

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
FEBRUARY 16, 1999

The Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in special session with the County's Legislative Delegation in the Fearington House Restaurant, Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 7:00 PM on February 16, 1999, to discuss Chatham County requests for consideration by the General Assembly.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chair Rick Givens; Vice Chair Uva Holland; Commissioners Margaret B. Pollard, Carl Outz, and Gary Phillips; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Lee

Also Present: Senators Howard Lee and Ellie Kinnaird; NC House of Representative Members Joe Hackney, Arlie Culp, and Verla Insko

Chairman Givens called the meeting to order at 9:00 PM and welcomed the Legislative Delegation.

Chairman Givens outlined the following Chatham County issues of concern and opened the floor for comments from the Legislative Delegation:

CHATHAM COUNTY ISSUES OF CONCERN

1. Additional revenue sources for Chatham County
2. Modification of impact fee authorization
3. Synchronization of water distribution from Jordan Lake water
4. Prototype school construction
5. Alternative wastewater systems use
6. Legislative support for large Clean Water Management Fund grant to protect Cape Fear Basin and Jordan Lake

County Revenue Sources:

A general discussion ensued regarding additional revenue sources for Chatham County. Among these was a discussion of the distribution of sales tax by County rather than by zip codes to recoup taxes presently being lost by Chatham County to Chapel Hill, Cary, Sanford, and Alamance and Randolph Counties.

Impact Fees:

A general discussion followed with regard to impact fees versus impact taxes and the use of said remuneration to pay debt service on school construction debt. Also discussed was a modification of reimbursement language, increasing time limits for funds expenditure, and increasing time limits for spending collected revenue from five to ten years for impact fees in accordance with North Carolina General Statute

159-30.

Senator Lee asked the Board to inform the Legislators of their intention in the form of a resolution, etc.
xfc

Jordan Lake Water Supply:

A discussion ensued with regard to using Chatham County as a lead agency, and the creation of a regional partnership with State involvement. Stated that under current conditions, there is no mechanism in place for water intake and distribution for Jordan Lake; that the proposal would call for the State to participate in development and possibly distribution of allocated water to those jurisdictions having raw water portions of Jordan Lake; that Chatham would be the lead agency because it is the only jurisdiction, other than Cary, that is ready and trying to get an intake on the lake; that it should be relatively easy to set up a process that permits the State to get its investment returned via allocation fees, per one thousand gallon charges and back capital charge assessments at the time other entities holding withdrawal "tickets" begin using the lake for water supply.

It was further discussed that governance could be established via State and local oversight agency established specifically for the purpose of assuring access for those who are waiting for water; that day-to-day operations could be executed with a board or local carrying the task; that if a local jurisdiction operated the intake, a formula could be developed such that the jurisdiction would get paid for that service from the funding sources mentioned.

Prototype School Construction:

A general discussion was held regarding more efficient school construction in Chatham County by using formatted design pattern which would show savings in engineering and architectural fees, construction materials and possible energy usage.

Alternative Wastewater Systems Use:

A discussion was held regarding seeking State regulatory approval and creation of opportunities for using alternative wastewater systems in Chatham County.

Clean Water Management Fund Grant:

A discussion ensued to purchase development rights and buffers along the Haw River watershed with regard to creating alliances with other jurisdictions to protect the lake. Those sharing in water supply would also contribute.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be discussed, the Board thanked the Legislative Delegation for its support, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Rick Givens, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners