

NOVEMBER 19, 2001

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met in regular session at 6:00 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 G. Strickland.

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

Minutes of meetings held on November 5 & November 9, 2001

Ms. Earlene Thomas, Transportation Engineer, Statewide Planning Branch, North Carolina Department of Transportation, appeared before the Board to review with the Board the preliminary recommendation for the Franklin County Thoroughfare Plan. Ms. Thomas stated that she had worked with the Planning Department staff and the municipalities on the formulation of the draft. The Board agreed that the multi-laning of US 401 continues to be the County's top priority. The next step in this process will be to hold public information sessions throughout the County during the month of December to receive input on the plan. The Board will review the plan in January for possible adoption after conducting a public hearing.

Commissioner Foy reported that the Health Board was still accepting applications for the position of Health Director.

Commissioner Ball reported that he had attended his first meeting of the Human Resources Committee through the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and the main discussion was the lack of in depth study of what the impact of the new state law regarding the Mental Health Program would have on counties.

Commissioner Wynne reported that he had attended the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments meeting in which Secretary of Transportation Lyndo Tippettt had spoken. Secretary Tippettt stated that input from citizens was needed in each community to ensure funds were made available for road needs.

The Board discussed a proposal to prepare a Community Development Block Grant Scattered Site Application and to provide Administrative Services for Franklin County received from the Kerr-Tar Council of Governments. The County has received a tentative grant award in the amount of \$400,000 from the North Carolina Division of Community Assistance and it is necessary to obtain the services of a consultant to administer the program. Ms. Harris stated that due to the fact there was an interlocal agreement between the County and the Council of Governments that it was not necessary to advertise for bids for this project. Commissioner Ball stated that it was his understanding that the request for the proposal from the Council of Governments was for review and was not to say no other bids would be solicited.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Foy with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that the County solicit bids from additional bidders, including Holland Consulting Planners, to prepare a Community Development Block Grant Application and to provide Administrative Services for Franklin County.

The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments serves as the Lead Regional Organization for the purpose of assisting local governments in preparation of grant applications, support economic development, community development. The State had appropriated \$55,000 to Region K with Franklin County's share being \$10,908.64. It is necessary for the Board to adopt a resolution releasing these

funds to the Council of Governments.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2001---continued

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Foy with all present voting "AYE" adopt resolution authorizing the State to release Franklin County's funds in the amount of \$10,908.64 to the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments in accordance with provisions of state law.

Upon motion by Commissioner Strickland, seconded by Commissioner Swanson with all present voting "AYE" duly carried upon the recommendation of the Finance Director approve "BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NUMBER THREE (3); copy of amendment found in the Budget Ordinance Book.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Foy with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that Mr. Pete McGhee, retired deputy from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department be allowed to receive his service revolver as has been the practice for other retiring officers.

Commissioner Foy stated that at a previous meeting the Board had voted to solicit proposals to update the County's public safety communications system and it was decided that the bidders would review and advise the County what was needed. Commissioner Foy further stated that the County should find out what is needed and not depend on the vendors. The Board had also voted to have an outside communications expert to review the bids prior to awarding. The Board requested that the engineering reports previously done identifying the problems and how the problems could be fixed be made available for their review.

Mr. George Lemmons, National Weather Service, was in attendance on behalf of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and the National Weather Service, to recognize Franklin County as StormReady. StormReady, designed by the National Weather Service, is a program to help counties reduce the potential for weather-related disasters. To become StormReady, county governments must create a Hazardous Weather Operations Plan, establish a 24-hour warning point (911 center) and Emergency Operations Center, the 911 Center and the EOC must have multiple ways to receive NWS warnings, monitor local weather and water elements, multiple ways to disseminate warnings, weather radios and must co-host a spotter training session.

Ms. Angie Callihan, Emergency Services Director, was in attendance to request the Board adopt a proclamation recognizing the Region K Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team for the extraordinary efforts exhibited by them in rendering aid to the citizens and emergency services personnel in the County.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Foy with all present voting "AYE" duly carried adopt proclamation entitled "REGION K CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING TEAM A PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION".

Mr. Larry Tetterton, Chairman, Franklin County Board of Elections, Board of Elections Members Ms. Jan Spinks and Mr. Walter Yarborough and Mr. Billy Craft, Board of Elections Supervisor, were in attendance to request the Board to provide additional space necessary due to legislation allowing no-excuse absentee one-stop voting in both the primary and general elections held in even number years beginning with the 2002 primary elections. Previously, the no-excuse voting was in the Board of Elections Office, but due to the large number of citizens involved it is no longer feasible to use that space. They requested that they be allowed to use the Commissioners Meeting Room from 8:00 A. M.

until 5:00 P. M. each day for twenty-two days prior to the elections. They further requested that the Board be allowed to hire one full-time employee and four part-time employees in order to staff the no-excuse voting location.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2001---continued

Upon motion by Commissioner Wynne, seconded by Commissioner Ball with all present voting "AYE" duly carried that the Franklin County Board of Elections be allowed to use the Commissioners Meeting Room for the no-excuse absentee one-stop voting location from 8:00 A. M. until 5:00 P. M. each day for the following elections:

April 16, 2002 until Saturday, May 3, 2002 for the May 2002 Primary Elections; the second primary in 2002 (dates to be determined if required); for the twenty-two days prior to the November 5th General Election; further authorize the Board of Elections to hire one full-time employee and four part-time employees to staff the no-excuse voting location.

There being no further business to come before the Board adjournment recorded at 8:00 P. M.

Robert L. Swanson, Chairman Jean Gordon, Clerk