

December 7, 2009

The Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for its Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioner's Conference Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Commissioners present: Chairman Robert L. Swanson, Vice-Chairman Penny McGhee-Young, Donald C. Lancaster, Sidney E. Dunston, E. Shane Mitchell, Bob Winters and Harry L. Foy, Jr.

Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to County Attorney Darnell Batton for the election of officers.

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Commissioner Young to serve as Chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunston.

Commissioner Winters then nominated Commissioner Foy to serve as Chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lancaster.

Nominations were closed and the Board was then asked to vote on the motion to elect Commissioner Young as Chair. The motion carried 4 to 3, with Commissioners Lancaster, Winters and Foy voting "NO."

Commissioner Winters then made the motion to nominate Commissioner Lancaster as Vice-Chair, seconded by Commissioner Foy.

Commissioner Young made a motion to nominate Commissioner Dunston as Vice-Chair, seconded by Commissioner Swanson.

Nominations were closed and the Board was asked to vote on the motion to elect Commissioner Lancaster as Vice-Chair. The motion failed 3 to 4, with Commissioners Young, Swanson, Mitchell and Dunston voting "NO."

The Board then voted on the motion to elect Commissioner Dunston as Vice-Chair. The motion carried 4 to 3, with Commissioners Lancaster, Winters and Foy voting "NO."

Following the election of officers, Chair Young presented a plaque to former Chair Robert Swanson in appreciation for his service. Commissioner Swanson served in 2008 and 2009 as Chair.

Chairman Young then asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Dunston made the motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Swanson. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE." The items approved are as follows.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Public Officials and Employee Bonds
- B. Budget Ordinance #4 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment in the amount of \$234,664 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 to amend the General Fund and the Federal DEA Fund in the amount of \$234,664 to include a \$70,000 appropriation from general fund balance with \$50,000 for Election Building renovations and \$20,000 previously approved by the Board for drug enforcement activities.
- C. Releases, Adjustments, Refunds, and Tax Collection Report

- D. Lease agreement between the County of Franklin and the State of North Carolina for office space at the Probation/Parole Building

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

This was the time set aside by the Board of Commissioners to allow individuals five minutes to address the Board on issues concerning the county. No comments were offered.

4. BOYS & GIRLS UPDATE

Rosemary Champion, Franklin Unit President, presented a brief PowerPoint presentation to update the Board on the progress of the Boys & Girl Club. No action was needed.

5. UPDATE: U.S. 401 WIDENING PROJECT

Representatives from the 401 Citizen Action Committee updated the Board on the status of the County's application for federal TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) funding and requested that the County provide funding for an aerial photography survey of the U.S. 401 corridor in Franklin County. The projected cost is approximately \$25,000. The 401 Citizen Action Committee is a subcommittee of the Economic Development Commission. Gary Cunard (Co-Chair) and Gary Faulkner (member) presented the update.

Mr. Cunard mentioned the detailed grant application is posted on the County's website and that for the first time all of the information pertaining to Highway 401 is now located in one document. Regardless if TIGER funding is awarded, he stated the document would be a helpful tool in seeking other funding sources and endorsements. Mr. Cunard also stated the application included 350 support letters submitted by local citizens and businesses. The grant application was filed September 15, 2009 amid \$55 billion in requests from other entities. Mr. Cunard stated the committee anticipated the grant would have already been reviewed and that decisions on funding would have already been decided. Because a decision has not been made, he said the committee is in a time constraint to have the project shovel ready.

Mr. Faulkner retired from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) as an engineer. As a committee member, he stated the aerial photography survey is important in that every DOT project utilizes the photos. He stated the projected cost of \$25,000 is a solid figure. Mr. Faulkner also stated timing of the photographs is important in that they can only be done in winter when leaves are no longer on the trees. He said if the \$25,000 request is not approved by the County, another year will pass before detailed design work on the 401 project could be completed. He stated the County could not afford to wait another year and commented that if the 401 project receives grant funding, it must "hit the ground fast and running."

Following Board questions, it was explained by Mr. Faulkner that \$100,000 would be needed for the next level of detail work on the project. Eventually, he stated between \$1 million to \$1.5 million would be needed. Commissioner Dunston asked if the group would be coming back before the Board asking for \$1 million. Mr. Faulkner stated he hoped that would not be necessary. He stated the group would await a response from its grant request for TIGER funds before seeking sources of funding for design work.

