

**September 5, 2006**

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met in Regular Session at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Sidney E. Dunston, Vice-Chairman Lynwood D. Buffaloe, Commissioners Harry L. Foy, Jr., Raymond A. Stone, Jimmie R. Gupton, Donald C. Lancaster, and Robert L. Swanson.

#### **1. CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval of the following consent agenda items:

- A. Authorize Chairman to execute the final settlement agreement in accordance with the instructions previously given by the Board in the matter of Franklin County vs. Jackson Road, LLC and Stewart Proctor, PLLC
- B. Declaration of Surplus Property and Disposition of two vehicles for \$1.00 each to Louisburg College
- C. Fall Litter Sweep 2006 Proclamation

#### **2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No public comments were made.

#### **3. BID RECOMMENDATION FOR MAJESTIC MARBLE**

Bid openings for the extension of water and sewer infrastructure to serve the Majestic Marble facilities on Northbrook Drive were conducted August 31, 2006 following approval for funding by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners on August 21, 2006. The Engineer's estimate for the project was \$69,550. Six bids were received from a high bid of \$94,954.56 to a low bid of \$66,000 which was submitted by Vaughan's Utilities of Wake Forest, North Carolina. Consulting engineers Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates, P.A. and staff both recommended Vaughan Utilities. Public Utilities Director Bryce Mendenhall stated the company has worked with Franklin County in the past and provided quality, reputable work.

Additionally, Mendenhall asked the Board for authorization to negotiate with Vaughan Utilities, the low bidder, to extend the infrastructure to maximize the funds that were originated from Franklin County Tax Administrator Jim Wrenn in association with the seven year payback of \$80,717. This portion of the project would qualify for Franklin County's reimbursement policy according to Mendenhall.

Upon motion by Commissioner Buffaloe to award the bid to Vaughan Utilities of Wake Forest, the lowest bidder, and to authorize the Public Utilities Director to negotiate further extension of the infrastructure, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE", the motion duly carried.

#### **4. ANIMAL SHELTER STATUS**

County staff, shelter committee representatives, and Walter Vick of LSV Partnership Architects/Planners provided a status brief outlining where work is relative to the initial programming phase for a new animal shelter. County Manager Chris Coudriet initiated the

discussion with a PowerPoint presentation as follows:

### **Animal Shelter Status Report**

- What has the shelter committee accomplished?
- What's the best option?
- What are the next steps?

### **What have we accomplished?**

- Regular communication between county staff, the Humane Society, and Walter Vick
- Detailed analysis of trend data, e.g., adoptions, euthanasia, animal population
- Assessment of current facility vis-à-vis future needs
- Facility sketches associated with trend data

### **What's the best option?**

- Considerations
  - Renovation of existing facility
  - New facility at current site
  - New facility on other county property
- Preferred option:
  - New facility on other county property

### **What are the next steps?**

- Conclude first phase development as directed by the board of commissioners
  - Limited design and cost estimation for a new facility
- Present vision and cost to commissioners
- Board commits, or not, to final design

Mr. Vick said there is inadequate space and ventilation in the current animal shelter and pointed out there are strict policies on how animals can be stored. He suggested the County create a facility that would meet requirements and sustain the community's needs for the next 10 to 15 years.

In response to a question by Commissioner Gupton regarding costs for the project, Mr. Vick speculated \$150 per square foot. He then stated if the Board was in agreement with the program, a project design and budget would be the next step in the process.

Commissioner Foy asked Franklin County Humane Society President Ida Estep if fundraising efforts were in place to help raise money for the shelter. Ms. Estep stated approximately five thousand dollars had been raised by the shelter committee, but stated now is not the proper time to solicit large donations from corporations when an operating budget and formal plans to build are not yet in place.

No formal action on the project was required or taken. However, the Board instructed staff to prepare a final recommendation to include a schematic and solid budget estimation and return that immediately.

