# MINUTES CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 16, 2010

The Board of Commissioners ("the Board") of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 6:00 PM on August 16, 2010.

Present: Sally Kost, Chair; George Lucier, Vice

Chair; Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl

Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck

Staff Members Charlie Horne, County Manager; Jep Rose, Present: County Attorney; Renee Paschal, Assistant

County Attorney; Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager; Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the Board; and Elizabeth Plata, Deputy Clerk

to the Board

#### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Thompson delivered the invocation after which the Chair invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kost welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA**

The Chair asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

The Chair asked consideration of the following:

- The July 19, 2010 Work Session Minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered at the September 07, 2010 Board of Commissioners' meeting.
- The International Code Council Conference Presentation by Judith Ferster was rescheduled from the Work Session and will be presented during the Commissioners Priorities.
- An appointment to the JOCCA Board will be discussed by Commissioner Thompson under Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Lucier, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda with the noted requests as follows:

1. **Minutes:** Approval of Board Minutes for Regular Meeting held August 2, 2010 and Work Session held on July 19, 2010

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

2. **Tax Releases and Refunds:** Approval of tax releases and refunds, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

3. Grant Application for Community Challenge Planning Grant and National Infrastructure Investments Grant: Approval of a grant application for the

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Community Challenge Planning and National Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$575,528 to initiate a countywide transportation plan simultaneously with a comprehensive land use plan, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

4. **Recreation Funds for Towns and Municipalities:** Approval of recreation funds for the towns and municipalities

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

5. **Animal Cruelty Investigator Reappointments:** Approval of a request to reappoint Jackie Adams and B. Demers to one-year volunteer terms as Chatham County Animal Cruelty Investigators

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

6. **Home and Community Care Block Grant for Council on Aging:** Approval of a request to approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant for fiscal year 2010-2011 in the amount of \$467,216.00 as recommended by the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

7. **Resolutions for Water Shortage Response Plans:** Approval of request to approve Resolutions for the Water Shortage Response Plans for North Chatham, Asbury and Southwest water systems as required by the State of North Carolina as follows:

Resolution #2010-43 by Chatham County to Approve the North Water System Water Shortage Response Plan, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Resolution #2010-44 by Chatham County to Approve the Asbury Water System Water Shortage Response Plan, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Resolution #2010-45 by Chatham County to Approve the Southwest Water System Water Shortage Response Plan, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

8. **Grant Utility Easement:** Grant utility easement to Public Service Company of North Carolina for gas line at Central Carolina Community College Siler City Campus to Public Service and authorize the Chair and Clerk to the Board to execute the easement

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

9. **Human Relations Commission Appointment:** Approval of appointment of Patricia B. Learned to the Human Relations Commission by Chair Kost

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

#### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **PUBLIC INPUT SESSION**

**Larry Ballas**, 139 Indian Creek Lane, Apex, NC, voiced concern regarding the signs that are missing denoting Chatham County. He stated that some of the signs in his and other neighborhoods, have disappeared; that they were mostly in the region that most now known as "the City of Cary"; that as development progressed, he feels that the signs somehow got lost; and that he thinks the boundaries need to be reestablished.

Chair Kost asked if there was any particular spot Mr. Ballas was speaking about. Mr. Ballas stated that the signs on New Hope Church Road are missing in both directions, Yates Store Road is missing in both directions, and O'Kelly Chapel Road is missing; and that he doesn't believe there are any Chatham County signs in the new development leading from Cary/Wake County into Chatham County.

Chair Kost asked the County Manager if those signs were the responsibility of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) or the responsibility of Chatham County. The County Manager stated that those would be NCDOT signs; that the multicolored signs are the ones that the County has installed. She suggested that they write to the District Engineer expressing concern regarding this issue.

**Jeanette Alston**, 1204 Glasgow Drive, Lot #155, Siler City, NC, on behalf of her mother stated that she was requesting help for her mother whose bathroom was giving away; that her mother was unable to get into her bathroom to provide her own assistance; that she needs handicapped accessibility; that she lives in Siler City; and that she would like to have help.

Chair Kost asked if she had contacted the Council on Aging or anyone else requesting assistance. Ms. Alston replied that she had seen the write-up in the newspaper regarding the Block Grant monies. She stated that her mother's name is Edna Crump and her home is located at 419 East Fourth Street in Siler City.

Rita Spina, citizen, recalled that many years ago, a group of students through Central Carolina Community College worked through a program to install bathrooms, etc. for people throughout the County. Commissioner Thompson stated that that program was no longer in service.

Chair Kost explained that the grant funding that she saw in the newspaper is for this type of project; that they need to get her connected with the person who knows the criteria to see if she is eligible and if not, who may be able to identify other potential areas for help.

# PLANNING AND ZONING

#### **Public Hearing**

Public Hearing on Applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds: Public hearing to receive comments on the county's intent to submit applications for federal CDBG funds as administered by the North Carolina Department of Commerce

The County Manager, Chatham County Manager explained that the purpose of the public hearing is to receive input in the County's interest in applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the coming year as different funding opportunities may arise. The County must hold an initial public hearing to receive input as part of the funding process. The public hearing is not for specific grant proposals, but covers any CDBG grant applications that the County may submit in the coming year. Separate public hearings will be held for specific grant applications as they are developed. One CDBG grant opportunity that is anticipated to start during the current fiscal year is the Scattered Site Housing program that the County receives every three years based on federal funding.

