

September 8, 2015

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

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

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

The items approved are as follows.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. August 17, 2015 Minutes
- B. Fall Litter Sweep 2015 Proclamation
- C. 2015 Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- D. 2015 Fire Prevention Week Proclamation
- E. National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Proclamation
- F. Budget Ordinance Amendment #2 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$75,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 to amend the DEA Special Revenue Fund to reflect additional monies received at the end of June 2015 and currently in Fund Balance to purchase vehicles for the Sheriff's Office.)

Item 1-B

**FALL LITTER SWEEP 2015
BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
A PROCLAMATION**

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

WHEREAS, the fall 2015 LITTER SWEEP roadside cleanup will take place September 19 through October 3, 2015, and encourages 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 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 2015 fall cleanup will celebrate the 27th Anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and its 4,400 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 Franklin County;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim September 19th through October 3, 2015 as LITTER SWEEP time in Franklin County, and encourages citizens to take an active role in making their communities cleaner.

Item 1-C

**2015 CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection report cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among U.S. children between infancy and age 15. This tragic disease is detected in more than 15,000 of our country's young people each and every year; and

WHEREAS, one in five of our nation's children loses his or her battle with cancer. Many infants, children and teens will suffer from long-term effects of comprehensive treatment, including secondary cancers; and

WHEREAS, founded over twenty years ago by Steven Firestein, a member of the philanthropic Max Factor family, the American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. and Kids Cancer Connection, Inc. are dedicated to helping these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection provide a variety of vital patient psychosocial services to children undergoing cancer treatment at North Carolina Children's Hospital in Chapel Hill, Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte, as well as participating hospitals throughout the country, thereby enhancing the quality of life for these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection also sponsor Courageous Kid Recognition Award ceremonies and hospital celebrations in honor of a child's determination and bravery to fight the battle against childhood cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim September as CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Franklin County.

Item 1-D

2015 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the County of Franklin, North Carolina is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our county; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,755 people in the United States in 2013, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 365,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, three out of every five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, in one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working; and

WHEREAS, when smoke alarms should have operated but did not do so it was usually because batteries were missing, disconnected, or dead; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County residents should install smoke alarms and alert devices that meet the needs of people who are deaf and hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County residents should install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" effectively serves to remind us that we need working smoke alarms to give us the time to get out safely,

NOW THEREFORE, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim October 4-10, 2015, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this county, and I urge all the people of Franklin County to test their smoke alarms at least every month by pushing the test button, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Franklin County fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2015.

Item 1-E

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTER'S MEMORIAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the United States Congress and the President of the United States have designated the day of the annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service as a day to honor firefighters and emergency services personnel who have sacrificed their lives to save others by lowering the American flag on all federal buildings to half-staff; and

WHEREAS, an average of 100 firefighters courageously make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty each year; and

WHEREAS, the events of September 11, 2001, brought national attention to the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices faced by fire and emergency services personnel on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, firefighters and emergency services personnel play an essential role in the protection of lives and property in our local community; and

WHEREAS, the National Memorial Service marks the beginning of the annual Fire Prevention Week observance; and

WHEREAS, it is of major importance that we increase our efforts to reduce deaths, injuries, and property losses from fire;

NOW THEREFORE, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim to all citizens of Franklin County and upon all patriotic, civic, and educational organizations to observe the day of October 4, 2015, in recognition of the patriotic service and dedicated efforts of our fire and emergency services personnel by lowering American flags to half-staff. The Board encourages appropriate services and ceremonies in which all of our citizens may participate to honor fire and emergency services personnel, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to duties, have rendered invaluable service to our community and its citizens.

The Board further calls upon citizens of Franklin County to remember all fire and emergency personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community and to pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes.

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 comments were offered.

3. TAR RIVER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Franklin, Vance, Warren and Granville Counties received a federal grant in the amount of \$93,333.34 to hire a consulting firm to write the Tar River Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Franklin County was asked by North Carolina Emergency Management to host the grant. The grant consists of \$70,000 Federal 301 dollars and \$23,333.34 matching funds to be divided between four counties. Four proposals were reviewed and scored by the grant committee. The committee suggested the plan be awarded to Atkins of North America, Inc.

