

August 6, 2012

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: Chairman E. Shane Mitchell, Vice-Chairman Robert L. Swanson, Sidney E. Dunston, Harry L. Foy, Jr., Cedric K. Jones and David T. Bunn. Commissioner Don Lancaster was absent.

Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order and asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Foy requested that Item B be removed from the agenda due to his reservations with giving grant money to private individuals instead of non-profit groups.

Commissioner Swanson made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the exception of Item B, seconded by Commissioner Bunn. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Dunston stated he had no problem with Item B because it would generate revenue for the County and bring people into the County.

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to approve Item B on the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Swanson. The motion carried 4 to 2, with Commissioner Foy and Commissioner Bunn voting "NO."

The items approved are as follows.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. July 9, 2012 Minutes
- B. Consider TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$3,500 grant for the 2012 Fall Harvest and Pumpkin Festival
- C. Consider TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$4,500 grant for the Lake Royale Triathlon on October 6, 2012
- D. Consider TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund an \$800 grant for the Youngsville Fall Festival on September 22, 2012
- E. Vision 100 Block Grant Agreement (NPDES Permitting Assistance; Fuel Farm Improvements; Approach Survey; Land Acquisition Assistance)
- F. Franklin County Proclamation of National Health Center Week

Item 1-F

FRANKLIN COUNTY PROCLAMATION OF NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK AUGUST 6-12TH, 2012

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are nonprofit, community owned health providers serving the uninsured and underserved; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1,600 residents of Franklin County are provided comprehensive primary medical care each year by Wake Health Services, a Community Health Center; and

WHEREAS, 16% of patients who are Franklin County residents are children under 18 years of age; and

WHEREAS, 50% of patients served by community health centers are uninsured; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers expand access to quality healthcare for all people; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers maintain high standards of accountability; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to continue to support Community Health Centers in Franklin County, North Carolina,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the week of August 6-12, 2012 as "National Health Center Week" in Franklin County and urges citizens to recognize the important contributions of community health centers in safeguarding health and improving the quality of life for all people in Franklin County.

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.

No one signed up to speak during this time.

3. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Glen Liles, Franklin County Maintenance Director, was recognized as the Employee of the Quarter ending June, 2012. Mr. Liles has been employed with the County since March, 2001 and selected for this recognition by a committee of his peers. Mr. Liles received a vacation day and a cash award.

4. DISCUSSION: URANIUM MINING

Mike Pucci, Chairman of the North Carolina Coalition Against Uranium Mining, made a presentation regarding proposed uranium mining and milling operations at Coles Hill in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Mr. Pucci addressed the local environmental threats to the Roanoke River Basin. Senator Doug Berger asked the Board to consider a resolution in opposition of lifting the ban on uranium mining. The Board was asked to refer to the following link for an in depth assessment that will be referred to in the presentation.

http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/public-utilities/Documents/20120210-PUT-Uranium-Mining-Project_PhaseII_FinalReport.pdf

Commissioner Foy questioned if existing business would have to move if Uranium Mining went in. Mr. Pucci stated any companies that use fresh water to make products would have to shut down. Commissioner Dunston emphasized that people that could relocate due to uranium mining can leave but noted the individuals/businesses that can't relocate are left behind and have to suffer the consequences. He stated he completely supports a resolution that protects Franklin County citizens.

Commissioner Swanson made a motion to approve a resolution entitled "Resolution Opposing Lifting the Ban on Uranium Mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia that Poses an Environmental Threat to the Roanoke River Basin and to the Citizens of Virginia and North Carolina Living in the Basin." The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunston and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

RESOLUTION OPPOSING LIFTING THE BAN ON URANIUM MINING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA THAT POSES AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT TO THE ROANOKE RIVER BASIN AND TO THE CITIZENS OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA LIVING IN THE BASIN

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners recognizes a healthy and sustainable environment is important to the citizens, the economy and the need for supply of Quality water in the Basin; and

WHEREAS Franklin County is a member of the Kerr-Tar Council of Governments whose mission is to support strategies and developments that enhance the preservation and use of the Roanoke River Basin's resources for now and future generations of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, there is a proposed uranium mining and milling and waste storage operation at Coles Hill in Pittsylvania County, VA, which would require lifting the current ban on such operations in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the City of Virginia Beach released the findings of two separate studies of impacts of proposed uranium mining and milling and waste storage on its water supply coming from Lake Gaston; and

WHEREAS, both of the City of Virginia Beach studies, the second in more depth and breadth, concluded that in the event of a mill tailing confinement cell failure, the tailings will be washed downstream and will significantly impact water quality in Kerr Lake Reservoir and Lake Gaston resulting in radiation levels in the water 10-20 times above the Safe Drinking Water Act levels; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County recognizes that the event modeled in the City of Virginia Beach study is rare but the magnitude of potential impacts on the Basin's eco-system and the communities is too great to leave it to chance; and

