

Closed Session (Economic Development) - GS 143-318.11(a)(4)

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2015 in the conference room adjacent to the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road, in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Billy C. Lockamy, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, Commissioners Albert D. Kirby Jr., and Harry Parker. Absent: Commissioner Clark Wooten.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to go into Closed Session. The Board was joined by Economic Developer John Swope and representatives of the Carolina Cellulosic LLC project for an update.

No action was taken in Closed Session. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to recess to reconvene for their regular meeting.

Reconvene for Regular Meeting

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2015 in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Billy C. Lockamy, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, Commissioners Albert D. Kirby Jr., and Harry Parker. Absent: Commissioner Clark Wooten.

The Chairman convened the meeting and called upon Commissioner Parker for the invocation. Vice Chairperson Lee then led the Pledge Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as published.

Roads

Monthly Report - Representatives of the NCDOT could not be present, and there were no comments or concerns from those present.

Item 1: Reports and Presentations

Recognition of Kate Peacock, 2015 Miss North Carolina The recently crowned Miss North Carolina Kate Peacock was present and was recognized by the Board. The Sampson County native was offered congratulation and best wishes on her pursuit of the Miss America crown.

Recognition of Garland Senior Center as Center of Excellence The Chairman presented Department of Aging Director Lorie Sutton and her staff a certificate evidencing their re-certification as a Center of Excellence. Ms. Sutton lauded Center Director Marie Faircloth and her staff members and volunteers, and Nutrition Program Manager Linda Armwood for their efforts to achieve re-certification.

Item 2: Action Items

Public Hearing – Consideration of Proposed Appropriations and Expenditures for Economic Development Activities (Brooks Brothers) The Chairman opened the hearing and called on Economic Developer John Swope, who reviewed information regarding the proposed expansion by Brooks Brothers of their Distribution Center located at 606 Warsaw Highway in Clinton. Mr. Swope recapped proposed state grant/incentives that would sought, the County's performance based incentive proposal and the proposed resolution approving the incentive package. Commissioner Kirby noted some concern with percentage of grant-back incentives being higher than had been offered in the past. The floor was opened for public comment, and none were received. The hearing was closed. County Attorney Joel Starling noted a small typographical error in one of the annual yearly incentive amounts; however, the total incentives were unchanged. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the resolution (with the correction) approving the incentive agreement with Brooks Brothers. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____).

Approval of Tax-Exempt Financing for Taylors Bridge Fire Department's Fire Station Addition Taylor's Bridge Fire Chief Keith Powell explained that the department was seeking approval of the tax-exempt financing they were obtaining from First Citizens Bank for the construction of an addition to their fire station. Chief Powell explained that the station was built in 1986 and had not been built on since that time. He explained that their addition of an ATV rescue team necessitated two additional pieces of equipment, which led to two trucks in one bay. He noted that the loan could be repaid within current budget, with no tax increase required. Chairman Lockamy asked about the Department's efforts to lower their ISO rating, and the Chief noted that they were in conversations with an individual with experience with the state rating system who would be guiding the department through the process. He noted that the young volunteers were busy working on their training. Commissioner Kirby asked to

what extent the County would be on the hook for any financing, and County Manager Ed Causey explained that the loan was secured by tax dollars and the non-profit had the liability. Finance Officer David Clack explained that the reason the department had to obtain the County's approval was that the tax-exempt financing goes against the County's cap on tax-exempt financing. Since the County would not be borrowing any monies, this was moot. Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the resolution approving the tax-exempt financing. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

Sheriff's Department - Request for Establishment of Dangerous Dog Permit Fee
Sgt. Jessica Kittrell explained that when the Animal Control Ordinance was adopted it contained provisions regarding the declaration of a dog as dangerous, the appeals process for such action and the requirements for owners of those dogs declared dangerous. It did not, she explained, establish the actual fee for the registration permit that the owner was required to obtain from the Sheriff's Department. She, along with Animal Shelter Director Alan Canady and Health Director Wanda Robinson, recommended the establishment of a \$100 fee. County Attorney Joel Starling explained that the establishment of the fee would have the effect of amending the ordinance, and for ordinances to be amended on the first reading required the unanimous approval of all members. In the absence of Commissioner Wooten, the action could be voted on at the next meeting (with a possible unanimous vote), or could be voted on at this meeting, but would have to be voted on again (as a second reading) at the Board's next meeting, at which time it could be approved with a simple majority. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to amend the ordinance to establish a \$100 dangerous dog registration fee. (The action to be added to the Consent Agenda of the September meeting for a second reading.)

Public Hearing- Naming of Private Roads The Chairman opened the hearing and called upon Assistant County Manager Susan Holder. Ms. Holder presented the Board with recommendations of the Road Naming Committee. The floor was opened for public comments, and no comments were received. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to name the roads as recommended:

PVT 1947 846 High Bush Lane

Appointments - CCAP (Action Pathways) This item was tabled.