Commissioner Swanson made the motion to approve funding (\$25,000) for an aerial photography survey. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lancaster. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

6. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

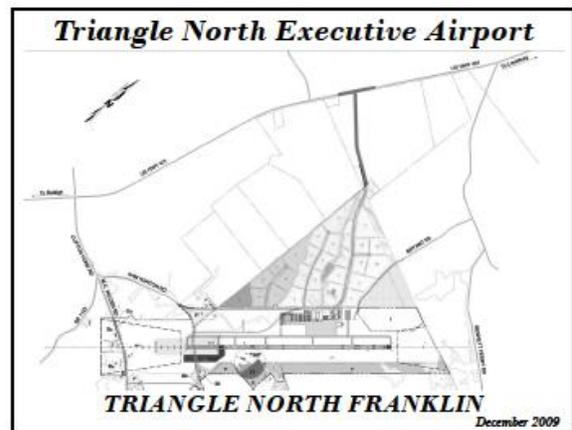
Scott Hammerbacher, Planning & Inspections Director, provided an update regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The County is required to update its plan every five years in order to maintain its eligibility for disaster assistance. Staff received a proposal from the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Governments to assist the County with required updates. As specified within the contract, the cost of the project shall not exceed \$10,500 which has already been budgeted. Based upon required completion dates, the project would begin following execution of the contract and to be completed by September 1, 2010. Mr. Hammerbacher stated the cost was already budgeted and would be equally divided between the Planning & Inspections Department and the Office of Emergency Services.

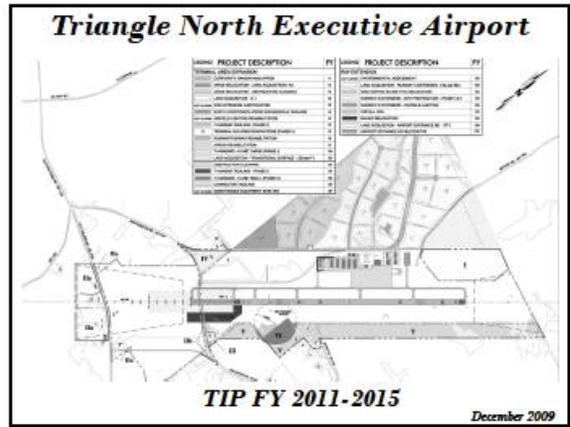
Commissioner Winters made a motion to allow staff to enter into a contract with the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Governments to assist with updating the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan, seconded by Commissioner Dunston. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

7. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR TRIANGLE NORTH EXECUTIVE AIRPORT FOR 2011-2015

The Board was asked to review and approve the project listing Triangle North Executive Airport Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 2011-2015 to allow submittal to the NCDOT-Division of Aviation by January 2010.

Ronnie Goswick, Economic Development Director and Interim Airport Director offered the following PowerPoint presentation.





Triangle North Executive Airport

PROJECT ID	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EST. COST	START DATE	END DATE	FY
001	Terminal Building Renovation	\$10,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
002	Runway Extension	\$50,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
003	Hangar Construction	\$20,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
004	Control Tower Upgrade	\$5,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
005	Security System Installation	\$2,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
006	IT Infrastructure Upgrade	\$1,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
007	Passenger Screening Equipment	\$3,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
008	Baggage Handling System Upgrade	\$4,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
009	Security Checkpoint Expansion	\$2,500,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
010	Passenger Waiting Area Renovation	\$1,500,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
011	Security Screening Lane Expansion	\$2,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
012	Passenger Concourse Renovation	\$3,500,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
013	Security Screening Lane Expansion	\$2,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
014	Passenger Concourse Renovation	\$3,500,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
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097	Security Screening Lane Expansion	\$2,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
098	Passenger Concourse Renovation	\$3,500,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
099	Security Screening Lane Expansion	\$2,000,000	2011	2015	2011-2015
100	Passenger Concourse Renovation	\$3,500,000	2011	2015	2011-2015

TIP FY 2011-2015 SCHEDULE

December 2009

Dain Riley, Vice President of The LPA Group of North Carolina, was also in attendance. He stated there are many requests and much competition between over 60 airports in the state. It was also mentioned that eventually additional land must be purchased in order to grow and build new hangars at Triangle North.

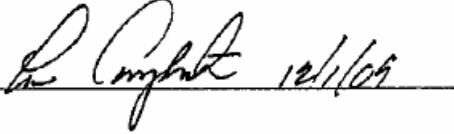
Commissioner Dunston made the motion to approve the TIP for Triangle North Executive Airport for 2011-2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Winters and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

8. FRANKLINTON HIGH SCHOOL BID AWARD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF OFFSITE WATER/SEWER FACILITIES

Bids were received on December 1, 2009. There were 12 responsive bids opened and read. The bids ranged from a high bid of \$1,211,132 to the low bid of \$828,992.25 submitted by Ralph Hodge Construction Company of Wilson, NC. The Board was asked to consider awarding a bid to Ralph Hodge Construction Company, the lowest responsible bidder, for the construction of the water and sewer line to serve the new Franklinton High School. A complete bid tabulation and bid summary were included in the agenda packet and are listed below.

