

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 11, 2016 in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Billy C. Lockamy, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Albert Kirby Jr., Harry Parker and Clark H. Wooten.

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

### **Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

#### **Item 1: Roads (first Monday of each quarter)**

Quarterly Roads Report Keith Eason, NCDOT Highway Maintenance Engineer presented the quarterly report to the Board. He informed the Board and the citizens in attendance that NCDOT has recently completed repaving a portion of Industrial Drive. He also noted other projects were in progress including the widening and resurfacing on NC 242 and construction on Keith Road. Chairman Lockamy opened the floor for public comments. There were no comments presented from the floor.

Adoption of Resolution Approving of Rosie Lane to the State Secondary Road System Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution requesting the addition of Rosie Lane to the state secondary roads system. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_.)

#### **Item 2: Reports and Presentations**

Action Pathways/Second Harvest Food Bank Mobile Food Bank Initiative SHFB Director Jim Thomas provided the Board with information regarding an initiative to provide eight mobile food pantries to the County through July 2017. The food pantries will provide 40-60 pound boxes of food for county citizens suffering from food insecurities. Mr. Thomas noted that SHFB is seeking the help of local community organizations and volunteer groups in order to make the opportunity a reality. An information meeting was set for July 28, 2016, in the County Auditorium at 435 Rowan Road, Clinton, North Carolina.

### **Item 3:        Actions Items**

Public Hearing – Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program Funding Chairman Lockamy called the hearing to order and recognized Economic Development Director John Swope who provided the Board with information regarding the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program funding. The CDBG program is administered by the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The State of North Carolina's CDBG Program permits grant funds to be used toward infrastructure projects that address health/safety needs (public water and sewer projects) or support Economic Development (public infrastructure) projects. Applications for Economic Development must show that in excess of 60% of CDBG funds will benefit low or moderate-income persons through job creation or retention. Applications for other CDBG programs must show that funded activities: (1) will provide greater than a 50% benefit to low or moderate income persons; or (2) benefit identified special need populations; or (3) address health and safety needs.

Mr. Swope informed the Board that the funding is sought as means of supporting the Carolina Cellulosic Biofuels project, highlighting the financial needs of infrastructure, road construction, and project analysis. Mr. Swope noted that the project behind schedule, but is progressing well and is projected to close in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016. There were no public comments from the floor, so the hearing was closed.

Tax Settlement and Charge to Tax Collector Tax Administrator Jim Johnson presented the Board with a settlement of the outstanding balance of all delinquent taxes for FY 2015-2016 at \$1,120,842.30, which is a difference of \$64,760.57 from the FY 2014-2015 balance of \$1,185,602.87. Mr. Johnson noted that the collection rate for FY 2015-2016 is 97.29%, which is the highest that Sampson County has ever collected. Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Wooten, the Board voted unanimously to accept the tax settlement for FY 2015-2016 and to charge the Tax Collector with collection of taxes for FY 2016-2017 (Copy of the Tax Charge filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_, page \_\_\_).

Designation of Voting Delegate – NCACC Annual Conference (August, 2016) Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to designate County Manager Ed Causey to serve as the voting delegate at the 2016 NCACC Annual Conference, August 11-14, 2016. (Copy of the NCACC Designation Form filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_, Page \_\_\_.)

Appointments – Workforce Development Board (Business/Private Sector) Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Amanda Bryan to the Workforce Development Board.

Appointments - Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Wooten, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Gerald Anders to the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Appointments - North Carolina Southeast Partnership Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Kermit Williamson to the North Carolina Southeast Partnership.

Appointments - Adult Care Home Community Action Committee Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Toni Coats, Beth Smith, and Wayne High to the Adult Care Home Community Action Committee.

