

February 4, 2008

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for a Work Shop at 6:00 P.M. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Robert L. Swanson, Vice-Chairman Penny McGhee-Young, Commissioners Lynwood D. Buffaloe, Sidney E. Dunston, Harry L. Foy, Jr. and Bob Winters. Commissioner Donald C. Lancaster was absent.

Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order for the purpose of continuing its discussion on the policies and procedures of the Board of Commissioners.

The Board discussed revisions and decided to have further discussion on **Item 6 (page 11)** at a later board meeting because a consensus could not be reached. All suggested revisions will be voted on during a regular public meeting.

Following the Work Shop, the board met for its regular meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner Young then made a motion to remove Item 1-A from the consent agenda for discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Winters and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Winters made a motion to removed Item 1-C from the consent agenda for discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Young and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Upon motion by Commissioner Buffaloe to approve the remainder of the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dunston, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried. The items approved are as follows:

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- ~~A. Consider TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$16,000 grant through the Cooperative Extension Service (Farm Day) and \$3500 for Louisburg College (concert event)~~
- B. Consider adoption of a Program Manual Resolution and Grant Project Ordinance for the County's FY06 CDBG-CN grant
- ~~C. Consider approval of increased rate/fee charges for Home Health/Dental~~
- D. Budget Ordinance Amendment #4 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$128,739 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 to reflect grants received by the Health Department, donations to the Aging Department, donations and fees collected by the 4-H program and additional Crisis allocation.)

In reference to **Item 1-A (Consider TDA request to fund a \$16,000 grant through the Cooperative Extension Service for Farm Day and \$3500 for a concert event at Louisburg College)**, Commissioner Young wanted clarification as to why Louisburg College asked to fund an event that had already occurred at the time of the meeting. She also inquired about rationale for the amount requested. Members of the TDA (Tourism Development Authority) were present and commented the application was submitted to the group prior to the event and said the TDA unanimously recommended the proposal and thought it was a worthwhile event. College staff was uncertain of how many people would attend and based their request on that uncertainty. Members said the college requested a range of funding and that the TDA selected the lesser of the request to fund. Commissioner Dunston said he attended the concert and felt it was a worthwhile event.

Upon motion by Commissioner Winters to approve the requests (Item 1-A), seconded by Commissioner Dunston, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

In reference to **Item 1-C (Consider approval of increased rate/fee charges for Home Health/Dental)**, Commissioner Winters had a question about one of the rate increases. Eric Ireland, Health Director, stated the fees were correct and in line with Medicaid.

Upon motion by Commissioner Winters to accept the increased rate/fee charges for Home Health/Dental, seconded by Commissioner Dunston, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments were made during this time set aside by the Board of Commissioners to allow individuals five minutes to address the Board on issues concerning the county.

3. RESOLUTION FOR THE INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF THE BOND ORDER AUTHORIZING \$53 MILLION

Chuck Murray, Finance Director, asked the Board to consider approval of the bond order authorizing \$53 million in school bonds and to receive the sworn statement of debt and call for a public hearing upon such order.

Mr. Murray stated this is one of the first steps in the process to put the bond before the voters. He asked that the public hearing be set for February 18, 2008.

Upon motion by Commissioner Lancaster to approve the bond order, to receive the sworn statement of debt and to call for the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Dunston, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

4. POTENTIAL GRANT FUNDS FOR WATER LINE EXTENSION ON NORTHBROOK DRIVE

Due to increased development, a water line extension is needed to improve water pressure for sprinklers in some of the businesses locating along Northbrook Drive. Additionally, a water line extension would provide an increase in water quality by creating a looped system.

The Economic Development Team presented the request and asked the Board for its permission to move forward with the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) for water line extension on Northbrook Drive and to commit funding not provided by the CDBG funds not to exceed 25% of the total project cost or \$10,250.

To qualify for the CDBG program, a business must be willing to commit jobs valued at \$10,000 per job. According to staff, Arch Aluminum has agreed to commit to up to 15 jobs at \$10,000 per job. However, for this particular project a commitment of only three jobs are required from Arch Aluminum for a total funding of \$30,000. Arch Aluminum and CDBG would enter into a performance agreement for the jobs and money is supplied only after there is verification of the job creation. Should the necessary jobs not be created, Arch Aluminum will be financially obligated to the CDBG for re-payment of any funds.

