

September 8, 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, Bob Winters, Sidney E. Dunston, E. Shane Mitchell and Harry L. Foy, Jr.

Commissioner Swanson called the meeting to order and asked the Board to consider adding an item to the consent agenda (1-J). Commissioner Winters made the motion to add the item to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Dunston then made the motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Young. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE." The items approved are as follows:

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. August 17, 2009 Minutes
- B. Budget Ordinance Amendment #2 (Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 159-15, the County Finance Officer is requesting a budget ordinance amendment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 to amend the General Fund to recognize \$143,621 received by the Sheriff's Office for the first year of a three-year grant totaling \$430,863 for the hiring of three officers.)
- C. Project Budget Ordinance for Airport Project in the amount of \$408,651
- D. TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$2,500 grant for the 9th Annual Justice Community Antique Tractor, Car & Engine Show
- E. TDA (Tourism Development Authority) request to fund a \$8,000 grant for the 2010 Franklin County Farm Foods & Crafts Tour and Show
- F. Request for addition of Bonnie Harris Lane to the State Maintained Secondary Road System
- G. Franklin County Library Board by-law changes
- H. Fall Litter Sweep 2009 Proclamation
- I. 2010 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule
- J. Ratify prior existing lease between Franklin County and Robert and Becky Dold, copies of which cannot be located, and consent to assignment by the Dolds of the lease to Kassell Sykes.

Item 1-H

**FALL LITTER SWEEP 2009
BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation organizes an annual fall statewide roadside cleanup to ensure clean and beautiful roads in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the fall 2009 **LITTER SWEEP** roadside cleanup will take place September 19 through October 3, 2009, and encourages local governments and communities, civic and professional groups, businesses, churches, schools, families and individual citizens to participate in the Department of Transportation cleanup by sponsoring and organizing local roadside cleanups; and

WHEREAS, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Department of Transportation employees, Department of Correction inmates and community service workers, local government agencies, community leaders, civic and community organizations, businesses, churches, schools, and environmentally concerned citizens conduct local cleanups during **LITTER SWEEP** and may receive certificates of appreciation for their participation; and

WHEREAS, the great natural beauty of our state and a clean environment are sources of great pride for all North Carolinians, attracting tourists and aiding in recruiting new industries; and

WHEREAS, the cleanup will increase awareness of the need for cleaner roadsides, emphasize the importance of not littering, and encourage recycling of solid wastes; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 fall cleanup will celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and its 5,750 volunteer groups that donate their labor and time year round to keep our roadsides clean; and

WHEREAS, the **LITTER SWEEP** cleanup will be a part of educating the children of this great state regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in Franklin County;

NOW, THEREFORE, the **Franklin County Board of Commissioners**, does hereby proclaim September 19 through October 3, 2009 as **LITTER SWEEP** time in Franklin County, and encourages citizens to take an active role in making their communities cleaner.

2. 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 public comments were made.

3. 2010 CENSUS

Christine Mackey, Partnership Specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau, provided an overview of the initiatives and process for the 2010 Census. The Board was asked to adopt a Resolution of Support for the project in Franklin County. A County Commissioner must also be designated as the Chairperson for the Franklin County Count Committee. Details of the responsibilities of the Chairperson as well as recommendations for suggested members of the Count Committee were provided in a presentation given by Ms. Mackey. The PowerPoint presentation follows.

**Franklin County
Road to the 2010 Census**



Christine Mackey
Partnership Specialist
September 8, 2009

USCENSUSBUREAU

Why take a Census?

- Apportionment of Congress
- Appropriation of funds



USCENSUSBUREAU

HOW IS IT USED?

- Census data are used to distribute over \$400 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.
 - Grants to educational agencies (school districts)
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (food grants)
 - Head Start programs
 - Public transportation
 - Road rehabilitation and construction
 - Programs for the elderly
 - Emergency food and shelter

USCENSUSBUREAU

HOW IS IT USED?

- Defines where jobs and job programs are needed.
- Helps potential homeowners research property values and other demographic information.
- Corporations use data for market research to determine locations for food stores, pharmacies and other services.

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Regional Population Overview

▪ Franklin	58,927
▪ Granville	57,044
▪ Person	37,438
▪ Vance	42,891
▪ Warren	19,388

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Franklin County Overview

▪ Population	58,927
▪ Change since 2000	24.7%
▪ White Persons	71%
▪ Black Persons	27%
▪ Hispanic	7%

USCENSUSBUREAU

North Carolina Response Rates 2000

•National Average	67%
•North Carolina	64%
•Durham County	68%
•Franklin County	62%
•Granville County	64%
•Person County	68%
•Warren County	52%
•Vance County	58%
•Wake County	71%

What are the Goals for 2010 Census?

