

August 2, 2010

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: Chair Penny McGhee, Vice-Chairman Sidney E. Dunston, Robert L. Swanson, E. Shane Mitchell, Donald C. Lancaster, David T. Bunn and Harry L. Foy, Jr.

Chair McGhee asked the Board to consider an addition to the agenda regarding a Progress Energy Easement for Pilot Lions Park. Commissioner Dunston made the motion to add the item, seconded by Commissioner Bunn. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE." The item will be included in the Consent Agenda as Item 1-D.

Chair McGhee asked the Board to consider approval of the consent agenda.

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

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. June 22, 2010 Minutes
- B. July 12, 2010 Minutes
- C. Resolution authorizing the pursuit of an Industrial Development Fund Grant for the Triangle North Franklin Industrial Park Project
- D. Progress Energy Easement for Pilot Lions Park

Item 1-C

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURSUIT OF AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
FUND GRANT FOR THE TRIANGLE NORTH FRANKLIN INDUSTRIAL PARK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, an Industrial Development Fund Grant is available from the Department of Commerce through the County of FRANKLIN to assist the TRIANGLE NORTH FRANKLIN INDUSTRIAL PARK PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, FRANKLIN COUNTY will administer this grant, if awarded, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the County will administer this grant through the County Finance Office; and

WHEREAS, the grant will be monitored quarterly to assure compliance with this proposal and the Department of Commerce regulations; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant application will be \$500,000.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners that the Board Chair and county staff are authorized to move forward in the pursuit of an Industrial Development Fund Grant to assist the Triangle North Franklin Industrial Park Project.

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 one signed up to speak, however the Chair recognized Mr. Steve Mitchell who announced the public is invited to attend a meeting regarding the Franklin County Farmland Protection and Agricultural Development Plan. The meeting will include a presentation and open forum and will be held at 7:00 P.M. on August 10, 2010 at the Franklin County Agricultural Extension Annex.

3. CENSUS UPDATE

Richie Duncan, Franklin County Existing Industry Coordinator, introduced Terry Henderson, U.S. Census Bureau Partnership Specialist, who presented a census update showing that Franklin County had a double digit response rate increase, growing from a 60% rate in 2000 to a 72% response rate in 2010. Mr. Henderson’s PowerPoint presentation is as follows.



2010 CENSUS:
Proof of Performance in Franklin County

**Franklin County
Board of Commissioners**

Terry D. Henderson
Partnership Specialist
Partnership and Data Services
US Census Bureau Charlotte Region
August 2, 2010

USCENSUSBUREAU 



2 



3 



2010 CENSUS:
Proof of Performance in Franklin County

Strategies of the Partnership Program

Targeting the Hard-to Reach Populations with

***Complete Count Committee – The trusted voices**

- Establishing Local Groups
- Training Members
- Successful Partnering = Successful Messaging
 - It's Safe – It's Important – It's Easy

4 



2010 CENSUS:
Proof of Performance in Franklin County

Complete Count Committee Specific Activities:

- "Census Kick-Off " presentation at County Commissioners meeting
 - Economic Development Commission
 - Other community meetings
- Advocates for Census participation - increased word of mouth messaging
- Promotions at various community events such as the Christmas Parades with Census Banner in parades
- Multiple ads in local newspapers reinforcing participation in Census
- Acquired training/meeting space at Vance-Granville Community College

5 



2010 CENSUS:
Proof of Performance in Franklin County

Proof of Our Performance

Review of Tract Data

- 2010 Franklin County Mail Return Rates
- 2010 Mail Return Rates for Franklin Municipalities and Towns

6 

General Comparisons from 2000

| Area | 2000 | 2010 | Difference |
|-----------------|------|------|------------|
| Franklin County | 60% | 72% | +12% |
| State | 72% | 74% | +2% |
| National | 72% | 72% | 0% |

Tract Locations

8 - Franklin County Tracts

| # of Tracts | Participation |
|-------------|--|
| 8 | All Franklin County tracts had higher Participation percentages than Census 2000 |
| 4 | Franklin County tracts had a higher Participation percentage than the National Rate of 72% and the State rate of 74% |
| 5 | Had a double digit Participation percentage increase |