The Chair opened the floor for public comments.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Larry Ballas**, 139 Indian Creek Lane, Apex, NC, stated that he thought grants were a good idea because it is money the citizens deserve since tax dollars are used other places. He asked if when the County applied for the grants, is there overhead included and if there is compensation (salary) back to the people who are filing these grants and if not, if they are available through the grant we need to establish some criteria as to what those numbers should be regarding overhead, etc.

Commissioner Lucier stated that it is his understanding that there are a variety of grants for which they apply; that some of them allow them to do that having built-in personnel; that when they do, if it is a time-limited grant, the issue becomes that the people have to understand when the grant is over that the position doesn't automatically continue. He stated that there is a policy in place, at the beginning of the budget document.

Ms. Paschal stated that the Board has a Grants Policy; that it doesn't specifically address trying to recover administrative costs.

Commissioner Thompson asked how administrative costs were taken care of in the in the Scattered Site CDBG Community Development Block Grant. The County Manager stated that it was incorporated in the total grant application and that typically, for the Scattered Site, aside from County staff keeping tabs on the reporting process, etc., the consultant does most of the work. He stated that occasionally there is a grant funded position that is called "limited term" which, unless the Board approves continuation, that particular job sunsets at the end of the grant.

Chair Kost stated that a lot of the federal grants have an indirect cost to which she believes Mr. Ballas may be referring.

The Chair closed the floor for public comments.

# **COURTHOUSE UPDATE**

The County Manager stated that the round-about on Highway #87 is complete and opened on Saturday. It will be a lot easier access for citizens in the area for access to their homes, the Department of Social Services, etc.

The first meeting of the subcontractors was held last week. The interior of the courthouse is being gutted, most of the sheetrock has been removed, and most of the metal studs in the walls that are removable have been taken out. This week they will continue with removing subflooring and other things that will need to be removed for the reconstruction process. The demolition work on the upper brick will begin on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Chair Kost asked if any of the flooring on the second level in the courtroom will be saved. The County Manager stated that he was uncertain if all of it will have to be torn out, but the subfloor/covering has been taken down to the studs on most of the first floor and he is unsure of the second floor.

Chair Kost asked when the actual work on the roof work will begin. The County Manager stated that they would know about the specific time this week, and that it is his guess that it will take four to six weeks.

Commissioner Lucier asked if the courthouse traffic circle would be partially closed for three to four days but not the entire four to six weeks. The County Manager stated that it should be a couple of days max and that he doesn't think that at that point, it will be all closed, only partially closed.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' PRIORITIES**

#### **International Code Council Conference:**

**Judith Ferster**, 228 Carolina Meadows Villa, Chapel Hill, NC, stated that she was present to tell about the Sierra Club's enthusiasm about the scheduling of the International Code Council Conference in Charlotte in October 2010. She stated that having the

conference here gives North Carolina extra weight in producing new building codes. It gives hope in putting in stricter codes for the next couple of years. Apparently North Carolina's codes are a little more progressive than many states so this is giving us a chance to help the rest of the nation put in stricter codes that will be more energy efficient. Part of what the Sierra Club did to respond to the wonderful opportunity was to hire Travis Hargett as an organizer for the entire state and help organize the grass roots. One of those grass roots he organized was her. The two of them have contacted many of the governments in Orange and Chatham Counties including Chatham, Orange County, Pittsboro, Siler City, Hillsborough, and Carrboro. Travis began organizing Greenville this afternoon. Chatham County is already a member of the International Code Council and has been since 2009. Chatham has already done very progressive things to help the County save energy i.e. the pledge to make all public buildings green, establishing the Green Building Task Force, the Green Economy Task Force, and hiring a sustainability officer who has LEED qualified herself. She understands that the Board is willing to send the full complement of delegates to Charlotte which she appreciates immensely.

Commissioner Lucier asked what the full complement is. Ms. Ferster replied, eight which is based on population.

