

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
October 3, 2011, A.B. Gibson Education Center, 322 S. Main Street, Laurinburg, NC*

MINUTES
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
October 3, 2011 Regular Meeting
A.B. Gibson Education Center, 322 South Main Street, Laurinburg NC

At 7 p.m. Chairman Bob Davis called the meeting to order. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Davis, Vice Chair Joyce McDow and Commissioners John Alford, John Cooley, Carol McCall, Guy McCook and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Ed Johnston and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman. Chairman Davis delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook to approve the October 3, 2011 agenda. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum

No one spoke, and Public Forum was closed.

Item 1. National 4-H Week Proclamation

Cooperative Extension Director Randy Wood said October 2 to 8 is National 4-H Week across the country. He asked the Commissioners to consider approval of the following, which he read.

***WHEREAS**, 4-H youth across the nation are leading efforts to solve problems in their communities and make a difference for their futures.*

***WHEREAS**, 4-H is the largest youth development organization in North Carolina and the largest in the nation with over six million participants.*

***WHEREAS**, 4-H in North Carolina claims 218,669 youth members and 21,413 volunteers, while Scotland County's 4-H program numbers more than 100 members and more than 185 volunteers.*

***WHEREAS**, 4-H as part of the NC Cooperative Extension System of NC State University and NCA&T State University is a program where youth learn through opportunities that provide them hands-on experiences in 4-H's mission mandates of science, engineering and technology; healthy living; and citizenship.*

***WHEREAS**, 4-H has connected youth and their communities with the innovative research and resources from our nation's 106 land-grant universities and colleges for more than 101 years;*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Davis, Chairman of the Scotland County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 2-8, 2011, as National 4-H Week in Scotland County. I urge the people of this community to take advantage of the opportunity to become more aware of this special program that enhances our young people's interests in their futures as part of Scotland County 4-H Youth

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Development and to join us in recognizing the unique partnership between our county and our state University System.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCall and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford proclaiming October 2 to 8 as National 4-H Week in Scotland County. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 2. Update on Richmond Community College programs and activities

Richmond Community College President Dale McInnis said enrollment growth continues and introduction of new programs focused on utilities systems technology and health information technology have been well-received. Dr. McInnis praised the partnership with St. Andrews University in the Scotland Early College High School, explaining that the program exceeded expectations. Dr. McInnis said RCC helps meet the workforce training needs of companies like Scotland Manufacturing, Arvin Meritor and Service Thread.

Dr. McInnis said that House and Senate leadership indicated it would not support the merger of community colleges, but the proposal is still taken seriously.

Dr. McInnis said RCC will partner with the Economic Development Corporation by locating its Small Business Center and Customized Training operations at the new business incubator.

Students from Scotland County represent 40 percent of total enrollment, which includes early college students. It is about 30 percent not including early college students.

Item 3. Request for Proposal (RFP) for Energy Savings Contract

County Engineer Jim Blackwell said the energy savings contract would increase efficiency and the savings would pay for the work done in the County buildings. Mr. Blackwell said other benefits include a guarantee on the equipment for 15 years and the mechanical equipment would be controlled from one location via computer. Mr. Blackwell said it would be August 2012 before the construction contract would be awarded.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook to proceed with the RFP for the energy savings contract. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 4. Consent Agenda

Chairman Davis said the Consent Agenda is presented to Commissioners with one change, the removal of **item d, number 1** *Economic Development: Approve expenditure of \$90,362.48 for land purchase for business incubator site.* Chairman Davis explained that approval for the item must come from the Scotland County Economic Development Committee and not the Board of Commissioners.

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

Consent Agenda:

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- a) **Approval of minutes of the Board of Commissioners September 6, 2011 regular meeting.**
- b) **Approve Governor's Highway Safety Program Resolution**
- c) **Approve resolution adopting the NC Employee Deferred Compensation Plan**
- d) **Budget Amendments:**
 - 1) **DSS: Approve receipt of State Child Daycare funds in the amount of \$240,326, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars involved.**
 - 2) **DSS: Approve receipt of Smart Start funds for Daycare in the amount of \$211,336, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars involved.**
 - 3) **Single Family Rehab: Approve the County's matching funds in the amount of \$5,000 for the Single Family Rehab Program, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money.**

Item 5. Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Vice Chair McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner McCall to reappoint Ms. Jane Murray to a three-year term on the Board of Health. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Vice Chair McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner McPhatter to appoint Ms. Rhonda Jane Patterson to the Laurinburg/Scotland County Drug and Crime Committee. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to appoint Mr. Jay Todd to the Lumber River Workforce Development Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 6. Report from the County Manager

Mr. Patterson said the Department of Correction is increasing the billing rate for daily jail inmate safekeeping from \$18 per day to \$40 per day effective October 1, 2011. Safekeeping is for inmates who require significant medical care or who are at medical risk and who need a level of care the County cannot provide without increasing its liability for inmate care.

Mr. Patterson said four inmates currently are in safekeeping, and if the County averages four people for the remaining nine months of the year, it will cost approximately \$24,000. Mr. Patterson explained this is an unintended consequence of the State budget.

The County Manager said the State intends to purchase another 529 acres of land along the Lumber River valued at \$418,803. Mr. Patterson said approximately 22 percent of the land in the County is owned by the Nature Conservancy or wild life or game lands agency.

Chairman Davis said Representative Garland Pierce recommended the Commissioners send letters to area State legislators voicing their concerns about the land purchase by the State.

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Commissioner McCook suggested the other counties that face the same issue join together to ask the State to share revenues from this kind of land purchase via the sale of timber and pine straw.

Chairman Davis said the Commissioners should develop a plan at the October 17 strategic planning session.

The Commissioners then discussed the proposed Inmate Labor Contract with the Department of Corrections. County Manager Patterson said he queried other managers across the State that use inmate labor and response has been positive. The program represented a cost savings to communities.

The Commissioners discussed the need to amend wording in the contract that would eliminate completely the use of sex offenders in the program and also include wording that would hold the County harmless.

County Attorney Johnston said he is awaiting review from Sedgwick on any other wording that might be recommended for inclusion in the contract. The Board agreed it would like to review the contract again before any action is taken.

County Manager Patterson said he would serve as interim health director until Mr. Wayne Raynor can step in as interim November 1 or earlier if his schedule allows.

Mr. Patterson said he and IT Director Tenita Bullard met with staff from the City of Laurinburg to discuss the possibility of consolidation of IT infrastructures that would improve both the City and County systems without increasing costs and potentially reducing costs.

Chairman and Commissioners: Comments, activity updates and Committee reports

Commissioner Alford asked that the tax cards be discussed at the strategic planning session. Commissioner Alford said separating the school tax from the County tax is confusing, especially when other areas supported by local taxes are not listed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook 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 Cooley to recess to 3 p.m. Monday, October 17, at 507 West Covington Street. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

Bob Davis
Chairman