Improved percentage from 2000

| Tract | 2000 | 2010 | Difference | Area |
|-------|------|------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 601 | 61% | 79% | +18% | North of Louisburg |
| 602 | 60% | 64% | +4% | Centerville, NE Franklin |
| 603 | 64% | 72% | +8% | Louisburg |
| 604 | 58% | 71% | +13% | Franklinton, W. Franklin |
| 605 | 67% | 82% | +15% | Youngsville, SW Franklin |
| 606 | 63% | 78% | +15% | South of Cedar Creek, S. Franklin |
| 607 | 44% | 45% | +1% | Lake Royale, South of Hwy 56 |
| 608 | 61% | 76% | +15% | Bunn, SE Franklin |

Tract Location With Highest Increase (+18%)

Tract Location Lowest Increase (+1%) Lowest Participation Rate (45%)

Tract Location Highest Participation Rate (82%)

Municipalities/Towns at a Glance

| Place | 2000 | 2010 | Difference |
|--------------------------|------|------|------------|
| Bunn (608) | 61% | 72% | +11% |
| Centerville (602) | 57% | 75% | +18% |
| Franklinton (604) | 60% | 71% | +11% |
| Louisburg (603) | 67% | 72% | +5% |
| Youngsville (605) | 68% | 79% | +11% |

2010 CENSUS: Proof of Performance in Franklin County

Follow-up Partnership Tour

- Thank you Campaign for partners
- Review tract results by County –customized tabulations
- Data Dissemination
 - Build awareness about other Census surveys
 - Train the Trainer workshops, presentations on how to access Census data
 - Expand data information among non-traditional and traditional users

2010 CENSUS: Proof of Performance in Charlotte-Franklin County

Contact Information

Terry D. Henderson
Partnership & Data Services Program
 Charlotte Regional Census Center
 3701 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 250
 Charlotte, North Carolina 28273
 (910) 583-1430 Phone

Commissioner Dunston asked when final "raw numbers" would be available to the public. Mr. Henderson stated the information would likely be available in March or April, 2011 following review by the President of the United States and Congress.

No action was required or taken.

4. EARLY COLLEGE UPDATE

Commissioner Don Lancaster, Chair of the Early College Committee, provided an update on work done by the committee in an effort to provide facilities for the program. Commissioner Lancaster began by thanking members of the committee and stated two meetings were held June 23, 2010 and July 14, 2010. He said the group looked at cost factors, land availability, functionality of the needed facility and the need to locate near Vance Granville Community College.

Commissioner Lancaster commented the committee recommends (to the Board of Commissioners) a twelve room modular unit to be located behind the Franklin County Emergency Services office on Highway 56 West in Louisburg on land owned by the County. He said the recommendation is the less complicated option, requires less management and also recommended that the School Board be the lead entity for the completion of the project.

Commissioner Lancaster then stated the committee's recommendation to call for a public hearing at the Board of Commissioner's meeting on August 16, 2010. The purpose of the hearing would be to obtain public input on the possibility of using savings from the 2008 school bond funds toward the Early College High School facility. The hearing is not required, but recommended. Commissioner Lancaster said the hearing should not prohibit the School Board in moving forward with the project and commented that a commitment has already been made for Early College.

To clarify, Commissioner Dunston asked if action tonight would include directing the School Board to proceed and start spending money immediately towards the project. Commissioner Lancaster stated Commissioner Dunston's assessment was correct.

Commissioner Foy inquired about anticipated costs for the modular unit. Commissioner Lancaster stated approximately \$1.2 million includes the facility and infrastructure needs such as water and sewer.

Commissioner McGhee asked why the group recommended the utilization of County property over property located directly on the campus of Vance Granville Community College. Commissioner Lancaster stated the recommendation was based on the fact that the land was already owned by the County and based on its proximity to the college. He said the County may be able to utilize the modular structure for other needs in the future when a permanent structure is constructed.