Travis Hargett, 2711 Peachtree Street, Raleigh, NC, volunteer coordinator of North Carolina Sierra Club, thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and being willing to send a delegation to the October conference. He gave a brief rundown of what the Board is doing and why it is so important stating that they represent about 16,000 members in North Carolina. Orange and Chatham Counties have some of the most dedicated volunteers. They work on projects year-round and he is very grateful to Ms. Ferster for setting up the meeting stating that she has dedicated a lot of time. He stated that the ICC stands for the International Code Council. Members and local government officials go to the conference, have meetings yearly and what is coming up in October is the final action. Local officials will vote on the final code. The code will then be adopted by state and local governments. Traditionally, the Code Conference is a battle between safety officials and home builders. Home builders like to keep costs low and safety officials are there to protect the public safety and new construction. This year as well as the past ten to twenty years they have seen the emergence of energy efficiency proposals. This year they are supporting the 30% solution which would increase energy efficiency by approximately 30% in all new home construction across the United States. In turn, they are going to reduce energy costs and spur economic development in green businesses in the States specifically and across the county. They are also going to be taking significant strides to protect the health and welfare of the citizens and the environment. They do want the Board to send a full delegation and are pleased that they have committed to do so. North Carolina is poised to increase their energy efficiency in the State Building Code in September. They have created the perfect storm in that in September, the State is going to increase their energy efficiency and then in October they will have the opportunity to affect national energy policy. So often, local governments set up great initiatives. With everything that Chatham County has done, they will not only affect their constituents but also the nation. He stated that buildings matter, consuming about 40% of the energy, almost 70% of electricity use and because of the large chunk of electricity, they also are the main source of over half of the carbon emissions are directly caused by buildings. Over the past 30 years, electricity has drastically increased. Natural gas and petroleum have stabilized and stayed the same. That something must be done to reign in the use of electricity and its costs. We cannot continue relying on low-sulphur coal this is shipped in from mountain removal sites in West Virginia and Kentucky or the flats in Wyoming. It is too expensive. A 30% improvement in US building efficiency would reduce energy bills by \$75 billion in fifteen years and eliminate the need for eighty new nuclear power plants over the next twenty years. The real advancements need to be made at the time a house is built. That is why it is important to have an energy-efficient code. Installing better insulation, making sure the air conditioning unit is efficient and not three times as large as it needs to be, and making sure that inspectors certify that the systems are sealed. The average cost increase is approximately 3-6% in each house, on average, \$2,300 per house. The annual savings would be approximately \$388.00 so the cost would be paid back in approximately five years.

Commissioner Lucier corrected that it was actually six years.

Mr. Hargett stated that the Charlotte conference would be held on October 27-November 1 and that they are hoping the Board will maximize its turnout and send a full delegation. A majority of the delegates will come from North Carolina. Those that can vote are voting officials, local and state officials, planning departments, water departments, fire officials, and volunteer advisory boards and universities can send voting delegates. Chatham County can send eight and the cost to join the ICC would be \$180.00. (The Board stated that they are already a member of ICC and ICLEI.) They estimate that it will cost approximately \$1,000 per person to attend, but that there are scholarship opportunities.

Jeffrey Starkweather stated that this was discussed at the Green Building Task Force meeting; that Sybil Tate was coordinating through them; that they discussed asking people to volunteer to attend; that the idea was to have one person to go full-time; that when the vote comes, they would call everyone.

Chair Kost stated that she attended a webinar for the County; that the Sustainable Communities Director, Cynthia Van Der Wiele was looking at who should represent Chatham County; that she also planned to make sure that people who would benefit from the conference as well, not to just send people to vote; and that at this point, Ms. Van Der Wiele is the contact person and if she wants to delegate someone to do it, it is her job to do it.

Commissioner Lucier stated that the Board tries to do a lot of things to make Chatham County as energy efficient as they can including energy audits, establishing the Green Building Task Force, all new public buildings have to be at least LEED Silver; that they are actually exceeding that in most buildings that they are doing; and that it will be a payoff for the taxpayers to come.

Chair Kost thanked Ms. Ferster for alerting the Board to this about three months ago.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that it was he who let staff know the afternoon that they heard it at the Energy Efficiency Conference and told them this was an opportunity that they couldn't miss.

An unidentified citizen stated that when he built his home ten years ago, it was totally energy efficient; that ten years later, Progress Energy and all the other companies that have dealings with heating and air, electricity, etc., no longer consider his home energy efficient. He asked how long a home has to last to last to be considered energy efficient.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he doesn't think they have to worry about grandfathering this in, as they are always chasing technology. Things will change and depending on the speed of technology, one could be outdated very quickly. He stated that one has to figure the payback to see if it is worth it for an individual with the latest technology to make an investment and how long it will take to recoup it and come out ahead.

The citizen told of having a low \$43.00 per month electric bill, installing a new air conditioning system and having his energy bill skyrocket. Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that part of it could be for the cooling medium; that if it was a type that was going to be outlawed, the coolant may not have been continued to be made if it was an ozone depleting coolant.

Marty Clayton, Progress Energy Official, stated that he would encourage their customers and citizens of Chatham County to become more energy efficient. As a result of Senate Bill 3, Progress Energy has a number of programs to offer to residential, commercial, and industrial customers to become more energy efficient as they are all in this together. He encouraged everyone to go on their website <a href="www.progress-energy.com">www.progress-energy.com</a> and look for the opportunities and programs that they have available including the rebates on insulation and heat pump improvements.

#### **Hate Crimes Resolution:**

Esther Coleman, Human Relations Director, acknowledged the presence of the Human Relations Commission Chair, Heather Rodin, and presented an update of hate crime activities in Chatham County as follows:

"I am bringing this resolution to you on behalf of the Chatham County Human Relations Commission.

- Case 1: Satanic and obscene messages are sprayed on the walls of a local church. Investigators say the vandalism meets the criteria for a hate crime.
- Case 2: The state Human Relations Commission office receives information that a bridge has been vandalized with racial symbols, slurs, and statements. A detective finds the bridge marked with the letters "KKK", Nazi swastikas, Ku Klux Klan hoods, the phrase, "World Wide White Power", and a drawing of a man hanging from a noose.
- Case 3: A government employee reports information about a man who calls and complains about immigration policy and threatens to "come and take care of all" who were involved with the government and the policy.
  - Case 4: A Jewish resident reports finding swastikas drawn on her car.
- Case 5: Sheriff's deputies investigate hateful slogans written on political campaign signs. They are reported as "acts of racism."
- Case 6: Members of a local union report that a noose is hung on their employer's property in plain view, and that it is left there for several days.
- Case 7: A teacher reports that a Confederate flag and the word, "Hi," have been drawn on the window of her classroom. All of the teacher's students are minorities.