## **5. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Upon motion by Commissioner Lancaster to appoint Youngsville Police Chief Larry Pritchett (chief of police representative), Chief Court Counselor Cynthia Yancey (chief court counselor or designee), Minister Ralphael Holloman (member of faith community) and Franklin County Safe Schools Coordinator Monty Riggs (county commissioner appointee) for a two-year term expiring September, 2008 and to reassign Tamara Wheeler from “court counselor designee” to “county commissioner appointee”, seconded by Commissioner Stone, with all present voting “AYE”, duly carried.

## **6. COMMITTEE OF 100 PROPOSAL**

Commissioner Don Lancaster outlined a shell building partnership opportunity between the county and the Committee of 100. He stated the Committee of 100 had been searching for a couple of years for land to build a shell building. Commissioner Lancaster said land had been located near the Franklin County Regional Airport where the county owns 48 acres. The Committee of 100 proposed the county allow them to use 24 acres to build a 30 to 35 thousand square foot shell building to attract new industry to the area. Commissioner Lancaster stated a price per acre would be established upon completion of an appraisal. He also stated the county would be reimbursed for the fair market value once the property is sold and then possibly build a second shell building on the site as well. Commissioner Lancaster then encouraged the board to establish a performance evaluation to measure progress on the project and stated work on the project will start within six months.

Upon motion by Commissioner Lancaster to allow the Committee of 100 to use the 24 acres as discussed to build a 30 to 35 thousand square foot shell building with work starting in six months, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting “AYE”, duly carried.

## **7. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK’S COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Foy** – No report.

**Commissioner Stone** – Commissioner Stone reported he represented the county at the Council of Governments meeting in August that involved the COG’s new director. He also commented on a meeting he attended of the Five County Mental Health Authority. In addition, he attended a board training meeting at Vance Granville Community College as well as a meeting with Congressman Bob Etheridge at the Franklinton Senior Center where Medicaid and Medicare were topics of discussion.

**Commissioner Buffaloe** – Commissioner Buffaloe commented on the bid process for T-Hangars at the airport and stated completion is expected in late winter or early spring. He also commented that Congressman Bob Etheridge presented a flag to the Franklin County Regional Airport that was flown over the Capitol Building. He mentioned that nine new aircraft have been added to the field in Franklin County and said there is a waiting list of 20 people who wish to occupy the 18 new hangars that will soon be constructed. Commissioner Buffaloe said a second session of the flight school being taught at Vance Granville Community College’s Franklin County campus will be taught by Airport Director Leigh Osborn.

**Commissioner Dunston** – Chairman Dunston commented on a meeting with the Regional Economic Development Group relative to how the region is growing. He stated Franklin County is in an enviable position compared to other areas that don’t have the same potential for

growth.

**Commissioner Swanson** – Commissioner Swanson reported on conversations with people who were not previously satisfied with operations at the airport and who now say they are pleased with improvements and direction there. He also expressed interest in future discussions on the purchase of more land at the airport.

**Commissioner Gupton** – Commissioner Gupton echoed similar comments on the airport and stated he was pleased to see its progress.

**Commissioner Lancaster** – No report.

**County Manager Chris Coudriet** – Mr. Coudriet commented on preparations by the county's Emergency Management Office on preparing for Tropical Storm Ernesto. He felt the process used was effective and the communication was satisfactory as well. He stated a critique of the process would soon be conducted. Mr. Coudriet stated a request to the North Carolina Department of Transportation to repair West River Road was not feasible. He said there is no time line for repair because DOT is looking for a long term solution. In other business, he commented on the Burlington Mills water intake. He said the county is asking for a denial in the reclassification of the water supply from "water supply four" to "water supply 5." If the denial is granted, the Board will be asked to commit to a feasibility study. Finally, Mr. Coudriet said maintenance and planning staff had been contacted in reference to a deconstruction plan for the old Epsom School property and reminded the Board of the Infrastructure Forum at Novozymes sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.

**County Clerk Kristen King** – Ms. King reminded the Board of upcoming meetings and workshops of interest.

At approximately 8:31P.M., upon motion by Commissioner Swanson to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Stone, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried.

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Sidney E. Dunston, Chairman

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board