

**October 6, 2014**

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 Sidney E. Dunston, Vice-Chairman John M. May, Commissioners Harry L. Foy, Jr., Don Lancaster, Cedric K. Jones and David T. Bunn. Commissioner E. Shane Mitchell was absent.

Chairman Dunston called the meeting to order then read aloud a proclamation the Board approved on September 2, 2014 entitled "National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Proclamation." He then asked for a moment of silence in honor of Franklin County firefighter John Gupton (Justice Volunteer Fire Department) who died recently in the line of duty.

Chairman Dunston then asked the Board to consider the addition of the following two items to the agenda.

- Authorization for Virginia Skypainters LLC to discharge pyrotechnics at the Hudson Manor on October 18, 2014 (CONSENT AGENDA)

Commissioner Foy made a motion to add the item to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

- Application to host a County Prosperity Summit (Spring 2015)

Commissioner Foy made a motion to add the item to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Chairman Dunston then asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda.

Commissioner Foy then made a motion to remove Item 1-D and 1-E from the consent agenda for discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner May and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Bunn asked to remove Item 1-I from the consent agenda for discussion. Commissioner Foy made a motion to remove Item 1-I from the consent agenda for discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner May and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Lancaster then made a motion to approve the remainder of the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

The following items were approved.

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. August 18, 2014 Minutes
- B. September 2, 2014 Minutes
- C. September 15, 2014 Minutes
- ~~D. Consider TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$5,000 grant for Allen de Hart Concert Series~~
- ~~E. Consider TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$7,000 grant for the Vollmer Farm 2014 Fall Fun Festival~~

- F. Employee of the Quarter/Year Policy revisions
- G. 2015 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule
- H. Amendment to Audit Contract
- ~~I. Agreement for Professional Services between Franklin County and Michael Baker Engineering, Inc. for Preliminary Design for Industrial Area Development – Phase 1~~
- J. EMS Franchise Agreement to include Rescue Squads and North State Medical Transport (retroactive to 2010)
- K. Authorization for Virginia Skypainters LLC to discharge pyrotechnics at the Hudson Manor on October 18, 2014

Regarding Item 1-D (Consider Tourism Development Authority request to fund a \$5,000 grant for Allen de Hart Concert Series), Commissioner Foy asked who would receive funding if granted and if the recipient is a non-profit. Tourism Development Authority (TDA) member Richie Duncan stated the concert series operates under the auspices of Louisburg College, a private not for profit corporation.

Commissioner Foy then made a motion to approve the TDA request to fund a \$5,000 grant for the Allen de Hart Concert Series, seconded by Commissioner Bunn. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

Regarding Item 1-E (Consider Tourism Development Authority request to fund a \$7,000 grant for the Vollmer Farm 2014 Fall Fun Festival), Commissioner Foy asked if Vollmer Farm was a privately owned, for-profit business. He also asked if Vollmer donated any of its earnings back to a “good cause” such as Franklin County. Ms. Duncan stated in compliance with TDA rules, Vollmer Farm will contribute \$76,000 towards an aggressive marketing campaign to include radio and internet advertising. She said Vollmer Farm has donated land to the County on which resides the Tar Pamlico River Camping Platforms and that particular platform was constructed and donated by Novozymes. Commissioner Foy stated he did not support assistance to private, for-profit businesses.

Commissioner May then made a motion to approve the TDA request to fund a \$7,000 grant for the Vollmer Farm 2014 Fall Fun Festival, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion was approved 5 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting “NO.”

Regarding Item 1-I (Agreement for Professional Services between Franklin County and Michael Baker Engineering, Inc. for Preliminary Design for Industrial Area Development – Phase 1), Commissioner Bunn asked Airport Manager Steve Merritt, if parachutes would be in the airfield at any time during the project. Mr. Merritt stated parachutes would not be in the airfield. He went on to say this project is for the development of the Anne Gordon property.

Commissioner Bunn made a motion to approve the Agreement for Professional Services between Franklin County and Michael Baker Engineering, Inc. for Preliminary Design for Industrial Area Development – Phase 1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE.”

## **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.

### **Mike Gerbos, 1144 Lake Royale, Louisburg, NC**

- Mr. Gerbos asked the Board to assist the Lake Royale Community with a reduction in taxes.