When and where do you think these incidents were reported? In the 50s or maybe even the 60s? Maybe in some out of the way town known for its KKK activities?

If that is what you guessed, you would be wrong. Each of these incidents were reported right here in Chatham County in 2008, 2009, and the first one I mentioned happening recently in 2010.

Unlike a hate crime, a hate bias incident, occurs more often and is not a criminal offense. A hate bias incident is considered to be bias-motivated towards persons of a different race, religion, ethnic/national origin, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation. It runs the gamut from marches, leafleting, rallies, membership solicitation, derogatory public statements, and public expressions; however, these incidents are most often protected by the first amendment.

A hate crime is also known as a bias-motivated crime. However, it is a criminal offense against persons, property, or society; and a hate crime occurs when a perpetrator targets a victim because of his or her actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability. These crimes include, but are not limited to, arson, assault, murder, shooting, and vandalism.

North Carolina law specifically prohibits ethnic intimidation, church burning, noose hanging, cross burning, placing exhibits to intimidate others, placing an exhibit while wearing a mask, hood or other disguise, and some others.

The FBI has reported, "The number of crimes against black people and members of religious groups increased in 2008." Those categories accounted for 56% of the hate crimes reported.

This past March, the Southern Poverty Law Center reported that the number of extremist groups in the United States exploded in 2009. They documented a 244% increase in the number of active hate groups.

They have found a number of these in North Carolina with the closest ones to us including: Imperial Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, which is statewide; Neo-Confederate Groups such as the League of the South in Burlington, Durham, and other areas; Neo-Nazi Groups such as the Aryan Nation, which is statewide, the Carolina Vanguard in Morrisville,

the National Alliance in Benson, the National Vanguard in Raleigh, Women for Aryan Unity in Raleigh, and the National Socialist Movement in Raleigh and Greensboro; White Nationalist Groups such as the Council of Conservative Citizens in Clemmons; and the Black Panther Party, which is speculated to be reorganizing in Durham.

The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, or HCPA, was signed into law by the President on October 28, 2009. This law expands the definition of a hate crime to include crimes motivated by gender, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

But according to one specialist with the North Carolina Human Relations Commission, in some cases in North Carolina where perpetrators could have been charged with hate crimes either under state or federal law, they are not so charged. We wondered if cost is a barrier.

Well the good news is that the HCPA directs the Department of Justice to provide grants to state and local enforcement agencies to cover the extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes. It also authorizes the provision of grants for programs that train local law enforcement.

The Chatham County Human Relations Commission brings this resolution to you today for several reasons. They hope that the resolution will:

- 1. Raise awareness and encourage organizations to become involved in educating the public about hate bias incidents and hate crimes;
- 2. Inform decision makers about the new federal law's provisions for grants that enable law enforcement and those in the justice system to vigorously investigate and prosecute hate crimes;
- 3. Lay a foundation of support for our collaboration with law enforcement agencies and the North Carolina Human Relations Commission; and
- 4. As it says in the resolution's "now therefore be it resolved section", to proclaim by word and action that harassment, intimidation, marginalization, and violence against people based on race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, age, gender, familiar status, sexual orientation, disability, and veteran status shall not be tolerated or accepted in Chatham County.

The Human Relations Commission would appreciate your support of these efforts through the passing of the resolution. And we look forward to working collaboratively with other agencies and organizations to prevent and respond to hate crimes."

Chair Kost thanked Ms. Coleman for their work on this project stating that it was important to increase awareness of hate crimes as we know of some very unsettling cases within Chatham County.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if there was some previous resolution a year or two prior regarding the endorsement of prosecution looking into a specific vandalism incident.

Commissioner Lucier it was related to a specific incident that was followed up on.

Commissioner Thompson stated that that the Human Relations Commission has done an outstanding job; that they have their facts and have enumerated the reasons why the Board of Commissioners should adopt the resolution; that he thinks the resolution does not send a negative message on behalf of the Board to the citizens of Chatham County if they choose to adopt it; and while they understand that most of the citizens of the County are good, lawabiding people, he thinks the message is that Chatham County is a county that is growing, it is becoming more diverse, and that they want to promote harmony to the extent that can.

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to adopt Chatham County Human Relations Commission Hate Crimes Resolution #2010-46 Proposed to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, attached hereto and by

reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). A typographical error

# **Scope of the Documentary for the Historic Courthouse:**

is to be corrected, from "familiar" (3<sup>rd</sup> page) to "familial" status, in the resolution.