Commissioner Mitchell stated a benefit to the committee's recommendation was based on the fact that the state procurement process could be avoided which would in turn speed up the process. Dr. Randy Parker, Vance Granville Community College President, stated that if the unit was placed on college property, the state procurement process is mandatory.

Commissioner McGhee said she wanted to make certain the public understood the purpose for the public hearing. She said the hearing is not intended for a debate for or against the Early College High School program, because a formal decision has already been voted on unanimously by the Board. Rather, the hearing will be solely about

whether the funds for the project come from the bond or from the County's general fund. It was stated that if the bond process is utilized a better interest rate can be obtained.

Commissioner Mitchell stated he felt more comfortable using bond money because the bonds were advertised and voted on by citizens. He said he was interested in the public's opinion.

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Early College High School Committee and proceed with construction of a twelve-room modular facility to house the program, with the Franklin County Board of Education acting as the lead entity. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Commissioner Lancaster then made a motion to conduct a public hearing on August 16, 2010 to hear public comment on funding for the facility. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Swanson and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

5. OTHER BUSINESS

- Old Franklin County Jail: Mrs. Angela Harris reported there is interest in the Old Franklin County Jail by the Franklin County Arts Council. She will provide a report to the Board of Commissioners following the Arts Council's next meeting.
- Commissioner McGhee stated she would like to discuss 2010-2011 Legislative goals to be submitted to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. She plans to hold a discussion on the goals at the Board's next regular meeting on August 16, 2010.

6. APPOINTMENTS

A. Agriculture Board

The Board was asked to consider the reappointment of Mr. Steve Mitchell (Cypress Township) for a three-year term and to appoint Mr. Jonathan Renn (Hayesville Township) and Mr. Taylor Leonard (Gold Mine Township) for three-year terms.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to reappoint Mr. Steve Mitchell and appoint Mr. Jonathan Renn and Mr. Taylor Leonard to the Agriculture Board for three-year terms from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

B. NCACC Voting Delegate

The Board was asked to designate a voting delegate to represent the County at the 103rd Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to be held in Pitt County on August 26-29, 2010.

Commissioner Lancaster made a motion to appoint Commissioner Penny McGhee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dunston and duly carried approval with all present voting "AYE."

7. 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 G. King: Mrs. King presented a brochure to the Board regarding the 16th Annual Franklin County Horse Farm Tour that is scheduled for August 13, 2010.

Commissioner Lancaster: Commissioner Lancaster said he attended the recent public hearing regarding the South East High Speed Rail project like many other Commissioners. He said he has heard many legitimate concerns regarding property values and how the project could affect emergency medical services and police protection.

Commissioner Mitchell: Commissioner Mitchell commented on his attendance at the South East High Speed Rail public hearing. He stated there is approximately two more years in planning before a decision is actually determined on the project. He stated the Board had ample time to have discussions about the proposal. He then stated that he and County Manager Angela Harris attended a kickoff meeting for the 911 Communication project. He stated representatives from Harris Corporation were present along with the County's consultant and said the process is now in full gear. Mrs. Harris distributed a written report to the Board regarding a project update by Emergency Communications Director Christy Shearin. Mrs. Harris stated the Board would receive updates periodically throughout the project.

Commissioner Swanson: With regard to the proposed South East High Speed Rail project, Commissioner Swanson stated he felt there would be a great deal of discussion before any final determinations are made. He stated he attended the most recent meeting of the Department of Social Services (DSS) Advisory Board. He stated that DSS staff is overrun due to the economy, but said they are handling the workload well.

