

MARCH 5, 2001

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met in regular session at 7:30 P. M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Robert L. Swanson, Vice Chairman George T. Wynne, Commissioner John R. Ball, Commissioner Harry L. Foy, Jr., Commissioner Edward Strickland.

Mr. Clee Nowell, former Water & Sewer Director, was in attendance in order for the Board to present him a plaque in recognition of his retirement after approximately eight years of county service.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the following Consent Agenda items approved:

- A. Minutes of regular meeting held on February 19, 2001
- B. Tax Collector's Report for the month of February, 2001
- C. List of releases and refunds

Mr. Rick Seekins, Kerr-Tar Council of Governments' representative, was in attendance to review with the Board a resolution that would authorize the filing of an application for \$500,000 in Industrial Development Fund grant monies and further authorize the acceptance of the grant if awarded by the Department of Commerce. The grant funds will be used to provide infrastructure to serve Flextronics International. The County will provide a 25% match and the company will be required to create 100 new jobs within a two-year period.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried adopt resolution entitled "RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA REGARDING A GRANT FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND; resolution is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Dr. Carl Harris, Superintendent of Schools, was in attendance to review with the Board bids that were opened on February 21, 2001, for construction of the South Central Elementary School and to request that the County consider an appropriation of \$3.08 million to enable the project to be undertaken. A decision is also pending on the manner of wastewater treatment for the new school. Dr. Harris also advised that an additional appropriation was being requested in the amount of \$389,000 as start-up funds for the magnet school.

Commissioner Ball inquired as to when the School Facilities Needs Plan had been updated and what was the projected growth pattern for the entire county. Commissioner Ball stated that any action regarding this request from the Board of Education should be delayed until the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education could conduct a work session to provide the Commissioners with all pertinent information.

County Manager Leary stated that the County did not have the funds that the Board of Education was requesting and that an alternative might be to seek a bank qualified loan from a financial institution with a 15-20 year financing plan that would be acceptable to the Local Government Commission. Mr. Leary stated that the deadline for filing such an application was March 15, and due to the fact that the Board would not be meeting again before that date it was necessary for the Board to authorize the staff to proceed with the preparation of an application at this time. Formal approval of a resolution authorizing the filing of the application and a public hearing could be scheduled for March 19.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2001--- continued

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Strickland with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that administrative staff proceed with preparing an application to be filed with the Local Government Commission for permission to borrow the required local funds through a bank qualified loan for the construction of the new elementary school, and that a workshop be scheduled between the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education for Thursday, March 8, 2001, at 7:00 P. M. in the Wiley Mitchell Media Center.

Proper notice having been given this is the time and place set for a public hearing to receive comment on the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Chairman Swanson declared the public hearing open and recognized Mr. Matt Livingston, Planning Director, who made comments regarding the Plan. Mr. Livingston stated that the Plan was prepared by Holland Consulting Planners, Inc. with funds received under the Hazard Mitigation Grant received by the County in 1998. The Plan outlines actions for the County to take in order to reduce its vulnerability to natural disasters and minimize the impact when said disasters occur.

Chairman Swanson then called for public comments and hearing none declared the public hearing closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Strickland with all present voting "AYE" duly carried adopt the FRANKLIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN effective immediately.

County Manager Leary reviewed with the Board action taken at a previous meeting regarding Franklin County acting as the lead applicant for Housing Crisis funds to benefit individuals whose homes were damaged during Hurricane Floyd. At that meeting the Board approved applicants from Granville and Durham Counties to be made a part of the County's application that is being prepared by Holland Consulting Planners. Mr. Leary stated that the County had received a request from Person County that one house in that county be included in the County's application.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried approve the inclusion of one eligible applicant from Person County in Franklin County's application for Housing Crisis Assistance Funds.

