

MINUTES

Scotland County Board of Commissioners

June 3, 2013 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 (*arrived at 7:10 p.m.*), John Cooley, Bob Davis, Whit Gibson and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston, Finance Officer Charles Nichols and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman. Chairman McCook delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Cooley to approve the June 3, 2013 agenda as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum

Mr. Charles Parker, Scotland County resident, asked what happened to the funds the Schools received from the sale of surplus property. Mr. Parker suggested the money from that sale could be used for construction of security walls and not from County funds.

(Commissioner Alford arrived at 7:10 p.m.)

Mr. Phillipe Laurent, representing Scotland County Humane Society, described the SCHS as a proactive organization dedicated to education and prevention. He said that focus has resulted in a slight decline in intake and that the local Humane Society is viewed as a model in other counties. He said despite the slight decline, operational costs are higher. Mr. Laurent asked the Commissioners to consider appropriating \$100,000 to the Humane Society based on its demonstrated service to the County.

No one else spoke, and the Public Forum was closed.

Child Fatality Prevention Team 2013 annual report

CCPT Chair Carlotta Rivers said infant mortality rate in Scotland County was 15.3 percent per 1,000 live births compared to statewide at 7.2 percent in 2011. Ms. Rivers said in 2011, eight deaths of children under the age of 17 were reviewed. She explained the cause of death in each case. Ms. Rivers also presented CFPT activities and accomplishments in 2012 to 2013.

Community Child Protection Team 2012 annual report

CCPT representative April Snead gave the 2012 annual report and discussed the eight cases reviewed by the CCPT. Ms. Snead said of the eight cases, contributing factors included substance abuse, domestic violence and improper supervision. Ms. Snead discussed recommendations made in each case. She also discussed CCPT activities in 2012. Ms. Snead

asked the Commissioners to approve the list of 2013 CCPT members as presented in the agenda packets.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Community Child Protection Team for 2013 as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Policy Committee update: Community Access Channel application process

Vice Chair Carol McCall, who is Chair of the Policy Committee, updated the Commissioners on activities to reactivate the Community Access Channel Advisory Board and the effort to review the CAC application and bring it to 2013 relevance. Vice Chair McCall noted suggested updates made to the application. She said the amended application must be approved by the County, City of Laurinburg and Board of Education.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to approve the amendments to the Community Access Channel application as presented. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda:

- a) Approve minutes of the May 6, 2013, regular meeting, and the May 17, 2013 reconvened/budget work session.
- b) Approve request by the City of Laurinburg to hold Independence Day fireworks July 4.
- c) Approve County Management Records Retention and Disposition Schedule.
- d) Acknowledge receipt of April 2013 Monthly Performance Status Report for the Community Development Block Grant.
- e) Budget Amendments:
 - 1) **DSS:** Approve receipt of federal funds in the amount of \$60,232 for Child Daycare, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars.
 - 2) **DSS:** Approve receipt of State funds in the amount of \$4,000 for Administrative allotment, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars.

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

Appointments to Board and Committees

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to appoint Ms. Umeko Terry to the unexpired term as a public-spirited citizen on the Board of Health. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to reappoint Ms. Juliet McMillan to a two-year-term on the Jury Commission. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to reappoint Mr. James Baggett, Ms. Cathy Poole and Mr. Jay Todd to three-year-terms on the LRCOG Workforce Development Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint Mr. Frank Scott to a one-year-term on the LRCOG Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to reappoint Mr. Herbert Rainer to a three-year-term on the Social Services Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Update from the County Manager

Mr. Patterson said the NC Department of Transportation (DOT) recommended improvements to the roads on and around the FCC property. It is anticipated that discretionary DOT funding will be available, but a funding gap remains. Mr. Patterson said House and Senate funds are available that can be designated to certain projects. The County Manager asked the Commissioners to approve a resolution requesting \$75,000 from both the House and Senate to complete this road project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Davis and duly seconded by Commissioner Gibson to approve the Resolution Requesting Funds for a Major Economic Development Project in Scotland County, NC. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Resolution Requesting Funds for a Major Economic Development Project in Scotland County, NC

WHEREAS, Scotland County recently announced an economic development project by an existing company that would make an \$80 million investment and create 96 new jobs, and;

WHEREAS, this represents the largest single investment announcement in the history of Scotland County, and;

WHEREAS, the company, FCC North Carolina, needs a road constructed off US 401 that would allow truck traffic to have a safe pattern of travel as well as serve the newly-created Industrial Park in Laurinburg, NC, and;

WHEREAS, preliminary design with cost estimates to complete this vitally important road, according to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, would be \$490,000, and;

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WHEREAS, Scotland County has received \$346,000 in funds for the project, which leaves a \$144,000 funding gap.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the North Carolina House and Senate leadership each consider contributing \$75,000 toward this project to fill the funding gap.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that favorable action by the House and the Senate regarding this funding request would benefit Scotland County greatly, since it has one of the highest unemployment rates in the State, and the need for new jobs and investment would have a significant and positive impact on its citizens.

Adopted this 3rd day of June, 2013

Mr. Patterson said the County foreclosed on the property of Ms. Kershaw (deceased). One of her sons has come forward interested in buying the property. He was unaware the house was in the foreclosure process. Before her death, Ms. Kershaw was making payments on the taxes owed while the foreclosure process was proceeding. After her death, the County took ownership of the property through foreclosure. The County has \$1,424.51 invested in the property. Mr. Patterson said Attorney Mark Bardill indicated the County may resell property acquired by tax foreclosure to the former owner or someone having an interest in the property through a private sale for the amount the County paid.

Motion was made by Commissioner Cooley and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to offer the foreclosed property to the heirs on condition that legal issues are resolved. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Introduction of proposed 2013-2014 budget plan

Mr. Patterson, in his capacity as Budget Officer, presented the 2014 budget plan to the Commissioners, which has a General Fund budget of \$37.4 million and recommends the property tax rate remains at \$1.03 per \$100 valuation. The General Fund budget of property and sales tax accounts for \$26 million with the remaining funds coming from State and federal monies.

Mr. Patterson said the proposed budget would restore the 1.25 percent furlough, add three positions — carpenter, permitting tech and Wagram Recreation Center attendant — and change half time overtime for Sheriff Department telecommunicators to straight time overtime. Capital would include \$70,000 for Public Buildings, \$18,000 for County parks, \$60,000 for two defibrillators and \$30,000 for carpenter materials.

Mr. Patterson said the total landfill budget is \$1.6 million, which represents a \$300,000 reduction in revenues. Mr. Patterson proposed to eliminate the out-of-County fee at the landfill in order to increase volume there and to charge double rate for out-of-County waste at the convenience centers. He recommended that truck, trailer and bulky items be taken to the landfill and only

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items that can fit safely in a compactor be accepted at convenience centers. Gate fees at the landfill would remain the same.

Closed Session

Motion was made by Vice Chair McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford 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 Gibson and duly seconded by Commissioner Davis to recess to 3 p.m. Thursday, June 6, at 507 West Covington Street. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Guy McCook
Chairman