

**September 18, 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 Stone, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried approval of the following consent agenda items:

- A. Tax collection report
- B. Firemen's Relief Fund resolution
- C. Request from Epsom fire and Rescue for donation of flag pole located at Epsom School

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No comments were made.

**3. RETIREMENT RECOGNITION**

The Board recognized Mr. Billy Craft for 14 years of service with the Franklin County Board of Elections following his retirement August 31, 2006. Chairman Dunston presented a plaque to Mr. Craft in appreciation of his service to the county.

**4. BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PRESENTATION**

Representatives Keith Smith, Heidi Smith, Paige Sayles and Rosemary Champion of the Franklin County Boys and Girls Club briefed the Board on the history of the organization and defined ways the county might assist with immediate and long range goals. Heidi Smith stated the program helps to develop children and mold them into productive citizens by providing a safe place for kids to learn and grow, foster ongoing relationships with caring adult professionals and provide life enhancing programs and character development to children. Rosemary Champion stated the Franklin County Chapter has received its 501 (c)(3) tax exempt status and currently leases the Riverside Elementary School gymnasium. She said the group has obtained \$10,000 in private donations, a \$50,000 grant which is contingent on matching funds, \$12,000 from Franklin Regional Medical Center and a \$25,000 donation from Embarq to create a technology center for the children. Champion said the target opening date is October 15, 2006. Keith Smith stated the total need for the organization is \$300,000 and stated the Boys and Girls Club would be asking for monetary assistance from the Board of Commissioners in the near future. He also stated the money raised in Franklin County would stay in the county and would be used exclusively to help Franklin County children. Children between the ages of 6 and 18 are eligible for involvement in Boys and Girls Clubs. An office for the organization has been set up at the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce office in Louisburg.

**5. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION**

Judicial District Manager Royster Washington presented the Division of Community

Corrections annual report covering the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 for Judicial District 9. He stated drugs and alcohol are the biggest nuisances in Franklin County. He also said problems related with gang activity are increasing in the area.

Upon motion by Commissioner Foy to approve the annual report, seconded by Commissioner Stone, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried.

## **6. VETERANS SERVICES UPDATE**

Franklin County Veterans Services Director Victor Alston briefed the Board on the status of the plaque to honor Franklin County veterans who lost their lives as a result of their involvement in World War II. Alston stated plans to dedicate the plaque are tentatively scheduled for November 11, 2006 at 11:00A.M. at the Franklin County Courthouse which is also where the plaque will be located.

## **7. BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #2**

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer requested a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$43,153 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 to reflect grants received by the Franklin County Health Department.

Upon motion by Commissioner Buffaloe to approve the budget ordinance amendment, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried.

## **8. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Foy** – No report.

**Commissioner Stone** – Commissioner Stone commented on the September 11<sup>th</sup> observance held recently at the Franklin County Courthouse. He also commented on the annual NCACC (North Carolina Association of County Commissioners) conference held in Winston Salem.

**Commissioner Buffaloe** – Commissioner Buffaloe said he attended the Infrastructure Forum at Novozymes sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. He commented on the overall good attendance of the meeting and the topics discussed during the forum.

**Commissioner Swanson** – Commissioner Swanson also commented on the NCACC annual meeting he attended recently and stated he is pleased with actions being taken by the association.

**Commissioner Gupton** – Commissioner Gupton mentioned a recent Vance, Warren, Franklin Opportunity meeting he attended and stated the program suffered a loss of \$4 million for next year. He also mentioned a feasibility study being done relative to the possibility of creating a new farmer's market in the county.

**Commissioner Lancaster** – Commissioner Lancaster stated he attended an Economic Development meeting and shared details on the recent action by Commissioners to develop a new shell building in Franklin County near the airport. He also reminded the Board of the annual banquet and meeting of the Committee of 100 scheduled for September 21, 2006 at Hill Ridge Farms. Additionally he commented on good news pertaining to the HUB site he

hoped to share at the next Board meeting and mentioned there was good attendance at Youngsville Area Kids Soccer opening day.

**Commissioner Dunston** – Commissioner Dunston also attended the NCACC annual conference meeting and stated he was excited to hear of the positive movements being made in the county concerning economic development. He also attended the Infrastructure forum at Novo and said there was positive input from many public and private entities as it relates to future development and said Franklin County has a lot to be proud of.

**County Manager Chris Coudriet** – Mr. Coudriet commented on the Burlington Mills water intake stating the reclassification was not honored, meaning the intake will remain a viable and a potable water source. A detailed action plan outlining the next steps recommended by staff is expected in October. Mr. Coudriet then updated the Board on the Epsom School deconstruction plan and said RFP's for asbestos abatement went forth last week. He stated abatement should be completed in November. He commented on the Adequate Public Schools Ordinance and stated the Board of Education and Board of Commissioners must soon enter into a memorandum of understanding. He expects a final document to be presented to the Board in the very near future. Finally, he commented on close contact with the school system pertaining to school construction at-large and progress on the \$30 million bond approved in 2004. He stated funding plans are being refined and will be brought back to the Board for consideration in October.

**County Clerk Kristen King** – Mrs. King commented on several upcoming events of interest to the Board.

Upon motion to adjourn by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Gupton, with all present voting "AYE", duly carried.

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Sidney E. Dunston, Chairman

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board