

**April 4, 2011**

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for its Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioner's Conference Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chair Sidney E. Dunston, Vice-Chairman E. Shane Mitchell, Penny McGhee, Harry L. Foy, Jr., David T. Bunn, Robert L. Swanson and Donald C. Lancaster.

Chairman Dunston asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner McGhee. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE". The items approved follow.

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. March 21, 2011 Minutes
- B. County Government Month 2011 Proclamation
- C. Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week Proclamation
- D. Spring Litter Sweep 2011 Proclamation
- E. TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$1,000 grant for the Youngsville Fall Festival
- F. TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$2,000 grant for the 2011 Annual Franklin County Historic Homes Tour

Item 1-B

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH  
PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, month of April, 2011 is the National County Government Month and North Carolina's county governments are proud of their key role in the governmental partnership as the local provider and facilitator of important services for the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's counties face the challenge of using limited resources efficiently and effectively to meet the needs of the public through such programs as health care, child and elder care, environmental protection, deed registration, social services, job training, public education funding, emergency medical services, drug and alcohol abuse treatment, law enforcement, water and sewer services, and library services; and,

**WHEREAS**, many North Carolina counties seek a stronger partnership with their citizens in defining community problems and solutions through such efforts as strategic planning and local focus groups; and,

**WHEREAS**, leadership in county government today requires a commitment to long hours and continued learning in a variety of topic areas, and a strong sense of purpose to assure that necessary services are provided without undue burden on the taxpayers;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of April, 2011, as

**"COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH IN FRANKLIN COUNTY"**

and urges all citizens to be more involved in and aware of issues facing our counties by volunteering for county programs, voting in elections and attending public meetings.

Item 1-C

**PROCLAMATION**

**A PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE APRIL 10-16, 2011  
PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR'S WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, emergencies can occur at anytime that require law enforcement, fire or emergency medical services; and

**WHEREAS**, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of emergency responders is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

**WHEREAS**, the safety of our emergency responders is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who call 9-1-1; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our emergency responders by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety; and

**WHEREAS**, each telecommunicator has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim April 10-16, 2011, as "PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR'S WEEK" in Franklin County in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our county and citizens safe; and urge our citizens to observe this week in honor of all telecommunicators nationwide who answer our calls for help.

Item 1-D  
**SPRING LITTER SWEEP 2011  
A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Transportation organizes an annual Spring statewide roadside cleanup to ensure clean and beautiful roads in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the Spring 2011 "LITTER SWEEP" roadside cleanup will take place April 16 – 30, 2011, in Franklin County to encourage local governments and communities, civic and professional groups, businesses, churches, schools, families and individual citizens to participate in the Department of Transportation cleanup by sponsoring and organizing local roadside cleanups; and

**WHEREAS**, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Department of Transportation employees, Department of Correction inmates and community service workers, local government agencies, community leaders, civic and community organizations, businesses, churches, schools, and environmentally concerned citizens conduct annual local cleanups during "LITTER SWEEP" and may receive certificates of appreciation for their participation; and

**WHEREAS**, the great natural beauty of our State and a clean environment are sources of great pride for all North Carolinians, attracting tourists and aiding in recruiting new industries; and

**WHEREAS**, the cleanup will increase awareness of the need for cleaner roadsides, emphasize the importance of not littering, and encourage recycling of solid wastes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2011 Spring cleanup celebrates the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and thousands of volunteer groups that donate their labor and time year round to keep our roadsides clean; and

**WHEREAS**, the "LITTER SWEEP" cleanup will be a part of educating the children of this Great State regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in North Carolina;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim April 16 – 30, 2011, as "SPRING LITTER SWEEP" time in Franklin County, and encourages all citizens to take an active role in making their communities cleaner.

## **2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

This was the time set aside by the Board of Commissioners to allow individuals five minutes to address the Board on issues concerning the county, however no comments were offered.

## **3. RECOGNITION: SOIL AND WATER DISTRICT SUPERVISOR**

The Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District recognized Elmo May for 16 years of service to the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District Board. District Board Chairman Tom Gulley and Vice-Chair Shirley Pendergrass presented a plaque to Mr. May and highlighted accomplishments achieved by the Soil and Water Board during Mr. May's tenure.