Appointments - Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Terrace Miller, Darold Cox, Billy Frank Jackson, Jimmy Thornton (Chris Godwin as designee), Sarah Bradshaw (Lynn Fields as designee), Wanda Robinson (Tamara Jones as designee), Raymond Spell (Beverly Vause as designee), Tracy Arlington, Edwin Causey (David K. Clack as designee), Clem Mason, Tommy Macon, Angela Hodges, Dudley Neal, and Elizabeth Phillips to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. Commissioner Kirby informed the Board that he must resign from the JCPC due to time demands with his law practice. Ms. Sarah Stroud, newly appointed Eastpointe Director, was appointed as Mental Health appointee in the place of Ken Jones, with Ms. Courtney Boyette as designee.

**Item 4: Consent Agenda**

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

- a. Approved the minutes of the June 6, 2016 and June 15, 2016 meetings
- b. Approved the contract with the City of Clinton for FY 2016-2017 planning and zoning services (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_.)
- c. Approved the contracts between Sampson County (Health Department) and Clinton City Schools and Sampson County Schools for school nursing services (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_.)
- d. Approved the FY 2016-17 contract between Sampson County and Eastpointe Human Services for the 4H Prevention Program (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_.)

- e. Approved Health Department fee revisions as recommended by the Board of Health (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
- f. Approved tax refunds as submitted

#7500	Jacob Halstead	\$261.43
#7512	Danny and Frances Strickland	\$135.21
#7506	Paulo Prado	\$240.62
#7514	Raeford Strickland	\$157.44
#7522	Mary Royal	\$130.58
#7524	Joyce Manuel	\$352.21
#7528	Margaret Hobbs	\$146.90
#7529	Ronald Cannady	\$102.67

- g. Approved budget amendments as submitted

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Vann's Fire District</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
23243410	581021	Vann's Fire Department	5,500.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
23243421	499900	Fund Balance Appropriated	5,500.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Social Services</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13554810	568415	Duke Energy Merger Settlement Funds	37,465.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13535480	403318	Duke Energy Merger Settlement Funds	37,465.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Supplemental Current Expense Fund</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
26659100	581001	Transfer of Funds	60,000.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
26031840	412000	Current Year Taxes Collected	60,000.00	

- Approved Clinton City Schools Amendment No. 1 (Capital Outlay); No. 4 (Federal); No. 5 (Federal); No. 6 (Federal); No. 5 (State); No. 6 (State) No. 7 (State); and No. 8 (State) as submitted.

## **Item 5: Board Information**

The Board was provided with the following items for information only:

- a. Child Fatality Prevention Team Annual Report

## **County Manager Reports**

County Manager Ed Causey reminded the Board that Administration plans to provide the Board with an update on the Human Resources Director position in the upcoming months, probably September, before moving forward with filling the position.

## **Public Comments**

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

Georgette Bert: Good Evening Commissioners. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you. My name is Georgette Bert. I live in the Snowhill area. Some ladies and I have come because we have a problem, and I know some of you have heard about turkey buzzards. And the turkey buzzards are increasing and because of the landfill. I've brought some pictures if you ladies and gentlemen would like to see them. They are on our rooftops, they are on our cars, they are in our yards, they are leaving feathers, they are leaving drippings; they are destroying our cars and our rooftops, again. They are around early in the morning, because one morning I heard this noise on my rooftop and I was like, "What is that?", and it sounded like some little horses were running on my rooftop. I come outside roof was covered with turkey buzzards, and I was like, "Shoo, shoo, shoo", but they wouldn't move so I go back in the house because I was afraid of them. But they are increasing. They are in the areas of Marion Amos Road, that's near the Snowhill church, Lenora Lane, Canterbury Lane, Chester Road, and in that area. And I think there is a nesting area over there, back in the wooded areas over there. So, we just need the commissioners to help us out to resolve this problem with the turkey buzzards. I came out of church yesterday evening and I looked the sky was filled with turkey buzzards soaring around, and I'm like, "Wow, how many are there?" There were just like hundreds and hundreds of them soaring around. And I went online and did a Google search and it says that if there is a landfill around that that would cause creation of those turkey buzzards congregating around like that. And like I said, I do have some pictures if you ladies and gentlemen would like to look at them to see what we are talking about. And I'm not going to talk more because I think someone else would like to talk. But, do you all mind looking at the picture?