Commissioner Winters made the motion to approve the request. The motion received a second by Commissioner Dunston and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

5. GRANT FUNDS FOR EAST YOUNGSVILLE SEWER EXPANSION

The Economic Development office has presented a pre-application to the Rural Center for funding for the East Youngsville Sewer Expansion. The expansion proposed includes design, permitting and installation of a 6" force main on Tarboro Road in Youngsville to provide connectivity between Cedar Creek Road and Mays Crossroads Road. The line would be limited to commercial/retail expansions only. The Economic

Development Team presented cost estimates and information on potential grant opportunities.

According to Ronnie Goswick, Economic Development Director, the estimated cost of the project is \$500,000. He said a pre-application has already been submitted to the Rural Center and reminded the Board of the requirements of the grant including the fact that the business must be willing to commit jobs. In this case, Hill Ridge Farms has committed to 25 jobs at \$10,000 per job for a total of \$250,000. He said the maximum allowable is one-half of the cost of the project or \$250,000. The grant also includes a performance agreement obligating Hill Ridge Farms for the 25 jobs. Staff said maximum exposure for Franklin County is one-half of the cost of the project with minimum exposure at five percent or \$25,000 which is a minimum commitment for the Rural Center grant. Should other funds become available via other grants, these funds would be used to offset the expense for the county. Other possible grants include the CDBG (maximum allowable: \$250,000) and the USDA/RBEG grant (maximum allowable: \$75,000).

Upon motion by Commissioner Dunston to proceed with the USDA Grant application, Rural Center Grant full application and commitment of funds for the East Youngsville Sewer Expansion, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, with all present voting "AYE," duly carried.

6. SUMMARY REPORT ON CDP PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

In November and early December, 2007, County Planning staff with assistance from the North Carolina Department of Community Assistance (DCA), sponsored five workshops at locations across the county to provide the general public with information on the upcoming Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) and to receive feedback. Patrick Young, Planning and Inspections Director and DCA representatives John Morck and Will Best presented a summary of citizen input.

No action was needed.

7. BURLINGTON MILLS INTAKE STUDY PREPARED BY HOBBS/UPCHURCH AND ASSOCIATES

Bryce Mendenhall, Public Utilities Director and Fred Hobbs, a representative from the engineering firm of Hobbs/Upchurch and Associates presented a summary of findings from the Burlington Mills Water Intake Study. The study was commissioned by the Board of Commissioners in mid 2007 to identify possible alternate sources of potable water for Franklin County.

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Hobbs briefed the Board on current conditions of the county's water/wastewater system along with projected population growth and projected water demand.

(SEE ATTACHMENT A – 020408)

Mr. Hobbs said based on demand projections it is imperative the county begin negotiations with the City of Henderson to expand the purchase of water immediately. He also recommended that the county explore legal avenues for the Burlington Mills site in Wake County along with the cost to develop. When the Board asked if the Burlington Mills site was in jeopardy, Mr. Hobbs stated there was a possibility the site may not even exist by the year 2010. He said there are currently requests pending before the Environmental Management Commission to reclassify the run of the river to "WS-5" which would prohibit the use of Burlington Mill for water production purposes. He said action by Franklin County to explore the use of the intake as a water source stalled an attempt to have the river reclassified.

Mr. Hobbs suggested the need to explore a regional project with Kerr Lake along with the Burlington Mills Intake as potential sources. Additionally he said once the alternatives are identified, the county should compare each on a present worth

economic basis. He also recommended the county establish a reclaimed water system in both the Tar and Neuse Basins which would serve to aid in the acquisition of an IBT (Inter Basin Transfer) certificate.

In response to a question from Chairman Swanson, Mr. Hobbs indicated that the Burlington Mills site is a viable option as a potential water source that should receive further commitment from Franklin County.

At the close of the presentation, Commissioner Lancaster made the motion to instruct Mr. Mendenhall to continue looking for options and suggested the board schedule a workshop concerning water needs in Franklin County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Young and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

A workshop to further discuss Franklin County's water needs was scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 7:00 P.M.

8. REQUEST FOR FUNDING 2008/2009 TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES FOR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY

Holt Kornegay, Library Director, asked the Board to assist its competitive bid for federal 2008/2009 Library Service and Technology Act funds in the amount of \$100,000. He explained the intent of the project is to provide inventory management control and stated a commitment of support from the county is required to pursue the grant application process.