WHEREAS, the same studies also concluded that, even without the failure of the mill tailing containment cells, the presence of surface containment cells and deep boring storage of waste products provide a high likelihood of similar water and air radiation contamination, given the climate of the area around and downstream and downwind of the Coles Hill site; and

WHEREAS, seven additional studies of the Coles Hill Proposal conducted since the initial Virginia Beach Study, have all confirmed the conclusions of the Virginia Beach Studies and have concluded that the potential danger and risk of radiation contamination from the Coles Hill proposal is unacceptably high; and

WHEREAS, because of the presence of the uranium mill and waste storage facilities in the Basin that can be used to process ore mined at other mining sites in the Basin and/or throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, including but not limited to Orange, Madison, Fauquier, Culpeper, Patrick, and Floyd Counties, the Basin that serves as a drinking water source for over one million people, including approximately 345,000 people in northern North Carolina, could face increased risks associated with uranium mining, milling, and storage of radioactive waste; and

WHEREAS, the best available scientific information indicates that the social, environmental, health and economic impacts of proposed uranium mining and milling and waste storage in Virginia outweigh expected benefits to the Basin residents in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin County Board of Commissioners goes on public record in opposition to lifting the ban on uranium mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a quorum of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners was present at a meeting held on this 6th day of August, 2012 and the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at said meeting; and that said Resolution has been duly recorded in the minutes and is in full force and effect.

5. PRESENTATION: QUILT TRAILS OF THE TAR RIVER

The Board received a presentation from Theresa Somerville with the Franklin County Arts Council regarding a project entitled "Quilt Trails of the Tar River." The Board was asked to select a location for the free quilt square block offered to Franklin County.

Commissioner Dunston questioned how the patterns were selected and who selects them. Ms. Somerville stated Arts Council volunteers make selections from a book of over 55,000 patterns. Commissioner Dunston questioned how the tours are organized and if transportation is provided. Ms. Somerville stated they provide maps all year long of the locations in Franklin County but transportation isn't provided to individuals. Ms. Somerville suggested the quilt square be placed at Triangle North Executive Airport.

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to approve the placement of the quilt square at Triangle North Executive Airport, seconded by Commissioner Foy. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Quilt Trails of the Tar River

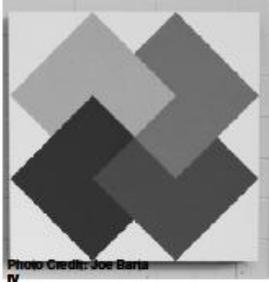


Photo Credit: Joe Baria IV

Where Community, History, Agriculture, Economic Development, Tourism & the Arts Come Together

Purpose: Wouldn't it be great if we could work together to capture the HISTORY of our community?



Photo Credit: Barn Quilts & the American Quilt Trail

Involve Students, Teachers, Artists, Businesses, Farmers, EVERYONE

How?: Learn about the people, the land, stories that may have been long forgotten.

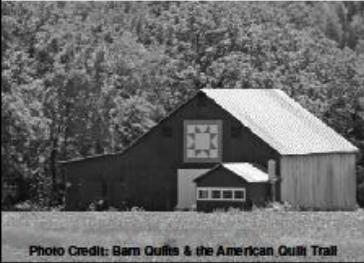


Photo Credit: Barn Quilts & the American Quilt Trail

- Write it down, Share it, Celebrate it!
- Express the history through quilt block designs
- Invite visitors

...we could invite the public to our open house, have some tea, pick some strawberries, buy our goods, visit our festival?



We decide whatever makes sense to us

How can we accomplish these goals ?




1. Initiated by FCAC
2. VOLUNTEERS to play a large role
3. Blocks representing something relevant to our family, history, business or land sold
4. Blocks built by local wood craftsmen
5. Quilt patterns designed by master quilters
6. Priming painted by students and artists, then intricate design by accomplished artists
7. Mounting—we need help????
8. Promotion and brochures by paid local media

How would people learn about us? What would encourage them to visit?




- A small but growing book –online & in stores mapping out a Quilt Trail!
- Web page for Quilt Trails of the Tar River
- Advertise in newspapers, magazines, radio, TV
- Place advertising materials in tourist welcome centers and hotels in our communities, Raleigh, Durham, etc.

Where: Initiate in Franklin County.

Spread into adjoining counties: Wake, Nash, Granville, Vance, Warren



People could visit our area any time or day of the year – winter, spring, summer or fall.

How can SCHOOLS get involved?




- Consider having your students interview locals to capture our area's history.
- Have them write reports that we can use.
- For woodshop, ask youth to build blocks.
- Youth could paint and frame blocks to be on display at various locations throughout the county.

Is anyone else doing this? What have been their experiences?



Yes!

- Stories of the community are being told throughout the US via quilt trails
- Tourism increased & cottage crafts started up
- Wall Street Journal Article May, 2009 describes their success



What about funding and business plan?

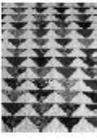
Start-up funds from FCAC and/or TDA (Grant request submitted) for materials & PR

We have 6 blocks to be donated to 5 townships and Franklin Co.