- Less Costly
- Use Technology more Efficiently
- Improve Maps & Address Lists
- Deliver Data on A More Timely Basis

Goals for 2010 Census?

- Count Every Person
- In the Right Place
- At the right time
- **Improve Response Rate**

How do we Take a Census?

- Develop/Update Address List and Maps.
- Deliver Census Questionnaires to Addresses by Mail or in Person.
- Receive completed Questionnaires by mail.
- Follow-up with Households that do not Return the Questionnaire.

Part 1 – Building a List of Addresses

Address Canvassing:

- Spring/Summer 2009
- Census Taker will verify the location and information for every address in the U.S.
- Use Handheld Computers – GPS Technology
- An Estimated 140,000 Workers Nationally

Part 2 – The Population Count

Our Guiding Principles

- It's Safe
- It's Easy
- It's Important

Part 2 – The Population Count

It's Safe!

- Answers are protected by law!
- Title 13 of the United States Code
- Penalty – Up To 5 Years in Prison, or \$250,000 fine for violations, or both
- The Core of our Ability to Build Trust

Part 2 – The Population Count

It's Easy!

- Mail Census Questionnaires in March 2010
- Short Form – 10 Questions, 10 Minutes
- A New Mail Strategy
- Bilingual Mail Forms (English/Spanish)

Part 2 – The Population Count

It's Important!

- Apportion the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives
- Appropriate \$400 billion in federal funds to states and communities every year
- Redistricting of state legislatures, county and city councils, and voting districts

Part 2 – The Population Count

Following Up on Non Responses

- Spring/Summer 2010
- Send a Census Taker to the Door
- Estimated 700,000 Workers Nationwide

Part 2 – The Population Count

Other Living Situations – Special Procedures

- Military Bases / College Dorms
- Prisons
- RV Parks, Campgrounds, Marinas, etc.
- People Experiencing Homelessness
- Remote / Rural Areas, Areas with Delivery Problems

Timeline of Key Activities Calendar Year 2008

- Open Regional Census Center
- Open Early Local Census Offices
150 Nationally
Recruit Office and Field Staff
Hire and Train Office Managers

Timeline of Key Activities Calendar Year 2009

- Address Canvassing
- Adjudication of LUCA Appeals
- Open Remaining Local Census Offices
- Recruit/Recruit/Recruit

Timeline of Key Activities Calendar Year 2010

- Questionnaires Mailed or Delivered
- Census Day – April 1, 2010
- Group Quarters Enumeration
- Follow-up to Non-Responding Households
- Counts Delivered to the President

What's Different in 2010

- Short Form Only
- Use of Hand-held Computers
- Targeted Second Mailing of Questionnaires



American Community Survey: (aka Census Long Form)

- Large, monthly, sample survey
- Began nationally in 2005
- Provides more current characteristics data
- Produces more current data at various levels of geography

Our Key Challenges

Recruiting!

- Capable Managers that Represent the Community
- Trusted Voices to Educate and Motivate

Participation

- Building Trust
- Motivating Cooperation

Communicating these Principles

Communications Campaign

- Paid Advertising
- Local promotional efforts

Complete Count Committees

- Local initiatives to promote the Census
- Organized Independently

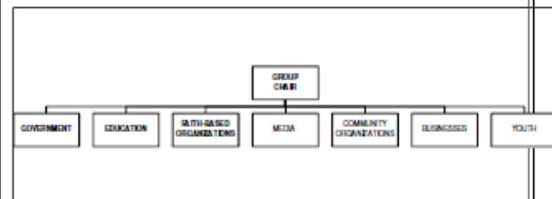
Partnership and Data Services Program

- “Grassroots” efforts to reach the hardest to count communities

Supporting Your Community

- Suggest you Strongly Consider Starting a Complete Count Committee
- Emphasize the Importance of Census Participation

Sample Organizational Chart



When Should a CCC Organize?

- Get organized right now!
- The 2010 Census is less than a year away.
- Immediate formulation will ensure local residents are kept abreast of census operations.
- The more informed residents are about the 2010 Census, the better they will fill out the form.