Item 3: Consent Agenda

Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- a. Approved the minutes of the July 6, 2015 meeting
- b. Approved revisions to Sampson Area Transportation's System Safety Program Plan as submitted (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- c. Approved the Sheriff's Department request to apply electronically for Governor's Crime Commission grant funds for the purchase of an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and to utilize Federal Seized Asset funds for remainder of the cost

d. Approved the following tax refunds:

#7001	Hall, Daniel James Jr.	\$ 253.45
#6969	Prestage Farms, Inc.	\$ 219.89
#6996	Stone, Elgie McLamb	\$ 102.87
#7017	Morris, Roger Dale Jr.	\$ 210.61
#7018	Robinson, Keeshonya I.	\$ 225.50
#7016	Jackson, Timothy Earl & Pamela Melissa	\$ 106.66
#7028	Smith, Arlene Elise	\$ 182.53
#7030	Pearson, Richard Fletcher Jr.	\$ 107.58

e. Approved the following budget amendments:

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Economic Development</u>			
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	
11449200	519100	Professional Services	2,500.00		
11449200	519100	Professional Services	15,840.00		
11449200	519200	Professional Services Legal	1,373.00		
11449200	531101	Existing Industry Project	656.00		

<u>REVENUE</u>			<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>		
11034920	408920	NC Southeast Economic	2,500.00	
11039999	409800	Fund Balance Approp Encumbrances	17,869.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Tax</u>			
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	
11141400	519100	Professional Services	16,593.00		

<u>REVENUE</u>			<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>		
11034140	404125	Legal Fees Collected	16,593.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Finance</u>			
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	
61971000	519201	Cost of Issuance of LOBs	448,000.00		
11891110	519201	Cost of Issuance of GO Bonds Water	113,000.00		

REVENUE				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11033910	409100	Loan Proceeds	448,000.00	
61937100	409100	Bond Proceeds	113,000.00	

EXPENDITURE				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Community College Capital Outlay Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11659220	558000	Roofs/Improvements Activities Center	237,977.00	

REVENUE				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11039999	409900	Fund Balance Appropriated	237,977.00	

Item 4: Board Information

The following items were provided to the Board for information only:

- a. Atlantic Coast Pipeline – July 2015 Update
- b. Market Based Conservation Initiative Signing Celebration Announcement

County Manager Reports

County Manager Ed Causey noted that the annual dinner meeting with the Sampson Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees would be on September 28, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. He noted the upcoming NCACC Conference in Pitt County August 20-22. He discussed the work staff and department heads would be doing in the weeks ahead to identify the cost-savings pledged to the Board, noting that the Board may get calls as ideas were introduced and vetted.

Public Comments

The floor was opened for comments, and the following were received:

Kenneth Higginbotham: I have been late for several of my appointments since the changeover to Enroute. They come to pick me up, I go to use the equipment, and the person driving can't put me in the vehicle because the lift breaks. I've missed several appointments over the last month – appointments that I needed to be in attendance to – and I think there needs to be a little more coverage on that issue. My shirt was soaked when I got to an appointment; I sweated in the vehicle because the air conditioning didn't work. That's happened three times. They're not adequate. They need to do better. The people of our county deserve it. There are people older than myself, people in worse condition. They have to suffer through the things that I've been through.

Commissioner Kirby asked what kind of appointment he had missed.

Unidentified woman: I am his girlfriend. Yes, sir. It was a counseling meeting at Commonwealth in Newton Grove. Carrie Phillips took it upon herself to cancel the appointment. The appointment time was 11:00 o'clock. They never arrived at his house until 1:18. The first time they came to the house to pick him up, the lift in the van did not work. They had to send the maintenance van out there to fix the lift.

Commissioner Kirby asked if this had happened with Van-Go.

Kenneth Higginbotham: No, sir.

Commissioner Kirby: Just for the record, I've gotten several calls of where people have missed dialysis meetings, and where people are riding in vans that are not air-conditioned. Obviously everybody knows what my vote was in this situation, why I voted, and it's in litigation now. I think that this county has done a disservice to its people - mostly my people. To the extent that we're talking about sleeping at night, to the extent that people are not making it to their meetings, dialysis, we are not serving the people.

Ricky Moore, Enroute: We have had some bumps along the way getting started, which is no different than Van-Go did when they started. We continued to cover their routes for six weeks when they started. We did that to keep these types things from happening. It's the nature of starting back up, getting back in the swing of things. I sincerely apologize to the Higginbothams and to all the clients. We have missed some appointments. We're working diligently trying to get these things corrected. I will say that for months after the other company took over, I was continually getting messages on my answering machine - I don't know why they were calling me - of mad, upset people with missed appointments, late appointments. This is not a situation that happened just to me; the same thing happened to them when they took over. Certainly, it's not right, and we're working hard trying to get these things smoothed out. Our history of having done this for 16 years, while I certainly thought that start up would have been a little easier, it's not. It's a complex thing that takes place every day with this transportation. It will take us a little time to get things greased and working good. I'm in the process of putting on more vehicles and more employees as we speak. I just want to sincerely apologize and let you know we are trying very hard to get this. But, it's not anything that wasn't experienced by the other company when they started up.

Kenneth Higginbotham: I suggest letting the client make the decision themselves which company.

Closed Session

Upon a motion made by Chairman Lockamy and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted to go into Closed Session pursuant to GS 1434-318.11(a)(3) for consultation with the County Attorney. In Closed Session, the attorney briefed the

Board on actions taken regarding the Van-Go Transportation v. Sampson County matter. No action was taken in Closed Session. The Board returned to the Auditorium. Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.