

May 21, 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, Donald C. Lancaster, Harry L. Foy, Jr., Cedric K. Jones and David T. Bunn.

Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order and asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda.

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Swanson. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

The items approved are as follows.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. May 7, 2012 Minutes
- B. Releases, Adjustments, Refunds, and Tax Collection Report
- C. Century Link Lease Agreement
- D. Western Franklin Response District Map Revision
- E. Emergency Medical Services Week Proclamation

Item 1-E

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK PROCLAMATION

To designate the Week of May 20- May 26, 2012, as Emergency Medical Services Week

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Franklin County Emergency Medical Services System are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Medical Services System consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Franklin County Emergency Medical Services System, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week;

NOW THEREFORE, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 20 - 26, 2012, as "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 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 Emergency Medical Services Providers nationwide.

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.

Rosemary Champion, 1168 White Level Road, Louisburg

- Mrs. Champion commented on payment in lieu of recreation funds. She asked the Board to consider using the money in her district (Edward Best Elementary) towards creating a walking trail around the playground at Edward Best Elementary School. Commissioner Lancaster said he would relay the idea to members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

3. UTILITY ASSET ACQUISITION UPDATE

The Board was given an update regarding the acquisition of the Town of Youngsville's Water and Sewer Utilities. County Manager Angela L. Harris said staff continues to work on the terms of an agreement between the two entities with the goal of presenting the agreement to the Board at its next regular meeting on June 4, 2012.

Despite allegations in local media, Mrs. Harris confirmed no secret meetings had been held regarding the potential acquisition of Youngsville's Water and Sewer Utilities. Mrs. Harris said she reached out to the Town after embezzlement allegations surfaced with regard to Town staff. She also reminded the Board that Commissioner Lancaster publicly (in an open meeting) asked if the County could reach out to the Town and offer assistance if needed. She said on two occasions in November, 2011 and March, 2012 she publicly made the Board aware of informal conversations with Town staff. She stated the Board of Commissioners had received one update in closed session. Mrs. Harris commented that only in the last few months had the County and the Town of Youngsville moved forward in discussions about a possible acquisition that would be advantageous to both entities.

No action was taken.

4. APPOINTMENTS**Chair Appointments**

The Chair was asked to consider appointing Commissioner Cedric Jones to the Board of Health, the Mental Health Board and the Public Utilities Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Dunston made the motion to appoint Commissioner Cedric Jones to Board of Health, the Mental Health Board and the Public Utilities Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foy and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

5. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board received a calendar of scheduled dates for upcoming Board of Equalization and Review meetings. Jimmy Tanner, Tax Administrator, stated the first two meetings would begin at 6:00 P.M. on May 22 and 29, 2012. The meetings will be held in the Commissioner's Meeting Room.

Commissioner Foy asked if the revaluation contractor (Tim Cain, Assessment Solutions, Inc.) had been paid in full for his services. He was informed the final payment had not yet been made.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to stop any future payments to Assessment Solutions, Inc. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foy.

When Chairman Mitchell asked for Board discussion, Commissioner Lancaster “called the question.” A vote was taken on Commissioner Lancaster’s call for the question, which failed 4 to 3, with Commissioners Lancaster, Bunn and Foy voting in favor.

County Attorney Pete Tomlinson stated he had not fully reviewed the contract with Assessment Solutions, Inc. He reminded the Board of its contractual obligation and that further examination was needed with regard to possible breach of contract.

Commissioner Lancaster amended his motion to read that no further payment would be made to Tim Cain or Assessment Solutions, Inc. without approval by the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foy and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

6. 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: No report was offered.

Commissioner Lancaster: No report was offered.

Commissioner Jones: Commissioner Jones stated he was a judge at the Franklin County Strawberry Festival. He also attended a recent meeting of the Franklinton Town Council and the Franklin County Board of Health.

Commissioner Dunston: Commissioner Dunston stated he attended an educational session provided by O2 Energies, the company constructing a solar farm in the Bunn Community. He said the company is looking forward to establishing a relationship with Vance Granville Community College in educating persons who have an interest in receiving certifications in working with solar farms. He stated the “future is wide open in the solar energy industry in the County.”

Commissioner Foy: No report was offered.

Commissioner Bunn: No report was offered.

Commissioner Mitchell: No report was offered.

Commissioner Swanson: No report was offered.

County Manager Angela L. Harris:

- Mrs. Harris stated she attended the Franklin County Strawberry Festival, an event that signals the annual opening of the local farmer’s market.
- Mrs. Harris also commented on information she received with regard to the 2040 Statewide Transportation Plan. She said there is a recommendation that further study be done with regard to funding for secondary roads.
- Mrs. Harris then asked Emergency Communications Director Christy Shearin to share before and after photographs with the Board of renovations at the 911 Center.
- Lastly, she shared a photograph of area Clerks who attended a luncheon recognizing Municipal and County Clerk’s Week. The luncheon was coordinated by Franklin County Clerk Kristen G. King.

7. CLOSED SESSION

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

- A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes from February 6, 2012, April 16, 2012 and May 7, 2012.
- B. North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, including agreement on a tentative list of economic development incentives that may be offered by the public body in negotiations.
- C. North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(6), in order for the Board to discuss a personnel matter.

At approximately 7:32 P.M., Commissioner Dunston made the motion to enter into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Swanson. The motion carried 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting "NO."

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

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes of February 6, 2012, April 16, 2012 and May 7, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunston and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Lancaster then made a motion to call for a public hearing on June 18, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. to consider an economic development grant for Triangle Metalworks. Commissioner Dunston seconded the motion and the motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

At approximately 8:09 P.M., Commissioner Dunston made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bunn. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

E. Shane Mitchell, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board