### **3. PUBLIC HEARING**

#### ROAP (Rural Operating Assistance Program)

Franklin County was notified by the North Carolina Department of Transportation there is \$148,557 through the Rural Operating Assistance Program for transportation needs. These funds are disbursed in three categories to include: Elderly and Disabled Transportation (\$62,356), Employment Transportation (\$16,465), and Rural General Public Transportation (\$69,736). Notice of the hearing was posted in the September 25, 2014 edition of The Franklin Times. The application was available for review during normal business hours at the Office of the County Manager and Department of Social Services from September 26 to October 3, 2014.

At 7:20 P.M., Chairman Dunston opened and closed the public hearing with no comments offered.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to authorize submission of the application for funding for Franklin County, seconded by Commissioner May. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

### **4. APPLICATION TO HOST A COUNTY PROSPERITY SUMMIT (SPRING 2015)**

Will Brooks, Regional Planning Director, Kerr Tar Council of Governments (COG), was in attendance. The Kerr Tar (COG) requested support of Franklin County to apply to host a regional county summit. NACo (National Association of Counties) will host up to four one-day summits to convene local leaders in rural and mid-size counties to generate creative solutions around local economic development opportunities. The purpose of these summits is to:

1. Introduce counties to innovative approaches to economic development.
2. Assist counties in building strategies to strengthen relationships among local and regional players in community and economic development,
3. Work with counties to identify ways to deepen and sustain current economic development activities, based on local assets, and
4. Investigate ways to infuse equitable development principles into local economic strategies and improve the livelihood of vulnerable populations in persistently poor counties.

Franklin County would serve as the host county with the COG overseeing coordination.

Counties are invited to apply to host a summit in their community, and NACo will work with each selected county to develop a personalized agenda and individualized content relevant to specific local issues. Each summit will convene approximately 25-50 participants, including a broad mixture of county elected officials and staff, other local and regional public officials, business owners, representatives of the nonprofit and philanthropic community and other relevant stakeholders.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to serve as the host county for a prosperity summit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner May and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Mr. Brooks thanked the Board for its support and stated results should be made known in November, 2014.

### **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Bunn nominated Lee Ann O'Neal to serve as his representative on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to appoint Lee Ann O'Neal to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner May. The motion 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 comments were offered.

**Commissioner Foy:** Commissioner Foy commented on his attendance at the 24th Annual Senior Fun Day in the park. He said the event was well attended.

**Commissioner Bunn:** Commissioner Bunn attended a recent meeting of the Lake Royale Property Owner's Association (POA) and stated he clarified some misinformation he felt the POA had been given.

**Commissioner May:** Commissioner May attended several meetings/events including a meeting of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Senior Fun Day in the park, Social Services Board meeting and several local fundraisers. He also attended an event at the O2Energies Solar Farm in which U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack made an announcement regarding the Rural Energy for America Program. Commissioner May also commented on the passing of Justice Volunteer Firefighter John Gupton who died recently in the line of duty.

**Commissioner Jones:** Commissioner Jones attended a recent meeting of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). He also attended the event at O2Energies Solar Farm.

**Commissioner Mitchell:** Commissioner Mitchell was absent.

**Commissioner Dunston:** Commissioner Dunston attended the ceremony with U.S. Department of Agriculture Tom Vilsack at the solar farm in Bunn. He announced an investment the Federal Government is making to renewable energy. Commissioner Dunston also attended the annual banquet of the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Governments. He said all expenses for the banquet were paid for by sponsors.

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

**County Manager Angela L. Harris:** Mrs. Harris commented on the following:

- Ms. Harris thanked Existing Industry Coordinator Richie Duncan and Joel Olson for coordination of the event at O2Energies Solar Farm.
- She announced Airport Road has been taken into the secondary road maintenance program of the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

## **7. CLOSED SESSION**

The Board was asked to enter into closed session pursuant to the following 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 7:34 P.M., Commissioner May made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 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. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried 5 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting "NO."

Following closed session at approximately 8:07 P.M., Commissioner Bunn made a motion to enter back into open session, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

No action was taken.

At 8:08 P.M., Commissioner Bunn made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

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Sidney E. Dunston, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board

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