Commissioner Lancaster stated he would like to see a business plan. He stated he would also like for Mr. Kornegay to explore other grant sources.

Commissioner Winters asked that Mr. Kornegay come back before the Board at its February 18, 2008 meeting with more information. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Swanson and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

9. APPOINTMENTS

A. Airport Commission

One appointment was needed to the Airport Commission (Commissioner Foy). No appointment was made.

B. Department of Aging Advisory Board

An appointment was needed to the Department of Aging Advisory Board (Commissioner Winters). No appointment was made.

C. Upper Neuse River Basin Association

An appointment was needed to the Upper Neuse River Basin Association. No appointment was made.

D. Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority

An appointment was needed to the Industrial Facilities Pollution Control Financing Authority. No appointment was made.

E. Animal Advisory Board

Two appointments were needed to the Animal Advisory Board. Commissioner Foy nominated **Sandra Wood**. The nomination was approved with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Winters stated he would make an appointment at a later date.

F. Youngsville Planning Board ETJ

Mr. Gerald White and Mr. Neil Holden have chosen not to be reappointed to the Youngsville Planning Board. The following individuals have agreed to serve for a three year term.

- Donnie Tharrington (appointment)
- Earl Haga (appointment)
- John Cyrus (reappointment)

Upon motion by Commissioner Buffaloe to approve the appointment of Donnie Tharrington and Earl Haga and the reappointment of John Cyrus to the Youngsville Planning Board ETJ, seconded by Commissioner Dunston, with all present voting “AYE,” duly carried.

G. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

An appointment was needed to replace Richard Tafe on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. (Winters)

Commissioner Winters nominated **Chris Schmidt**. The nomination was approved with all present voting “AYE.”

10. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK’S COMMENTS

Commissioner Lancaster: No report.

Commissioner Buffaloe: No report.

Commissioner Dunston: Commissioner Dunston stated he attended a recent Regional Transportation meeting and said he spoke with Department of Transportation representative Wally Bowman about the possibility of erecting signage or a signal at the intersection of Highway 96 and Pocomoke Road. Mr. Bowman reported the intersection was already being examined for future safety improvements. Commissioner Dunston also reported the intersection and Highway 56 East and Bickett Boulevard will soon be altered to make turning easier especially for large vehicles. Additionally he stated a CDBG project just north of Louisburg could result in the creation of a four lane highway from Highway 56 to the Oakwood Cemetery. He said the Town of Louisburg would likely support that funding.

Commissioner Young: Commissioner Young attended the State and National Association of Counties Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee conference. She said topics discussed included the economy’s effect on crime, the increased costs of mentally ill patients in jails, gangs and youth in prison. Lastly she mentioned a Board of Health meeting she attended and said the board had now appointed a treasurer/finance director to point board action in the positive direction. She then mentioned the need for a crisis unit in the mental health field.

Commissioner Winters: No report.

Commissioner Foy: No report.

Commissioner Swanson: No report.

Interim County Manager Angela Harris: Mrs. Harris said a change order would soon be brought to the Board relative to the animal shelter project. When the Board approved the project, plans included the utilization of an older generator already owned by the county. Since that time the architects have analyzed the equipment and decided it was not a viable source. She suggested delaying the purchase of the crematory (\$60,000) an alternative would be to keep the crematory and spend an additional \$45,000 to purchase a new generator for the facility. The Board came to a consensus the purchase of the crematory should be delayed. Mrs. Harris then commented on two successful

compliance audits of the Solid Waste facility. She stated the audit did include a list of improvements that should be made. Mrs. Harris suggested the Board schedule a workshop to discuss exclusively the jail study that is now complete. She said the estimated number of beds is larger than originally discussed which means the cost of the project has increased significantly. Mrs. Harris said progress is being made at the old Epsom school site and recommended that vacancies on various boards and commissions be advertised on the county's website. The Board agreed to proceed with the recommendation.

County Clerk Kristen King: No report.

11. CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to NC 143-318.11 (a)(4) to discuss matters related to the location or expansion of businesses including an agreement on a tentative list of incentives that may be offered by the Board of Commissioners in negotiations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Winters, and carried approval 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy voting "NO."

Following the closed session, Commissioner Dunston made a motion to enter back into open session, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe and with all present voting "AYE," the motion duly carried.

The Chairman announced that no action was taken.

Upon motion by Commissioner Dunston to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Buffaloe, the motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Robert L. Swanson, Chairman

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board