BID SUMMARY Water and Sewer Improvements to serve Franklinton High School Franklin County, North Carolina						
CONTRACTOR		LICENSE NO.	BID BOND	MBE FORMS	ADDENDUM NO. 1	TOTAL BID AMOUNT
1	Ralph Hodge Construction Co.	6271	X	X	X	\$828,992.25
2	Temple Grading	21654	X	X	X	\$860,390.00
3	Triangle Grading & Paving	17456	X	X	X	\$933,893.31
4	JF Wilkerson Contracting Company	4499	X	X	X	\$991,463.80
5	Sanford Contractors, Inc.	6301	X	X	X	\$995,823.00
6	Ellington Contractors, Inc.	47822	X	X	X	\$1,034,099.12
7	Seaside Environmental Contractors	55044	X	X	X	\$1,038,940.00
8	H.G. Reynolds Company	14149	X	X	X	\$1,110,669.00
9	T.A. Loving Company	325	X	X	X	\$1,118,562.50
10	Hendrix-Barnhill Company, Inc.	4883	X	X	X	\$1,139,112.50
11	Billings & Garrett Utility Contractors	6370	X	X	X	\$1,211,132.00
12	Vaughan Grading & Utilities, Inc.	57398	X	X	X	\$1,334,855.00

Bids Opened and Read By:

Tim Carpenter, Project Manager:
Hobbs Upchurch & Associates, P.A.  12/1/09

Commissioner Dunston made the motion to award the bid to Ralph Hodge Construction Company, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$828,992.25 for the construction of the water and sewer lines to service the new Franklinton High School. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Winters and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

9. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The State Board of Elections requested that the Board of Elections and the Board of Commissioners enter into a MOU pertaining to the state laws and county responsibility for the Board of Elections Office.

Board of Elections Chair Larry Tetterton, stated the MOU offered no changes in current operation but rather stated the document would clarify responsibilities.

Commissioner Mitchell made the motion to approve the MOU, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

10. CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT RECOMMENDATION

Nicki Griffin, Department of Social Services (DSS) Director, was appointed by the Board at its August 17, 2009 meeting to serve as lead contact for the Child Support transition. The appointment followed the North Carolina General Assembly's requirement (S.L. 2009-45, the 2009 Appropriations Act) that the 28 counties in which the Child Support Enforcement program that is currently state administered would become administered by local government effective July 1, 2010. As Franklin County is one of the affected counties, Ms. Griffin briefed the Board on her assessment of the four options specified

by legislation of regionalization, privatization, placement as a separate county department, and placement under the administration of DSS.

Ms. Griffin explained the options of regionalization and placement of the program as a separate entity under the authority of the County Manager were ruled out based on cost effectiveness and quality service delivery and the effect of such on the customers served. She stated the regional approach was ruled out due to the fact that the caseload within Franklin County is in excess of 2,600 and therefore warrants a model of single county administration. In addition, she said there are no surrounding counties who have expressed interest in a regional partnership approach in administering the program. More importantly, there is no documented experience with such a model by county operated child support programs as no such model has ever existed in North Carolina under county administration.

The option of privatization was reviewed and considered as well, but ruled out. At this time, there is no awareness of a county of similar size who has opted to privatize its child support program. Based on estimates, the County's cost would be approximately \$177,699 after federal reimbursements and additional reimbursements that can be collected in AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) returns. The estimated cost does not include the administrative time spent by the Finance Office in claiming and reconciling reimbursement or the cost of administrative time spent in managing and overseeing the contract. It was noted that regardless of the management of the daily operations of the program, the ultimate responsibility for the performance, delivery, and effectiveness of the program is that of the County's.

The final option includes placing Child Support Enforcement (CSE) within the administrative and operational responsibility of DSS, which Ms. Griffin stated was her recommendation. Cost effectiveness was a primary factor in her decision, allowing DSS to spread its overhead costs among an additional entitlement program which is uncapped and further reduces the use of capped funding for overhead costs. For this reason, she feels the merger of child support with DSS benefits the County's overall administrative budget for overhead costs. Ms. Griffin said the primary issue of cost effectiveness for the administration of the program within DSS is the physical location of the program. She feels it is more cost effective to house the CSE program within the Human Services Building due to the ability to draw down the indirect costs. Ms. Griffin stated her recommendation would provide a holistic approach to the citizens served and said any child support enforcement positions

Regarding employment with Child Support Enforcement, Ms. Griffin stated that positions would be posted with the understanding that a reduction in force by the State is in place. Then, she said, the public would have an opportunity to apply for those positions through the County's Human Resources Department.