Debra Henzey, Director of Community Relations, stated that the Board of Commissioners asked Chair Sally Kost to work with staff and local residents with expertise to develop a draft scope of work for a proposed documentary about the Historic County Courthouse. Over the past two months, Chair Kost convened a small work group that included: Gene Brooks and Barbara Perry, local historians; Judi Anderson and Flint Davis, technical advisors; and Debra Henzey and Lisa West from the County Manager's Office. She praised the efforts of Ms. Anderson stating that she had been so vital to the group's efforts in helping them think and sort through all the things that could be put in the documentary. Ms. Henzey provided comments as follows:

Over two months, the group brainstormed potential components of a documentary, identified existing resources and received technical and procedural guidance from Judi Anderson and Flint Davis, who are both involved in various aspects of video production. Their guidance helped the group understand what would be required to proceed with the initial planning phase and to understand potential costs and technical parameters.

The result is the development of a draft scope of work for the proposed document, including primary goals or purposes, target audience(s), and preferred video formats.

The proposed scope of work includes the following:

**PRIMARY GOALS** - The documentary could have any number of goals or purposes, but it is not feasible or desirable to cover them all. Judi helped us sort through a long list of potential goals identified by the group. We narrowed down the list to three priority goals with key elements of each. We agreed that the most important is goal is addressing the historical significance of the courthouse, including the structure itself and important people and events in is history, including the fire. The other two goals also are important and should be addressed, but to a lesser degree.

An important point related to the goals and elements of each – it is very unlikely that the final product will be able to address them all or to cover any in real depth. The final content of the video will depend to at least some extent on available resources/footage, including personal interviews, and how the most compelling can be woven together by the producer into a meaningful story that will stand the test of time. Once a producer is secured through an RFP process, the Commissioners will have a chance to review the final "storyboard" (a graphic outline of the script for the video).

**TARGET AUDIENCES** - The group identified the most important target audience for the documentary, which will have a key role in shaping the content, style, storyline and format of the video. We felt that visitors of the courthouse and historical museum are the most important target because:

- We will feature it in the grand reopening celebration
- A wide array of residents and visitors (current and future) will visit the facility after it is rebuilt. We would expect periodic tours for students, seniors and other groups.
- The format used for this audience would be easily adaptable for use in schools, civic groups, visitor kiosks, and other opportunities.

VIDEO FORMAT & USE - Mr. Davis and Ms. Anderson both helped us understand the importance of determining the desired formats and usage of the video as part of the initial scope of work. It will be a key element of an RFP to identify what format of video we need and how the video is likely to be made available to the public. The longer presentation version would be limited to ten minutes because it will not be widely used in schools or other places if it is longer. Our technical experts also tell us that this is a recommended length for attention span as well.

The handout also addresses the type of format needed related to providing access to the viewing of the documentary via internet, cable TV (including our government access channel) and DVDs for viewing on computer or TV screen. We can make sure the RFP includes options to produce final products that are adaptable to all these needs.

**NEXT STEPS** - We seek feedback and approval of the Board of Commissioners on the proposed scope of work so that we can then move forward with an RFP process to select a producer and to apply for any relevant grants to help fund the costs. This will be a rather challenging process because the video would include elements of the rebuilding process. This means the producer would be working with us over a three-year period. Flint Davis and other members of the work group will help us with the development of the RFP and evaluation of the responses, which we expect to do this fall.

We have already collected additional resources for the documentary:

- WRAL-TV has provided a copy of footage from the fire, including some helicopter footage
- Master photographer Duane Hall donated his time to produce excellent photos of the current state of the courthouse and has provided some historic videos from H. Lee Water of downtown Pittsboro in 1939 and 1941-42. They do include some shots of activity in and around the courthouse.
- We have worked with a local college student, Alex Loops, to shoot video of the courthouse as it is now as well as the community forum and a meeting of the Historic Courthouse Task Force. He has provided this service at a minimal cost.

Courthouse Tusk Force. II	e has provided this service at a	minima Cost.
Historical Significance: Events, Structure & People	Sense of Place: Symbol & County Icon	Its Future: Changing with the Times
<ul> <li>EVENTS: County &amp; its people shaped by events in and around courthouse</li> <li>Trials, protests, speeches, famous speeches, visitors, etc.</li> <li>Relationship of courthouse to ethnic groups &amp; cultures</li> <li>Fact vs. fiction (legendary tunnel, cornerstone with time capsule, etc.)</li> <li>THE STRUCTURE:</li> <li>Prior history: first three courthouses and their locations</li> <li>Location, architecture and construction of the 1881 courthouse and the people involved; built to last</li> <li>Key elements: Courtroom, clock tower &amp; chimes, Earl of Chatham portrait, weathervane, evolution of paint colors, statue</li> <li>Impact of major interior &amp; exterior renovations</li> <li>THE FIRE:</li> <li>The story: how it started, initial notification of fire, incident commander, efforts of firefighters, trucking of water, donations of food, media coverage</li> <li>Emotional loss —flowers, gathering at the site, offers of help</li> <li>What was saved: sections of 1<sup>st</sup> floor west wing (charred beams held); brick walls; portico with</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>GEOGRAPHY:</li> <li>Close to the county's midpoint and center of Pittsboro</li> <li>Connecting point of major highways</li> <li>Visual center</li> <li>Point of reference for directions</li> <li>SYMBOLISM:</li> <li>Visual representation of county government and court system</li> <li>Inspiration for county logos (current and past)</li> <li>COMMUNITY:</li> <li>Unique circle design</li> <li>Quaint hometown look and feel</li> <li>Beauty and grace</li> <li>Visible gathering place (related to historical and future events)</li> <li>Expect it to be there to greet us</li> </ul>	• Courthouse once housed all county court functions- not unique to change over time  PUBLIC INPUT & BOC DECISION:  • Task force process and community forum/survey  • Rationale behind final decision: what will the rebuilt courthouse be?  REBUILDING:  • Architectural design  • Major phases of construction process  • Other major events (yet to be determined)

columns; much of museum &
probation office (file); copper;
Mosler safe; clock workings