Gloria Anderson: Good afternoon Commissioners. I live at 145 Chester Road and I am having the same problems. I hope I never wake up again and hear this on top of my house because you don't know where to go or what to do. When it first started you could go out in your yard and they would run. Now you come outside in your yard and they say, "Is this your domain or mine?" They do not move. I have done a lot of calling. I called the Health Department, they directed me to Animal Control. I called Animal Control and they told me to contact Wildlife Control. Wildlife Control told me to contact Environmental Health, and Environmental Health told me to call the North Carolina Department of Environmental Health. We are here asking for some help. And not only do we see the big birds, but you know what happens when you have a lot of those, you end up with a lot of little babies. And they are booming every day. You can no longer enjoy your own property. You can't sit on your deck. You cannot go outside. We have a problem that needs to be solved. Thank you very much for listening because nobody else has.

Commissioner Kirby: How long has this been a problem, if I may ask?

Gloria Anderson: I've noticed it not at the beginning of this year but last year. But what is happening is that the problem is getting bigger and bigger every day.

Commissioner Kirby: Had you lived there before the landfill went in.

Gloria Anderson: I've been there exactly 23 years. I don't know when the landfill was put there. When I went out there it was a nice, peaceful area.

Commissioner Kirby: So I guess the point is, while the landfill was in operation, for the early portions of it you didn't have this problem. This is something that has occurred within the past two years or so.

Gloria Anderson: This is something that has occurred within the past two or three years. We can no longer enjoy our property.

Commissioner Kirby: Do we know if there has been anything, Mr. Causey, at the landfill that has been changed; anything in their operation that would cause; a chemical or anything different that would cause this attraction.

Mr. Causey: I don't think so. Not to my knowledge.

Gloria Anderson: There is no answer. Everybody I have called have said, "what did you say, buzzards? Scare it." Because they cannot understand what you are saying when you get on the phone.

Chairman Lockamy: Yeah, that's the first time I have ever seen them sitting on houses. I've seen them sit in trees.

Gloria Anderson: Oh, that's an everyday occurrence. In the morning when you go out and look at the trees your trees are covered with them. If you get up about 6:30 or 7:30 in the morning you will not believe what you see. Why don't you all just try coming out there one morning about 6:30 or 7 o'clock one morning.

Chairman Lockamy: So you got as far as what department?

Gloria Anderson: I have gone as far as the North Carolina Department of Health, and I do know that this is a Health problem.

Staff interjected to confirm that they are a protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Commissioner Parker: I talked with the Director (Landfill Director) about that situation not long ago, and he informed me that he was trying to do something, but he could not use his force any kind of way because they are protected and on the endangered species list.

Rosa Parker: My name is Rosa Parker and I also live in that community and I'm about two-tenths from the landfill. But what I wanted to say was that in church a gentleman made the announcement that we could not kill them because of the law but he stated that the landfill has permission to kill so many per year. So that is what I wanted to check. That was announced in church, that the landfill was supposed to do it - not us - but the landfill commission, or whoever that is, was supposed to do that to try to bring the population down. So one of the questions you maybe can ask them is how large that species is to get before anyone do anything.

Gloria Anderson: I talked about that. In fact I had the power company to come and evaluate my house and to put in one of these systems. One of those systems is going to cost you between \$3,000-\$5,000. And it's something that will shock them so they will not come back, but I don't feel that I should have to spend that money.

Georgette Bert: Our taxes are the same as everyone else's in Sampson County. We pay the same amount of taxes, but because of the landfill and now this, our property is going down, way down. Could it be that they aren't doing the right thing at the landfill since they haven't been over there for 20 something years? Are they getting slack on what they are supposed to be doing?

Staff noted that the landfill has continued with their same operations, meeting all requirements and regulations. After deliberation, the Board appointed staff to research the ordeal and to provide feedback on resolution options.

### **Adjournment**

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