Ms. Griffin asked the Board to place the Franklin County Child Support Agency under the administrative responsibility of the Franklin County Department of Social Services effective July 1, 2010.

Commissioner Swanson made the motion to place Child Support Enforcement under DSS Administration and asked the County Manager to look at space options. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

11. APPOINTMENTS

A. Board of Adjustment

Three appointments/reappointments were needed to the Board of Adjustment. The positions are currently held by Tammy Ray (Commissioner Young's representative), Stuart May (Commissioner Winters' representative) and Shane Brantley (Commissioner Foy's representative).

Chair Young stated her representative (Tammy Ray) declined to be reappointed and she stated she would continue to search for an appointment.

Commissioner Winters took no action.

Commissioner Foy nominated Shane Brantley for reappointment to the Board of Adjustment and the Board offered unanimous approval.

B. Tourism Development Authority

An appointment was needed to the Tourism Development Authority.

Commissioner Foy nominated Bobby Cooper to serve as his representative on the Tourism Development Authority and the Board offered unanimous approval.

C. Agriculture Board

An appointment was needed to fill a vacancy on the Agriculture Board representing the Hayesville Township. Mr. John A. Rogers has agreed to serve and is recommended by the Agriculture Board.

Commissioner Lancaster nominated John Rogers to represent the Hayesville Township on the Agriculture Board and the Board offered unanimous approval.

Chair Young then announced the Board would conduct a public hearing at a special called meeting on December 21, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. to receive public comment on a Community Development Block Grant application.

12. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS

This is the time set aside for the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager, and the Clerk to the Board to report on various activities. The Board may also discuss other items of interest.

County Clerk Kristen King: Mrs. King commented on the pinning and retirement ceremony held earlier in the day where over 60 employees and retirees were recognized.

Commissioner Foy: No report.

Commissioner Winters: Commissioner Winters offered his resignation as Commissioner effective December 31, 2009. Commissioner Winters stated he purchased a restaurant in Florida and will soon be relocating there. He stated the Republican Party will soon bring a recommendation from its Executive Board for the Board of Commissioners to consider as his replacement.

Commissioner Young: Commissioner Young offered congratulations to Buzzy Gardner for 15 years of service on the Five County Mental Health Board after recently rotating off the Board. She also wished Commissioner Dunston a happy birthday.

Commissioner Lancaster: Commissioner Lancaster offered congratulations to Mr. Winters.

Commissioner Mitchell: Commissioner Mitchell also congratulated Mr. Winters and stated he spoke to 80 members of the Bunn High School F.F.A. recently.

Commissioner Dunston: Commissioner Dunston expressed his gratitude and dismay that Mr. Winters is leaving. He said he enjoyed serving alongside him.

Commissioner Swanson: Commissioner Swanson commented on the employee service pin ceremony held earlier in the day. He thanked employees for their service and also thanked Commissioner Winters for his service on the Board.

County Manager Angela Harris: Mrs. Harris reported on the following:

- Mrs. Harris provided a quick update on the county's energy conservation efforts.
- She mentioned the availability of The Aycock Group and stated the times they would be available to facilitate a Board retreat in January, 2010.
- She reported that the County is in the process of selling QSCB (Qualified School Construction Bonds) with BB&T for 2.17%. The amount of the bonds is \$3.6 million with the potential to save \$850,000 in interest, according to Chuck Murray, Finance Director.
- Mrs. Harris mentioned that she appreciated Commissioner Winter's service during his time as commissioner.
- She also mentioned the employee service pin ceremony held earlier in the day and stated 61 employees were recognized for achieving milestones in service to the County. She thanked them for their service as well as those who planned the event.

13. CLOSED SESSION

The Board was asked to consider entering into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

Commissioner Swanson made a motion to enter into closed session, seconded by Commissioner Young. The motion passed with a 6 to 1 vote, with Commissioner Foy voting "NO."

Following the closed session, Commissioner Swanson made the motion to enter back into open session, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Regarding the Radio Project, Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to reject the bids received and enlist Kimball to assist in creating a new Request for Proposal that would guarantee 95% coverage in each fire district. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Winters and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

The meeting was recessed at 9:24 P.M. to reconvene on December 21, 2009.