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ACTIVITIES OF CCC'S

- Identify organizations that can provide space for QAC's and "Be Counted" Sites.
- Develop a list of barriers that might impede the progress of the 2010 Census
- Create ways to dispel myths about the privacy of census data.
- Place census messages in water bills, property tax bills, newsletters, websites and other correspondence.

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Questions

2

USCENSUSBUREAU

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Following the presentation, Commissioner Dunston asked how someone might become employed with the U.S. Census Bureau. Ms. Mackey stated employment information can be found at www.census.org. She said applications would then be taken to a local testing site. County Manager Angela Harris also stated information regarding employment with the U.S. Census Bureau is posted at the Franklin County Administration Building.

Commissioner Swanson then thanked N.C. Representative Lucy T. Allen for representing Franklin County in the General Assembly.

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to approve a Resolution of Support for the 2010 Census, seconded by Commissioner Winters. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Young then nominated Commissioner Dunston to serve on the Count Committee.

2010 Census Partner Proclamation

WHEREAS an accurate census count is vital to our community and residents' well-being by helping planners determine where to locate schools, day-care centers, roads and public transportation, hospitals and other facilities, and is used to make decisions concerning business growth and housing needs;

WHEREAS more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to states and communities based on census data;

WHEREAS census data ensure fair Congressional representation by determining how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the redistricting of state legislatures, county and city councils, and voting districts;

WHEREAS the 2010 Census creates jobs that stimulate economic growth and increase employment opportunities in our community;

WHEREAS the information collected by the census is protected by law and remains confidential for 72 years.

Now, therefore, we PROCLAIM that the Franklin County Board of Commissioners is committed to partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help ensure a full and accurate count in 2010.

As a 2010 Census partner, we will:

1. Support the goals and ideals for the 2010 Census and will disseminate 2010 Census information to encourage those in our community to participate.
2. Encourage people in Franklin County to place an emphasis on the 2010 Census and participate in events and initiatives that will raise overall awareness of the 2010 Census and ensure a full and accurate census.
3. Support census takers as they help our community complete an accurate count.
4. Create or seek opportunities to collaborate with other like-minded groups in our community, such as Complete Count Committees, to utilize high-profile, trusted voices to advocate on behalf of the 2010 Census.

4. ENLISTMENT OF EXCELSIO COMMUNICATIONS TO ASSIST WITH COMMUNICATIONS PLAN AND APPLICATION FOR STIMULUS FUNDS VIA THE BROADBAND INITIATIVE

Multiple departments within the County have joined together to develop an innovative Communications Plan for Franklin County. The design, development and coordination of the plan have all been assisted by representatives from Excelsio Communications at no cost to the County.

Excelsio Communications is also working with 16 North Eastern counties in North Carolina for a submission for Stimulus Funds in the second round of funding via the Broadband Initiative. Contracting with Excelsio Communications would allow Franklin County to have the option to collaborate with the North Eastern North Carolina initiative to leverage the benefit of their network. The cost to contract with Excelsio Communications is \$70,000. With the Board's approval staff would move forward to contract the services of Excelsio Communications. In addition to the overall mapping and design of the Communications Plan, Excelsio would also assist with the writing and submissions of one to two grant applications for Franklin County for the second round of funding via the Broadband Initiative. The ultimate goal of the Communications Plan would be to enhance the current and planned upgrades to the 911 system and also provide an overarching 21st Century Communications platform for Franklin County. Following the presentation, the Board was asked to approve an expense of \$70,000 to contract with Excelsio Communications for their services. The PowerPoint presentation follows.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
COMMUNICATIONS**

September 8, 2009

WHY ARE WE HERE?

- ▶ Potential for Stimulus Funds via the Broadband Initiative
- ▶ Approval to engage Excelsio Communications to develop an overall Franklin County Communications Plan

**BACKGROUND
PER THE BOARD'S REQUEST, DISCUSSIONS
IN MULTIPLE AREAS**

- ▶ County Government
- ▶ Economic Development
- ▶ Emergency Communications
- ▶ Law Enforcement
- ▶ Emergency Responders
- ▶ Educational Institutions
- ▶ Private Telecommunications

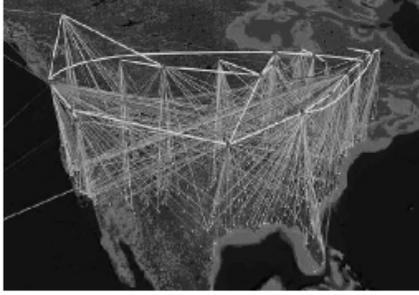
- ▶ All initiatives had a common goal:
 - Reliable, affordable, efficient, scalable communications solution
- ▶ Was there an opportunity to work together to maximize the benefits?

