

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
July 6, 2015, A.B. Gibson Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC*

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Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Guy McCook, Vice Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston, Whit Gibson and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman

At 7 p.m. Chairman McCook called the meeting to order. Chairman McCook offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

No one spoke during Public Forum.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the July 6, 2015, agenda with the addition of an Eastpointe update as Item 3. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Public Hearing: Conditional Use Application 482-15 Entropy Solar Integrators

Chairman McCook opened the Public Hearing for testimony on the application and asked County Attorney Johnston to provide a summary. Mr. Johnston reminded that the purpose of a conditional use application is to conduct an evidentiary hearing of facts of which the Commissioners make a determination as to whether to approve the application and use its authority to impose conditions on the use.

Mr. Matthew Braswell of Kleinfelder, a consulting group that represents the client, having been duly sworn in, said the site is 29 acres on a 263 acre parent parcel. Mr. Braswell distributed an updated map of the site that includes a 25-foot perimeter access road on site as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Board. Mr. Braswell said the road is compacted to accommodate emergency response vehicle. The map details show the gravel access road, the fence and the gate. The access road is outside the site. The gate would provide access to the property where a key would be available.

The Commissioners reminded Mr. Braswell that only this footprint is usable without coming back to the Board for additional requests. Mr. Braswell discussed the wetland delineation conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers, and there is no wetland on the site or anything keeping the client from developing the area. Commissioner McPhatter said he thought the process of considering solar arrays had been slowed down. County Manager Patterson said there is not yet a modification to the ordinance that addresses solar arrays.

There was no other testimony, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve Conditional Use Application 482-15 subject to the additional conditions as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Board. Vote For: Chairman McCook, Vice

**Chair McCall and Commissioners Alford, Davis, Gholston and Gibson. Vote Against:
Commissioner McPhatter. Motion approved.**

Liaison Committee update

Vice Chair McCall said the two documents included in the agenda are close in content and intent but there is language that needs to be discussed at the July 9 meeting. Commissioner Gibson said the documents are not so far apart that some agreement can't be reached. Vice Chair McCall said that written in both documents there would be no option to go to Raleigh before March 1 2017. Chairman McCook said he views the process as doable from the County perspective when it comes to reaching an agreement. There will be give and take on both sides. Commissioner Davis said as an elected official he feels he should be able to say his piece if a State official initiates the conversation.

Eastpointe update

Vice Chair McCall said Medicaid reform is coming but there is no indication what it will look like. The Eastpointe Board wants to be proactive so it will be well-positioned in the face of all the changes. Vice Chair McCall said Eastpointe is looking to the Sandhills NCO for a merger of the two. The alternative would be a merger with a 36-county eastern portion of the State. The Sandhills merger would transition Eastpointe from 12 to 21 counties. It would gain an additional 300 providers in the Sandhills catchment area. Vice Chair McCall said Eastpointe would initiate the Sandhills merger in order to create its own path rather than have it dictated.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approve minutes of the June 1, 2015 reconvened meeting; June 1, 2015 Water Districts meeting; June 1, 2015 regular meeting; May 20, 2015, May 22, 2015 and May 26, 2015 reconvened meetings.
- b) Approve Health Department Medicaid Payments, Adjustments and Denials for 7/1/2012 to 6/30/2014.
- c) Approve Health Department Insurance, Patient Pay, Contract Pay, Insurance Adjustments, Charity and Contract Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2012-2014.
- d) Approve Health Department bad debt write-off in the amount of \$1,050.37 for Fiscal Year 2012-2014.
- e) Approve Health Department request to add RPR services fee of \$11 for blood draw.
- f) Authorize the Tax Collector to collect the taxes set forth in the tax records filed in the office of the Scotland County Tax Department.
- g) Approve Resolution requesting that Scotland County be named a North Carolina Certified Retirement Community.

Resolution requesting that Scotland County be named a North Carolina Certified Retirement Community

WHEREAS, in July of 2008, the Legislature passed SB1627, which creates a North Carolina Retirement Community program; and

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WHEREAS, the purpose of the program is to encourage retirees and those planning to retire to make their homes in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Scotland County is fortunate to be a destination for many retirees who choose to live here for its cultural amenities, relaxed lifestyle choices, comprehensive health care system, access to continuing education and convenient proximity to the beaches and mountains metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, the Laurinburg/Scotland County community is planning to take actions to actively promote its community as a retirement destination to retirees from across the State as well as the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners wishes to endorse the steps needed to being identified as a community of choice for retirees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners requests that the North Carolina Department of Commerce approve Scotland County as a designated Certified Retirement Community.

Approved this, the 6th day of July, 2015.

h) Approve 2016 Holiday Schedule

i) Budget amendments

- 1) Incentives: Approve increase in Incentives in the amount of \$57,000 for FY 2014-2015, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to expend the monies.
- 2) Register of Deeds: Approve anticipated increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$16,000, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.
- 3) Sheriff: Approve anticipated increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$3,000, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.
- 4) EMS: Approve anticipated increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$15,000, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.
- 5) Transportation: Approve anticipated increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$20,000, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.
- 6) Water Districts: Approve anticipated increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$41,240, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.
- 7) Health: Approve anticipated increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$23,765, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.
- 8) Parks and Recreation: Approve increase in revenues for FY 2015 in the amount of \$21,550, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive the monies.

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

Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to appoint Ms. Renee Snipes to the Aging Advisory Council. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to appoint Mr. Robert Macy to the Laurinburg/Scotland County Drug and Crime Committee. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to reappoint Ms. Shannon Newton, Mr. Lee Gaunt and Mr. Jim Walker to the Historic Properties Commission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to reappoint Mr. Nick Sojka, Ms. Nancy Shelley and Mr. Beacham McDougald to the Tourism Development Authority. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to reappoint Ms. Cathy Poole and Mr. Jay Todd to two-year terms on the Workforce Development Board and to reappoint Mr. John Alford and Dr. Dale McInnis to three-year terms on the Workforce Development Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint County Manager Kevin Patterson to the Southeastern Economic Development Commission until there is an Economic Developer in place. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Update from the County Manager

Mr. Patterson said Tax Administrator Mary Helen Norton was last reappointed in 2011 and it is time for reappointment. Mr. Patterson recommended Ms. Norton be reappointed for four years.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to reappoint Ms. Mary Helen Norton as Tax Administrator for four years. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Patterson said the Fire Commission recommends approval for the purchase of a pumper truck for the Laurel Hill Fire Department from Fire Connections at a cost of \$300,424.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Vice Chair McCall to approve a contract with Fire Connections in the amount of \$300,424 for the purchase of a pumper truck for Laurel Hill Fire Department. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

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Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to nominate Commissioner Bob Davis as NCACC Voting Delegate. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

The Commissioners agreed to conduct the County Manager evaluation 9 a.m. Thursday, July 30, in the SBIC conference room.

Mr. Patterson discussed the transfer of Animal Control from the Health Department to the Sheriff's Department, although some parts would remain the domain of Health Director. Mr. Patterson said Interim Health Director Wayne Raynor and the Sheriff will develop a Memorandum of Agreement for review by the Commissioners and the Health Board. Commissioner Davis said of the two animal control officers, one does not want to be a law officer. Commissioner Davis said the Health Board has not discussed the issue or approved it.

Mr. Patterson said the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would like to approach the Schools to inquire about joint use agreements for open space at Covington and Spring Hill Schools. Commissioner Davis said he would like Laurel Hill Elementary added to the list.

The County Manager said L&S Railroad is interested in selling the parcel across the street from the Courthouse for parking and overflow. Currently the parcel is leased for \$150 a month.

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. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook
Chairman