Chairman Dunston offered thanks to Mr. May on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

#### 4. **RECOGNITION: EMPLOYEE SERVICE MEMBERS IN HONOR OF NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH**

National County Government Month is celebrated each April by the nation's counties to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government. According to Kelly Faulkner, Human Resources Manager, the theme for 2011 is "Serving our Veterans, Armed Forces and Their Families." As part of this year's celebratory activities, Franklin County honored all employees that have served in the armed forces.

Mrs. Faulkner addressed the Board and presented a brief video that included photographs of each employee and County Commissioner who have offered service. Those individuals recognized include the following:

Joel S. Anderson	Anthony W. Moss	Katherine E. Lamell
Robert Armstrong	Ned H. Smith	Vasser G. Liles, Jr.
William R. Capps	Steven K.B. Styers	Othella M. Lofton
Melissa A. Champion	Victor L. Alston	Don E. McKnight
Jeffrey R. Eddy	Wayne E. Daniels	John A. Medlin
Timothy M. Joyner	Jacqueline M. Demeule	William B. Oakley
Travis P. Lancombe	Wesley N. Denton	Harry L. Purkerson, Jr.
Robert A. Legnante	Sidney E. Dunston	Ned W. Smith
Damion A. Linder	Coy S. Floyd	Ernest H. Smith, Jr.
Anthony S. McPherson	Harry L. Foy, Jr.	Gregory T. Strickland
Arthur C. Mercer, Jr.	Albert C. Gray II	Howard L. Williams
William L. Morrison	Frederick Heisler, Jr.	

Other events that will be held in celebration of County Government Month include Litter Sweep, VA Enrollment Event, Employee Picnic and Dessert Contest.

#### 5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Lancaster distributed a proposed resolution of support for U.S. 401 widening in Franklin County. The purpose of the resolution is to endorse the U.S. 401 widening and improvement project, and encourage the North Carolina Department of Transportation to fully fund the remaining sections (C and D) of project R-2814 as part of the current STIP update.

It was noted the project does not involve County funding.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to support the resolution, seconded by Commissioner McGhee. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

*(Please see resolution on the following page.)*

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR U.S. 401  
WIDENING IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**WHEREAS**, the widening and improvement of U.S. 401 from NC 96 in Wake County to its intersection with SR 1700 (Fox Park Road) in Louisburg has been identified as a critical infrastructure project that will improve the safety, enhance economic conditions along the corridor and the quality of life of the citizens of all of central North Carolina, and those of Franklin, Warren, Wake and Vance counties in particular; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Franklin County, NC, and the County of Franklin have publicly supported efforts to improve US 401; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. 401 corridor has been identified as a Strategic Corridor by the State of North Carolina, demonstrating the importance of the corridor from a statewide basis; and

**WHEREAS**, preliminary planning and design for the widening and improvement of U.S. 401 has been underway within the North Carolina Department of Transportation for several years; and

**WHEREAS**, the widening and improvement of U.S. 401 is currently the highest priority project listed by the Kerr-Tar Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RPO) and is also among the top four recommendations for the Capital Area Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (CAMPO); and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. 401 Citizens' Action Committee has created a broad-based coalition of public and private groups and citizens and has documented and justified the need for the remaining 11.2 mile length of the project (R-2814C and D), now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Franklin County Board of Commissioners do hereby publicly endorse the U.S. 401 widening and improvement project, and encourages the NCDOT to fully fund the remaining sections (C and D) of project R-2814 as part of the current STIP update.

## 6. APPOINTMENTS

The Board was asked to consider the following appointments.

*As a reminder, the Board's procedure manual states if an appointment is not made within 60 days, the other various members of the Board of Commissioners may make the nomination, followed by appointment by the Board.*

### A. Airport Commission

An appointment was needed to the Airport Commission. (Commissioner Foy)

Commissioner Foy nominated Taylor Bartholomew to serve on the Airport Commission. The nomination was unanimously approved.

### B. Board of Health

Four appointments were needed to fill vacancies on the Board of Health. By statute, those vacancies should be filled by an engineer, a registered nurse, a physician and an optometrist.

At this time, no appointments were made.