BACKGROUND (continued)

- ▶ Discussions with all groups to develop concept that satisfied the needs of each stakeholder
 - NOTE: Especially important not to interfere with the project already underway with the 911 system.
- ▶ Discussions with State leaders to understand if our concept aligned with their strategy
- ▶ Discussions with National leaders for support
- ▶ Discussions with Local elected officials and other stakeholders

THE CONCEPT

US Internet Backbone and "Tier 1" Interconnection Points



PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Northeastern North Carolina – 16 counties
- ▶ Fiber will terminate in Rocky Mount
- ▶ In partnership with Nash, Franklin County well-positioned to be connection leg to Raleigh
- ▶ Strengthens our proposal ranking

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- ▶ Build a Communications backbone for Franklin County
- ▶ Franklin County owns the backbone
- ▶ Leases to telecommunications companies to bring to home/business
- ▶ Franklin County does not handle the maintenance and operations – part of the negotiations with the telecommunications company(ies)



PROCESS FOR STIMULUS FUNDS APPLICATION

- ▶ Present to Board of County Commissioners
- ▶ Enlist services of Excelsio Communications
- ▶ If approved – begin, in earnest, the application preparation process

EXCELSIO COMMUNICATIONS

- ▶ Broadband consulting group founded in 2003
- ▶ Wholly owned subsidiary of VC3 – NCLM endorsed vendor
- ▶ Excelsio team involved with three ARRA Round 1 applications
- ▶ Deep fiber and wireless experience
- ▶ Public sector client focus in Southeast

EXCELSIO CLIENTS



DELIVERABLES

- ▶ Broadband mapping to census block level
- ▶ Business plan(s)
- ▶ Deployment strategy
- ▶ Network design
- ▶ Phased deployment plan
- ▶ Financial forecasts
- ▶ Match formulas and specifications
- ▶ Negotiations and guidance for work with telecommunications companies
- ▶ Appropriate partnership opportunities
- ▶ Completion and submission of necessary application(s)
- ▶ Participation and support necessary for due diligence if selected
- ▶ Advice and partnership opportunities for Golden LEAF funds

PROPOSAL

- ▶ Without interfering with approved funds and approved plans for the 911 radio project, we propose utilizing a portion of those funds as a match for round two (2) stimulus application for Broadband deployment

WHO BENEFITS?

- ▶ Everyone – including those areas of the County that are currently not served or underserved in northern part of County

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

- ▶ Plan continues as designed
- ▶ Potential for some of the funds necessary to come from the stimulus funds
- ▶ Capital expenses for additional enhancements may be eligible for funding
- ▶ Positions Franklin County to become Beta Test site for Next Generation 911

EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

- ▶ Technology-enhanced medical care
- ▶ Instant transmission of applications that involve video or high resolution imaging
- ▶ Instant reporting to hospitals, in advance of arrivals, via laptops

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ▶ Sheriff's team can be operational in real time
- ▶ Reporting can be done via laptops - saving travel time and allowing increased time in the field
- ▶ Ability to use any application that requires bandwidth, such as video
- ▶ Opens the door to video monitoring for security

SCHOOL SYSTEM

- ▶ Ability to virtualize servers for all 14 schools at a significant cost savings in equipment and electricity
- ▶ Increase usage of video conferencing in classrooms and for administrative purposes
- ▶ Upgrades to higher quality video surveillance for security
- ▶ Increase usage of online educational applications for students (Web 2.0 tools)

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- ▶ Single network
- ▶ Improved resource sharing
- ▶ Disaster recovery and business continuity
- ▶ Transfer of calls between departments
- ▶ Maintenance issues handled at central location

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Required to participate in 21st century global economy - instantaneous information exchange, transactions, access to resources, suppliers and customers
- ▶ Allows existing businesses to modernize and substitute speed of information exchange and transactions for proximity to major trading centers

RURAL NETWORK SUCCESS STORIES

- ▶ Rural health care system
 - Increased bandwidth by 25 times, no increase in cost
 - Decreased throughput time to send medical images and records from an hour (by vehicle) to less than 12 seconds
 - Established fully redundant hospital network, uptime service level 99.9997% (carrier grade)
- ▶ Public and charter schools (Seven (7) school districts in regional model)
 - Savings to schools: Over \$60 million below market pricing
 - Schools own and control network and choices of content and application