• Post-fire: removal of debris;
copper in storage; restoration of
files & historical items;
reinforcement of walls; temporary
roof

#### TARGET AUDIENCES

# PRIMARY TARGET: Courthouse & museum visitors, which would include a wide array of ages, cultural & ethnic backgrounds, etc. It would include those attending the dedication ceremony for the reopening. Students, seniors, and other organized groups are likely to visit over time. This target also would reach some of our current and future residents.

**OTHERS**: The following additional potential audiences also were identified:

- School classrooms (K-12, community college)
- Current residents and employees
- Future residents and employees
- Attendees of reopening dedication ceremony
- Documentarians and historians
- Cable TV government access channel viewers
- News media
- Other local governments
- Civic groups
- Architects & builders
- Emergency responders
- Ancilliary audiences: related to providing "B roll" footage from our files to other groups who produce related videos

#### VIDEO FORMAT & USE

# PRIMARY FORMATS: Need to make sure we use correct technical requirements for these options:

- **Presentation:** Designed primarily for theater-style presentation in courthouse, classrooms, presentations, Citizens' College, etc. Up to 10 minutes in length. More general overview than segments below.
- Shorter Segments: Designed to be shown in parts, such as through menu selection at kiosks, websites, etc. where viewers have selection menu. Segments would provide a bit more detail than the presentation overview about, but each segment limited to 1-3 minutes.

#### **OTHER FORMAT ISSUES:**

- **DVDs:** Can be provided or sold for use on either computers or TV, but require different parameters for shooting & editing.
- Cable TV and other TV shows: May need revised format for these.
- **Internet:** May need files converted to formats that make it easier to show on website.

No funding is required at this point, but the cost of the production of the video could range from \$20,000 to \$50,000 depending on the RFP responses, any donated services or materials, and grant funding secured. Once we have finalized the scope of work, we can revisit availability of the grants identified and discussed at previous commissioner meetings and begin the grant inquiry process.

Chair Kost stated that one aspect is the budget piece and another is what they have done in the interim; that the budget is between \$20,000 and \$50,000; that the plan is to secure grant funds or donations; that they may have to advance tax dollars to get it going; that they will have a "Request for Proposals" (RFPs) this fall to award the contract; that the intent is that it be done through non-tax dollars; that the other aspect is the lost opportunity; that Ms. Henzey and Ms. West worked hard to start tracking down footage that the new media took so that it was not lost or destroyed; that they have also been able to secure some old videos with old courthouse scenes from the 1940s and 1950s; and that ideally you would have the documentary person collecting the film now of the events from the Courthouse Task Force, rebuilding of the temporary roof, etc.; that they were able to get a college student who has a decent camera but who is not a professional documentarian; that the ideal would be to have the person who is actually producing it, but video is being collected now including a tour that was taken inside of the building with the architects explaining the various aspects; and that in

the interim, it is not the best, but they are not losing the opportunity as they are trying to capture some of it at a minimal cost.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he like the idea of pressing a particular button and being able to go to a certain segment; that a lot of the grant opportunities will relate to educational opportunities; and that without that, the case would be weakened in terms of getting money for the grants. Ms. Henzey concurred stating that one of the things that will strengthen it is building on some of the things that are more than just about the structure itself and how it really is more to the people than just bricks and mortar.

Commissioner Lucier stated that the intent is to fully document that the fire of 2010 was part of the courthouse, obviously not the end of it.

Chair Kost explained that Ms. Anderson was able to help find Flint Davis who knows the technical aspects as they are in a limited area of expertise. She stated that the Board had provided general directions and asked if they were heading in the general direction that everyone had envisioned.

By consensus, the Board agreed.

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Lucier, to approve a Scope of Work for the proposed Courthouse Documentary. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

#### **Legislative Goals for the NCACC:**

The County Manager stated that they are in the process of getting information and feedback from the various County departments assembled for potential legislative issues for the upcoming long session of the General Assembly and possible goals for the NC Association of County Commissioners, with the deadline for submittal to NCACC on September 15<sup>th</sup>. All related staff has been asked for every advisory board to put on the agenda for those advisory boards a legislative issues discussion to give them feedback so that they would have something from them should they have something that they have come across as part of their deliberations on various issues at which they are looking. Additionally, they are asking departmental staff to give them feedback as well. In terms of assemblage of information for tonight's meeting, there are only a couple of things which he has which deals with 1) Sales ratio for property values. The School of Government sent out a informative document highlighting that there are thirty-one counties in the state (which is statistically huge for them) that the assessed sales ratio for thirty-one counties is above one. This means that basically property in those counties is over-valued. Chatham County is one of those that is slightly over-valued at this point. This may have implications for the General Assembly coming up. They don't know at this point, but it is worth paying close attention to. As we get closer to revaluation, values drop, services are the same, and the rubber hits the road pretty hard. He stated that they are asking the Board to keep that in mind, as what it amounts to at this point, he can't say specifically. It is one of those things that is a revenue item that could be of great concern, particularly true if the stimulus, which ends this year does not evolve for refunding. The other, 2) is revenue options in addition to this particular issue.

