees and health insurance increase the total for 2015 would be \$40.1 million. Mr. Patterson said because the figures are preliminary it does not yet balance.

Mr. Patterson said bids are in for furnishings and 911 equipment for the 911/EOC Center. The bids are \$75,448.80 for furniture and \$122,530 for 911 pods. Both bids are within budget.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the bids for the EOC/911 Call Center furniture and 911 equipment. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Commissioner comments

Commissioner Gibson distributed Adopt a Highway documents to the Commissioners for signatures.

Closed Session

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Vice Chair McCall 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 body and Closed Session in accordance with N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to recess to 2 p.m. Monday, May 12, at 507 West Covington Street. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook
Chairman