OVERALL BENEFITS

- ▶ Lowers barriers to entry for competitive content/service providers
- ▶ Improves reliability to highest possible level
- ▶ Future-proof technology, 30+ years useful life
- ▶ Virtually unlimited capacity for the long-term
- ▶ Cost reductions
- ▶ High capacity for "intensive" users and applications involving high resolution imaging and video, including health care, education, government, law enforcement, emergency responders and communications
- ▶ Connects rural area to metropolitan trading centers
- ▶ Access to new markets for existing businesses
- ▶ Foundation for economic diversification and jobs

END RESULT

- ▶ Affordable, reliable access to high capacity Broadband infrastructure for:
 - County Government
 - Emergency Communications
 - Law Enforcement
 - Emergency Responders
 - Schools
 - Library
 - Health Care Providers
 - Existing Businesses
 - Economic Development
 - Residents

QUESTIONS

The presentation was offered by Richie Duncan (Economic Development), Christy Shearin (Emergency Communications) and Coy Floyd (Information Technology). Carl

Edwards and Sherry McCuller with Excelsio Communications also addressed the Board.

Along with seeking Stimulus Funds through the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture, it was stated that Franklin County can join together with other counties to seek funding opportunities from the Golden Leaf Foundation. It was also mentioned that these grants are competitive and the best opportunity that rural areas may ever have to obtain advanced infrastructure.

Commissioner Young asked if a formal proposal existed. Mrs. Duncan stated she would make the document available to the Board. Commissioner Young also inquired about timeframes. Mrs. Duncan stated deadlines by the Federal Government would be followed.

Commissioner Lancaster then made a motion to proceed with a contract with Excelsio Communications at a cost of \$70,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunston and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

5. BOARD, MANAGER AND CLERK'S COMMENTS

This was 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: No report.

Commissioner Foy: No report.

Commissioner Winters: No report.

Commissioner Young: Commissioner Young stated she had been approached by a citizen who wanted to know why the county doesn't offer property tax relief for people who are unemployed. Commissioner Young reported that she had explained to the citizen that even if the county offered some relief, the mandates from the state would not change. The Board directed Tax Administrator Jimmy Tanner to research if other counties are providing assistance to citizens regarding property tax and to report back to the Manager and the Board. Mr. Tanner stated that payment plans are now being offered in Franklin in an effort to help citizens.

Commissioner Lancaster: As a follow-up from an agenda item discussed earlier in the evening, Commissioner Lancaster asked that Richie Duncan keep the Board updated on the application for stimulus funds via the Broadband Initiative.

Commissioner Mitchell: Commissioner Mitchell stated the approval of the State budget brought about changes in funding mechanisms. He asked the Manager and Finance Director to provide information to the Board in the near future on the impact of those changes to Franklin County.

Commissioner Dunston: No report.

Commissioner Swanson: No report.

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

- Mrs. Harris distributed a spreadsheet to the Board regarding stimulus funding in Franklin County.
- Mrs. Harris thanked Richie Duncan and all other staff who participated in coordinating a communications plan and application for stimulus funds via the Broadband Initiative. She stated she appreciated the team effort.
- Mrs. Harris stated bylaws of various county boards and commissions would be posted by the close of business on September 9, 2009.
- She commented on the Early College High School program and stated initial responses from the New Schools Project (Fay Agar) are favorable. It is likely the county could receive approval in the next few days. She said it appears the county will be funded to begin the program during this school year. She said an announcement will be distributed if final approval is granted.
- Mrs. Harris stated she recently attended the annual conference sponsored by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in Hickory, North Carolina. The conference theme was "Sustainability." She stated she will be meeting soon with the county's "Green Committee" on its "Green Initiative."
- She mentioned a letter of thanks received from the Darnell and Lou Batton Family following the loss of a family member.
- Mrs. Harris stated it appears that space needs have been resolved for the domestic violence offenders program. Initially space was being sought from the county.
- Mrs. Harris reminded those in attendance of the Tar River Festival scheduled for September 12, 2009 in downtown Louisburg.

6. CLOSED SESSION

- A. The Board will consider going 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.
- B. The Board will consider entering into a closed session pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6), in order for the board to discuss a personnel matter.

Commissioner Dunston made the motion to enter into closed session, seconded by commissioner Young. The motion carried 6 to 1, with Commissioner Foy casting the dissenting vote.

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

Chairman Swanson announced that no action was taken.

Commissioner Young made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dunston. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."