Commissioner Lucier asked the Chatham County ratio. The County Manager stated he believed that it was 1.1, slightly over 1. The Assistant County Manager replied that she thought it was barely over 1. The County Manager stated that he would get the information to the Board.

Commissioner Lucier stated that that way, the impact could be pretty easily calculate the impact if it dropped to 1%.

Chair Kost stated that they would proceed, at the September 07, 2010 Board of Commissioners' meeting, to adopt the Legislative Goals. She asked if they would need any of the previous goals approved or if they were a part of the Legislative Agenda for the Association.

The County Manager stated that they were on two different levels: 1) One is the local Legislative Goals; 2) The other is the deadline for submittal is September 15<sup>th</sup> for the NCACC Goals packet to be considered.

Chair Kost asked if they should use some of those goals that they feel are important on a State-wide basis from previous Association goals.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he would like to see what the Legislative Goals were for the last time they met with Speaker Hackney and Senator Atwater in their legislative package along with any recommendations so that they could see what was missing from one of the proposed pieces of legislation. He asked if any proposed pieces of legislation, for any local bill as in the Chatham-Cary Joint Land Use Plan Local Bill, is something they need to deal with now as it is not something that the Association of County Commissioners will be considering. It is something that would go to the Legislators and the Cary Legislators.

Chair Kost stated that they would need to reconfirm those and add to that what is more local in nature. On a State-wide basis, the only thing that she has come up with and she feels it may have no chance but she feels that we need to address this issue of temporary directional signs in the right-of-way. She stated that she feels every jurisdiction struggles with this issue and there should be a way that the county board of commissioners could sanction something on a very temporary basis for things like the Arts Council so that we don't run into that issue. She stated that she knows that it might seem trivial but it was not trivial last December.

Commissioner Lucier stated that it was not trivial for the Arts Tour, Farm Tour, and all of the others in a large county like Chatham County.

Chair Kost stated that perhaps it has a better chance on a local bill; that she doesn't think so; that she feels they are better served if it is a State-wide bill. She stated that if it is ok with the Board of Commissioners, they can direct the staff to draft something related to that.

Commissioner Lucier stated that it would also apply to those having "Open House" and trying to sell their homes which are clearly temporary signs.

By consensus, the Board concurred.

Commissioner Cross stated that it would be very helpful to have something in writing where a lot of groups already do what they are talking about; that it puts them in a position like the Moncure Kiwanis Club at their annual fish fry on Saturday. He stated that there were signs all over the right-of-way in that area; that no one is there to police it; that it would be a shame if someone went down there on Saturday morning and removed all their signs and they had prepared for 600-700 people to come and eat that afternoon.

Chair Kost stated that there has to be some controls on it or a mechanism to control it whether it is that the Board of Commissioners approve it for a limited amount of time; that those event signs are the problem and someone could have pulled up the signs since they were in the right-of-way; and that they need to address whether they pose a safety concern.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that with regard to today's presentation on Shale Gas, he thought and especially with history in other states, with the moratorium on the drilling exploration, he thinks it is quite timely in that there is not much known about it right now; that it could be a gold rush; that Chatham happens to have a potential site that is close to the surface that might be the least expensive to explore from a suppliers point-of-view to get to; that also at that shallow depth, it could potentially cause a lot of damage; that it may be worth checking into the moratorium legislation that is currently about other states and for the Board to consider moving it forward and on a State agenda.

Chair Kost asked what Commissioner Vanderbeck was suggesting. Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he was suggesting a moratorium on drilling exploration, at least until we get more information on the pros and cons of this. He stated right now, there is probably

a very good reason why others had a moratorium and from what they haven't heard today, it raises a lot of concerns.

Chair Kost stated that she was going to take it one step further and see if they could have as a Legislative Goal a study commission to address some of the concerns that they heard as far as the drilling, the by-products in the shale, the impact on water quality, etc. and make sure those issues are being questioned and addressed.

Commissioner Lucier stated that one way to approach it would be to say that they recommend continuing the ban on fracking and horizontal drilling and at the same time, as Chair Kost said, set up a study commission to evaluate what the impacts might be of such activities in various types of situations in North Carolina as all situations are very much different.

Chair Kost stated that the question is, do they try it on the State-wide agenda as they saw on the day's map. The County Manager stated that there may be other mining or exploration ways that they don't know about now that would have similar implications if it wasn't carefully reviewed.

By consensus, the Board agreed to give Staff direction to draft the legislative goals for review at the September 7, 2010 meeting. Chair Kost stated that between now and the next couple of weeks, if anyone thinks of anything that they have missed or have talked about in the past, it can be added to the agenda for review when they are approved on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

The County Manager stated that as they received feedback from the different advisory boards, the information will be sent to the Board.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he had attended the Orange-Person-Chatham Mental Health Board and it was brought up there as well as Green Building and Sustainable Energy Group and that they will get back to the County Manager through staff on those.