Emergency Services Director Jeff Lewis said Atkins was selected based upon performance with other counties across the state and an interest in risk management.

The plan must be completed by July, 2016 and renewed every five years.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to award the plan to Atkins of North America, Inc. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE." Franklin County's portion of funding is approximately \$5,800.

4. RESOLUTION MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS AND AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS BY THE COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

The County has an opportunity to refinance the General Obligation Series 2005, 2006 and 2007 bonds and save approximately \$1,311,000 over the life of the bonds. Mitchell Robinson, Assistant County Manager of Finance, asked the Board to consider approving the resolution and accepting Paul Billow as attorney and First Tyron as financial advisors as indicated within the resolution.

Mr. Robinson noted the County would spend approximately \$65,000 in fees in order to save \$1.3 million after fees.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to consider approval of the resolution and to accept Paul Billow as attorney and First Tyron as financial advisors. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foy and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Mr. Robinson then asked the Board to consider a motion to accept a proposal from First Citizens Bank in the amount of \$1.6 million for the General Obligation Series 2005 refunding.

Commissioner Lancaster made the motion to consider acceptance of First Citizen's proposal, seconded by Commissioner Foy. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Lastly, Mr. Robinson asked for authority from the Board to form a committee consisting of himself, bond counsel, financial analyst and Commissioner Lancaster. The committee would review bids due September 9, 2015 in order to lock in the best rate. Formal action would then be taken by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner May made a motion to establish the committee suggested by Mr. Robinson with the addition of County Manager Angela Harris. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

Chairman Dunston then acknowledged the presence of Dr. Pascal Mubenga, who was recently appointed to serve as Superintendent of Franklin County Schools.

5. UPDATE: ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AT HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Staff provided an update following recent environmental concerns at the Health and Human Services building. Remediation of mold and associated costs were discussed.

County Manager Angela L. Harris stated Builder Services conducted tests and said results indicated air quality concerns at the Health Department (lab area) and Social Services (offices and lobby area). The entire facility was tested and proved no need for remediation within the Wellness Center and Board of Elections office. A second opinion was sought and identical mold spore issues were revealed.

Staff was relocated within a short period of time and the affected areas were contained by Builder Services. Mrs. Harris said complete remediation is estimated at 30 days, worst case scenario, and recommended the County stay the course and continue working with Builder Services who recently conducted remediation services at the Tax and Planning/Inspections Offices.

She stated each week billing is delayed; the County loses \$23,000 and hinders service to citizens. Repairs by Builder Services are not expected to exceed the parameters of \$155,000 to \$160,000.

Ben Bass, Builder Services Vice President, stated the estimated cost could change depending upon what is discovered when demolition begins.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to approve remediation at the Health and Human Services Building at a cost not to exceed \$155,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner May and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE." If it is discovered repairs will exceed \$155,000, the Board will discuss further action.

6. APPOINTMENTS

Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board

The Board was asked to consider appointing Zac Seger to serve a two-year term on the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board. If appointed, Mr. Seger would serve in a required apprenticeship position on the Board.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to appoint Zac Seger to serve a two-year term on the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

7. OTHER BUSINESS

No additional business items were discussed.

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: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Foy: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Bunn: Commissioner Bunn was absent.

Commissioner May: Commissioner May attended the annual conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in Greenville, North Carolina.

Commissioner Jones: Commissioner Jones attended a recent meeting of the Five County Community Oversight Board (mental health board). He said the area lacks vendors to serve patient demand in the five-county region.

Commissioner Mitchell: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Dunston: No comments were offered.

Commissioner Lancaster: No comments were offered.

County Manager Angela L. Harris: Mrs. Harris noted Triangle North Airport would be the topic of discussion at the next Economic Development Commission meeting scheduled for September 10, 2015.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to the following North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(3) – Attorney-Client Privileged Communication. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and was approved 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting “NO.”

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

No action was taken.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion duly carried approval with all present voting “AYE” and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 P.M.

Sidney E. Dunston, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board