Commissioner McGhee: Commissioner McGhee provided a copy of a letter from the Town of Franklinton that highlights their concerns with the South East High Speed Rail project. She stated her understanding that the Town of Franklinton and the Town of Youngsville are in concert with their feelings about high speed rail and proposed areas that will be closed because of the project. She then asked if the Board wished to have a presentation at a future Board meeting regarding the high speed rail project. The Board was in favor of a presentation. Commissioner McGhee also mentioned a recent meeting by the Board of Health she attended and highlighted some its successes. She stated Volunteers in Medicine Dental Clinic is now open in the Health Department Dental Pavilion. She said this is a new service that is provided. She said on September 1, 2010, the Health Department will initiate a substance abuse screening and screening which is a joint venture with Five County Mental Health. She stated funding would be provided by Five County Mental Health, but the service would be offered by the Health Department. Commissioner McGhee also mentioned there are three openings on the Health Board that are position specific and must be held by an optometrist, a physician and an engineer. She stated the Board of Health was experiencing difficulty in obtaining a quorum. Commissioner McGhee then mentioned that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has begun to send out notices regarding the J.H. Winston "dump" in Youngsville, located between U.S. Highway 1 and Long Mill Road. She said the location is near Long Mill Elementary School and stated there are some concerns with water quality in the area. She said DENR is asking citizens for permission to test wells. She said the test is free. Commissioner McGhee commented that

Congressman Bob Etheridge will visit the Franklin County Volunteers in Medicine Clinic on August 5, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. She stated the entire Board of Commissioners is invited to attend. Next, she said the Board was scheduled for Disaster Emergency Preparedness training on September 9, 2010 from 1:30-4:30 P.M. The Board's attendance involves some of the funding for the Emergency Services department. The location has not been determined. Commissioner McGhee mentioned that more money had been obtained by the County for Medicaid for Emergency Medical Services (EMS). She said an extra \$194,000. She said approximately \$200,000 had already been obtained this year. She said the money would help to cover costs when EMS transports and treats Medicaid clients. Next year, the payment will be based on a "per trip rate."

Commissioner Dunston: Commissioner Dunston stated he attended recent public hearings regarding the South East High Speed Rail project proposed for the western area of Franklin County. He attended the hearing in Franklin and Vance County as well to obtain a comparison of comments that were made in both counties. Commissioner Dunston said even though he felt the project may not come to fruition in the near future, rail will be a reality in Franklin County in the future.

Commissioner Foy: Commissioner Foy stated he attended the 20th Annual Senior Fun Day in the Park. He said the event was a success despite the heat.

Commissioner Bunn: Commissioner Bunn stated he attended a recent public hearing regarding the South East High Speed Rail project. He said the hearing included a lot of discussion, most of which was not in favor of the rail project. He also mentioned the next meeting of the Animal Advisory Board was scheduled for August 25, 2010 at 6:15 P.M. at the County Administration Building.

County Manager Angela L. Harris:

- Mrs. Harris stated on July 13, 2010 she delivered the "State of the County" address to the Chamber of Commerce. She stated she would soon provide a copy of her presentation to the Board.
- She commented on the recent grand reopening of the Franklin County Employee Wellness Center which recently moved to another location within the Health and Human Services Building. She stated approximately 160 employees were in attendance to view and sign up for the wellness program.
- Mrs. Harris mentioned 320 exhibitors participated in the annual Senior Fun Day in the Park.
- Mrs. Harris mentioned the recent kickoff for the 911 Radio Project. She said one of the goals of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, in reference to 911, was to support legislation to preserve county revenue from E911 charges that allow counties greater flexibility in the use of the funds and the restructure of the E911 Board. She said this goal was accomplished, maybe not to the extent desired, but said the legislation is much improved. Franklin County Emergency Communications Director Christy Shearin. She said Mrs. Shearin will now serve on the Standards Committee.
- Mrs. Harris then shared photographs of recent activities held on behalf of county government. The photographs included a radio interview with members of the Public Utilities Department, as well as photographs from the Senior Citizens Fun Day and the grand re-opening of the Wellness Center.
- She also commented that Board of Elections has now relocated into office space provided at the Health and Human Services Building.
- She commented that Veterans Services staff would soon relocate to the space formerly occupied by Board of Elections in the Hamilton Hobgood Courthouse Annex.

- The Clerk of Court will utilize the office space left vacant by Veteran's Services.
- Mrs. Harris stated she would discuss space needs for Information Technology at the Board's next regular meeting.

Commissioner Dunston made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The motion duly carried with all present voting "AYE."

Penny McGhee, Chair

Kristen G. King, Clerk to the Board