Chair Kost stated that she was happy that they are getting the input from the advisory boards on this; that there are some issues in the Tax Office at which the Tax Association reviews; that she hopes that the Tax Administrator, Tina Stone, and Tax Collector, Frances Wilson, will be engaged in the dialogue.

# **MANAGER'S REPORTS**

# **Chatham County Meeting with Cary at Moncure:**

The tentative date for Chatham County with Cary at Moncure is September 08, 2010; however, there has been no specific feedback from the Cary Town Manager, Ben Shivar;

Chair Kost clarified that this is a Chatham County meeting of which Cary is a participant. Commissioner Lucier asked if the meeting was to be held at the Moncure Fire Station. The County Manager stated that was the plan.

#### **Boys and Girls Club:**

The Assistant County Manager stated that she attended a closing ceremony for the Boys and Girls Club last Friday. She stated that there were over one hundred children who went through the program during the summer with an average attendance of 77 kids per day; that of the County's approximately 50 kids who participated in the Teen Center Program, 30 of those kids were served by the Girls and Boys Club; and that she wanted to report in the County's investment in that program by which they were well-served with what they did.

# **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

# **JOCCA Board of Directors Appointment:**

Commissioner Thompson stated that he is a member of the JOCCA Board of Directors; that the State criteria for funding of the agency stipulates that there be members of the Board of Directors from different areas or segments of the community one of which is a representative of either county or city boards; that the issue tonight is that they have, for several months, tried to create a balance in representation from Orange and Chatham Counties with appointments on their board and have failed to strike that balance; that they

have reached a critical point as the State is saying that situation has to be corrected or it could jeopardize future funding; that his suggestion was, since there has to be a person appointed by either a county or city board, Chatham County could actually appoint another person to their board at this time which would rectify the situation; that it could be a permanent appointment; that the board currently has two members from Orange County and are still pursuing a third person from Orange County; that this situation can now be solved by his recommended appointment of Gilbert Branch who resides in Siler City; and that he has spoken with him and he is willing to serve and would be an outstanding appointment.

Chair Kost asked Commissioner Thompson to clarify his term. Commissioner Thompson was uncertain.

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to appoint Reverend Gilbert Branch to the JOCCA Board of Directors with the term to be consistent with the normal term for the JOCCA Board of Directors. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

#### Central Carolina Community College Sustainable Technology Building:

Commissioner Thompson stated that Central Carolina Community College started fall classes today in the new Sustainable Technology Building with a full culinary program; that there have been students to apply from several different parts of the country; that they have come to Chatham County to live and become a part of the program; and that hats are off to the Board of Commissioners for the outstanding facility.

Commissioner Lucier stated that it was his understanding that this was a way of using a lot of the products grown on the sustainable farm and it is a nice way of linking organic farming to the table.

#### **Old Fashioned Farmer's Day:**

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he attended a meeting of the Pittsboro-Siler City Convention and Visitors' Bureau; that there was great discussion about promoting the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Old Fashioned Farmer's Day, September 03-05, 2010. They are building a new building there and will get an old line of from a chair mill from Asheboro; that the Mayor of Asheboro was upset about not being able to keep it in town; and that will be another working exhibition at the Annual Old Fashioned Farmer's Day.

#### **Performance Reviews:**

Chair Kost stated that there was an email from Sybil Tate about questions for the performance reviews; that the night's deadline has been extended until Wednesday; and that she wanted to make sure everyone was aware of it.

# **Dedication of New College Facility:**

Chair Kost stated that on September 20, 2010, normal protocol will be broken due to the dedication of the new facilities at Central Carolina Community College; that the dedication will be held from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM; and that the Board of Commissioners' meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.

#### **Durham County:**

Chair Kost stated that she attended a Durham County Board of Commissioners' meeting where the 751 project was reviewed; that her husband stated that it was the most memorable anniversary he has ever had; and that the County Attorney did rule that the protest petition was invalid and the Board of Commissioners moved forward with the 751 project.

#### **Triangle J Regional Subcommittee:**

Chair Kost stated that she had agreed to serve on a Regional Triangle J Subcommittee on Transfer Development Rights (TDR); and that it is an area that Triangle J COG is looking at on a regional basis.

# **Triangle J Council of Governments:**

Chair Kost stated that Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) has been holding meetings of the large jurisdictions including mayors and chairs of commissioners; that he asked about the "little guys" stating that they live in the region too; that they have now opened up those meetings; that she attended the first meeting which was really very good; that TJCOG is looking at getting all the mayors and county commissioners from the area together about once every two months.

#### **Chairman of the Triangle J Council of Governments:**

Commissioner Cross stated that he was just elected Chairman of the Triangle J Council of Governments. The Board and Staff congratulated him on this endeavor.

Chair Kost stated that she was thrilled that they were taking on this issue as well as expanding to the little guys as she thinks the little guys can teach the big guys a few things. Commissioner Cross stated that he can assure everyone that they will be included from now on.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

	Sally Kost, Chair
ATTEST:	
Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC Clerk to the Board	
Chatham County Board of Commissioners	