Income from quilt block sales going to FCAC should support future quilt block production, PR, and other activities

Liability Insurance supplied by FCAC

What do we need from you, our County Commissioners?





1. Support the idea and help spread the word
2. Identify a location for the free County quilt block (We would like to suggest putting one at our airport—Flying Geese design)
3. Later this year, consider a future proclamation of support.



As an example, the first quilt block in Franklin County is on the Franklin County Arts Council Bldg.

It's called "Card Trick" since it was originally the Louisburg Bridge Club Association.

Photo Credit: Joe Bara



Also, the Town of Centerville has requested a quilt block pattern pertaining to gold due to the gold mine that was found there.

Two of the block patterns we suggested for review:
Gold Nugget and Gold Brick.

We will incorporate the history of the gold mine in Centerville in the story that is printed alongside the map. The same will be done for Franklin County and all other municipalities and quilt block owners.

Photo Credit: Barn Quilts & the American Quilt Trail

The Quilt Trails of the Tar River –
Where Community, History, Tourism,
Economic Development & the Arts Come Together

Brought to you by the Franklin County Arts Council
Quilt Trail Members: Charles & Debbie Powell,
Sharon Billings, Linda Carlisle, Margaret Hilpert, Tai Miles, Rachel Monteverdi, Theresa Somerville, and Kim Young



We look forward to working with YOU!

Photo Credit: Joe Bara

6. APPOINTMENTS

A. NCACC Voting Delegate

The Board was asked to designate a voting delegate to represent the County at the 105th Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to be held in Wake County on August 16-19, 2012.

Commissioner Swanson made a motion to designate Commissioner Lancaster as the voting delegate, seconded by Commissioner Bunn. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

7. OTHER BUSINESS

- Update on case regarding former Franklin County Sheriff Pat Green

County Attorney Tomlinson stated negotiations were underway with Mr. Green's attorney and the Attorney General's office to decide if they want to proceed with a trial or enter a plea. He stated if a plea happens, then restitution to Franklin County would be incorporated. He stated the case isn't currently on the calendar for Criminal Superior Court for the week of August 13, 2012. Commissioner Foy questioned the possible outcome. Mr. Tomlinson stated approximately 95% of cases in North Carolina are resolved with a plea bargain. He stated the Attorney General's office is aware Franklin County wants the money back. He stated that a Criminal Superior Court Judge would have to accept or deny if any plea bargain is reached.

- Update on Tax Revaluation payment

Finance Director Chuck Murray was on hand for any questions the Board had. Commissioner Foy questioned if the County was still holding 10% of the fee that the company (Assessment Solutions, Inc.) charged to perform the tax revaluation. Mr. Murray stated \$36,267 is left unpaid which equals 5% retainage. He stated the original estimate was based on 40,000 parcels instead of the actual 38,606 parcels.

8. 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 was absent.

Commissioner Lancaster: Commissioner Lancaster was absent.

Commissioner Jones: Commissioner Jones stated he attended the Health Board meeting.

Commissioner Dunston: Commissioner Dunston had nothing to report.

Commissioner Foy: Commissioner Foy had nothing to report.

Commissioner Bunn: Commissioner Bunn had nothing to report.

Commissioner Mitchell: Commissioner Mitchell stated he attended the US Hwy 1 Phase II Corridor Study meeting and the proposed plans are available for viewing on the website. He also stated he had the opportunity to observe the voice quality testing for the new radio towers for the Sheriff's office. He stated it appears everything is going well and on schedule.

Commissioner Swanson: Commissioner Swanson recognized Jimmy Tanner for his service to the Tax Office. Mr. Tanner will begin his new position as Tax Administrator in Gaston County on August 20, 2012.

County Manager Angela L. Harris:

- Mrs. Harris stated she received a letter from the Assistant Secretary of Veteran's Affairs recognizing Victor Alston on his assistance with re-writing the Veteran's Manual.
- Mrs. Harris informed the Board that the Franklin County Fireman's Association would be celebrating 50 years of service on October 28, 2012 at Triangle North Executive Airport.
- Mrs. Harris stated the Farm City Week celebration would be held on September 28, 2012 and the Eastern Triangle Farm Tours would be September 15-16 from 1pm-5pm.

9. CLOSED SESSION

The Board was asked to consider entering into closed session pursuant to the following matters.

- A. North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6), in order for the Board to discuss a personnel matter.
- B. North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(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.

At approximately 8:37 P.M., Commissioner Bunn made the motion to enter into closed session pursuant to the statutes listed above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunston. The motion carried 5 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting "NO."

Following closed session at approximately 9:08 P.M., Commissioner Bunn made a motion to enter back into open session, seconded by Commissioner Swanson. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE." Chairman Mitchell stated

there was no action taken in closed session but staff would be looking for an Interim Tax Administrator and would start advertising to fill the Tax Administrator position.

At approximately 9:11 P.M., Commissioner Dunston made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

E. Shane Mitchell, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board

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