C. Home Care Community Block Grant Advisory Committee

The Board was asked to consider the following appointments to the Home Care Community Block Grant Advisory Committee:

James E. Harris  
Michelle Wilson  
Mattie Woodard  
Alice Faye Wilson  
Patrick Woods  
Nicki Perry

Janie Stone  
Libby McGhee  
Louise Johnson  
Diane Cox  
Charles Murray

Commissioner McGhee made the motion to approve the recommended appointments to the Home Care Community Block Grant Advisory Committee, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

D. Solid Waste Education Task Force

An appointment was needed to the Solid Waste Education Task Force. (Commissioners Foy)

No appointment was made.

Commissioner McGhee then nominated T.A. Gardner, Junior to serve on the Five County Mental Health Board to serve in the capacity as an attorney or someone with a background in business. The Board gave unanimous approval.

County Manager Angela L. Harris mentioned that Cooperative Extension is seeking interest from a county commissioner to serve on its Leadership Council. She said a formal appointment is not needed. The group meets quarterly.

**7. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS**

This was the time set aside for the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager, and the Clerk to the Board to report on various activities. The Board may also discuss other items of interest.

**County Clerk Kristen G. King:** Mrs. King mentioned that Solid Waste Director John Faulkner had scheduled a tour of two recycling facilities in Raleigh on April 7, 2011. She asked that interested Commissioners participate. Mrs. King also mentioned a training event entitled *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* being offered by Cooperative Extension. The course will be offered on Fridays beginning April 1 through June 17, 2011.

**Commissioner Foy:** Commissioner Foy commented on Louisburg High School's Agriculture and Carpentry Open House scheduled for April 5, 2011 from 5-7:00 P.M. He also mentioned a dinner being held at the American Legion in Franklinton on April 8, 2011. Lastly, Commissioner Foy stated 65 days had passed since the resignation of Sheriff Pat Green. He said citizens are constantly asking when a Sheriff will be selected by the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Dunston responded to Commissioner Foy's comments by stating the investigation being conducted by the SBI (State Bureau of Investigation) is not complete. County Attorney Darnell Batton followed up by stating the Board of Commissioners cannot dictate how or when the SBI does its job. He also stated there is no set time limit to the criminal investigation. Mr. Batton reminded the Board of its earlier decision to defer appointing a Sheriff until the conclusion of the

criminal investigation. Chairman Dunston stated a thorough investigation should be completed before any conclusions are made.

**Commissioner Bunn:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Mitchell:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Lancaster:** Commissioner Lancaster commented on a news release that would be distributed on April 5, 2011 regarding land sold at the HUB site on Highway 401. He said the land would be utilized as a global tobacco distribution site that sells to Asian markets. He commented the goal is to have 12 to 15 permanent jobs at the site as well as 40 seasonal jobs. Eighteen acres of land were sold at \$22,000 per acre. The County originally purchased the land for less than \$12,000 per acre according to Commissioner Lancaster. He also acknowledged Commissioner Mitchell and local business owner Keith Smith for their involvement.

**Commissioner McGhee:** No comments were offered.

**Commissioner Swanson:** Commissioner Swanson commended those who assisted with the location of the global distribution company to the Franklin County HUB site.

**Commissioner Dunston:** No comments were offered.

**County Manager Angela L. Harris:**

- Mrs. Harris commented on leadership training provided at no cost to the County by John Formica.
- She commented that Commissioner Lancaster was a presenter during the Triangle Business Journal's Regional Outlook event.
- Mrs. Harris commented on a lunch and learn session offered by the Working on Wellness Committee. The session focused on financial wellness and was open to all Franklin County employees. The session came at no cost to the County.
- She mentioned the Whistler's Convention which begins April 9, 2011.
- Mrs. Harris mentioned that County Finance Director Chuck Murray was appointed recently to the North Carolina Government Finance Officers Association.
- She also reminded the Board of district meetings scheduled by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. She stated the Clerk to the Board would forward details.
- Mrs. Harris also commented on a reception scheduled for April 11, 2011 for Congresswoman Renee Ellmers.

## **8. CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Swanson made a motion at approximately 7:45 P.M. to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS143-318.11 (a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

Commissioner Mitchell seconded Commissioner Swanson's motion and the motion carried 6 to 1 with Commissioner Foy voting "NO."

Following the closed session, Commissioner McGhee made a motion to enter back into open session, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

No action was taken.

Commissioner Mitchell then made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

---

Sidney E. Dunston, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board

(blank page)