County Manager Leary reviewed with the Board a position paper regarding the protection of the US 401 corridor. Mr. Leary stated that the paper reiterates the County's priority emphasis on the multi-laning of US 401. He further stated that the paper directs the planning staff to develop a highway overlay district for the corridor to mitigate the cost of right-of-way acquisition by excluding improvements from occurring in the projected corridor.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried approve position paper entitled "POSITION PAPER OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF THE US 401 CORRIDOR; copy attached and made a part of these minutes.

County Manager Leary reviewed with the Board the process necessary to allow the County to accelerate the revaluation cycle for real property from January 1, 2006 to January 1, 2004. Mr. Leary stated that

this process would help the County to achieve a higher sales assessment ratio and help to mitigate the fluctuations in value that can occur during the eight year cycle. Mr. Leary further stated that the Board is required to adopt a resolution informing the North Carolina Department of Revenue of the County's intent.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2001---continued

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Swanson with all present voting "AYE" duly carried adopt resolution entitled "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING A REAPPRAISAL OF REAL PROPERTY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY"; copy of the resolution is attached and made a part of these minutes.

County Manager Leary discussed the Water & Sewer Extension Policy which can be applied whenever industrial or economic development is occurring. Mr. Leary stated that this policy had been revised for clarity and included a limitation on the amount of financial participation by the County whenever infrastructure is being extended which infrastructure is not owned by the County nor revenue received by providing utility service through said infrastructure.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Strickland with all present voting "AYE" duly carried adopt the revised "WATER AND SEWER EXTENSION POLICY", effective immediately.

County Manager Leary discussed with the Board a proposed amendment between the County and the City of Henderson regarding the refinancing of the waterline from Henderson to the Tar River. A previous amendment adopted by the Board required the City to secure refinancing by April 1, 2001. The City is requesting that the County approve an amendment that would delay its closing for an additional thirty days until the end of April in order to receive a more favorable interest rate.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried approve the amendment to the agreement between the City of Henderson and Franklin County extending the date for refinancing of the City debt to May 1, 2001.

County Manager Leary advised the Board that the agreement with Waste Management for transporting waste from the transfer station expired in October, 2000, and the company is requesting that the agreement be extended for five years. The company had agreed to accept a provision that the County will be allowed to terminate the agreement with six months notice in the event that the County elects to build another transfer station either independently or in conjunction with private enterprise. Mr. Leary stated that this extension only amounted to one of limited duration as the County could give a six month notice at any time.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried approve an extension of the agreement with Waste Management for the hauling of waste with the provision that the County can terminate the agreement with six months notice.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Strickland with all present voting "AYE" the Board of Commissioners will sit as the Board of Equalization and Review for the purpose of hearing taxpayers' appeals of property values on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, and Thursday, April 12, 2001, at 7:00 P. M. in the Conference Room of the County Office Building, 215 East Nash Street., Louisburg, NC.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball, voting "AYE" Commissioner Wynne, Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Strickland, Commissioner Swanson, voting "NO" Commissioner Foy, the Board went into Closed Session pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (5) and (6) to consider matters related to property acquisition and the performance of a public employee.

Upon motion Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried the Board reconvened into regular session and Chairman Swanson stated the following action necessary as a result of the Closed Session.

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Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that Mr. Jim Wrenn, Assistant Tax Assessor, be appointed to serve as the Acting Tax Administrator effective Monday, March 12, 2001.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Wynne with all present voting "AYE" duly carried Ms. Angela L. Harris, Assistant County Manager, be appointed to serve as the Acting County Manager effective at 5:00 P. M., March 9, 2001, with a 20% increase in salary during this period.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy, seconded by Commissioner Strickland, voting "AYE" Commissioner Foy, Commissioner Strickland; voting "NO" Commissioner Ball, Commissioner Swanson, Commissioner Wynne, that County Attorney Batton sit at a side table to eliminate the crowded seating conditions.

The Chairman presented a plaque to the County Manager expressing appreciation for his service to the County from December 4, 1995, to March 9, 2001.

There being no further business to come before the Board, adjournment recorded at 9:30 P. M.

Robert L. Swanson, Chairman Jean Gordon, Clerk