

**Scotland County Board of Commissioners special meeting  
9 a.m. Monday, January 26, 2015, 507 West Covington Street, Laurinburg, NC**

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Guy McCook, Vice Chair Carol McCall and Commissioners John Alford, Bob Davis, Betty Blue Gholston and Whit Gibson. Commissioners not in attendance: Commissioner Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman.

At 9 a.m. Chairman McCook called the special meeting to order. Commissioner Davis opened with a prayer.

**Public Hearing: economic incentives -- Cascades**

Chairman McCook opened the Public Hearing and asked the County Manager to discuss the incentives for Cascades tissue group. Mr. Patterson said this incentive plan is the largest and most comprehensive incentive the County has ever done. Cascades will employ 127 full-time and make a \$53 million investment. The County will offer a cash incentive over 19 years. The first 10 years the incentives will be 100 percent and incentives will decrease in years 11 to 19 from 90 percent to 10 percent. Mr. Patterson said the 127 jobs include new positions as well as transfer positions. Incentives will begin with 2015 property taxes. There is a payback if Cascades does not meet its requirement in three years.

Chairman McCook asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or against incentive plan. No one came forward to speak, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Chairman McCook said the County can only incent property taxes that are already paid. The company pays the tax dollars and the County incents back to the company. Commissioner Gibson said it was important to sell the property and locate a business in the facility so its tax value would not decline.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Cascades incentive plan for immediate submission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**Status of Sheriff's budget**

Deputy Finance Officer Beth Hobbs and County Manager Patterson provided a summary of the actual expenditures from the Sheriff's Department and the projection for remaining balance as of FY 2015. Projected operating surplus is \$84,886. Ms. Hobbs presented the Jail figures as well where there would be a projected operating surplus through June of nearly \$66,000.

Ms. Hobbs said a payroll shortfall of about \$113,000 is expected in the Sheriff's Department due to transitions and separations before and after the election. Jail payroll will have a \$73,000 salary surplus, which could be moved to the Sheriff's Department to cover salary and benefit shortfalls. Mr. Patterson said the Sheriff's Department would have enough to meet current year operations without significant modifications. Mr. Patterson said variables might be motor fuels and Jail medical costs. Mr. Patterson said staff will work with Sheriff's Department to ensure their needs are met.

## **Register of Deeds position**

Mr. Patterson said the Register of Deeds position will be open as of March 1. Mr. Patterson said the Board of Commissioners is the appointing authority while the Democratic Party will have opportunity to make a recommendation 30 days from the point of vacancy.

Mr. Patterson said recruitment has begun. A notice is already on the website. Mr. Patterson said an assessment center at the SBIC for all candidates is scheduled for February 11. Mr. Patterson asked that Commissioners and the Democratic Party executive board staff the assessment center for interviews, presentations and written projects so notes could be compared at the end of the process for final candidate selection.

**Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gholston to approve the process presented for a combination assessment team between the Scotland County Democratic Party and the Board of Commissioners to have an assessment meeting to review candidate applications for the Register of Deeds. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.**

Ann W. Kurtzman  
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook  
Chairman