

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 01, 2000

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Auditorium Building, 45 South Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 10:00 AM on April 03, 2000.

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

AGENDA

The Chairman asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda.

The County Manager asked that a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing property acquisition be added to the Agenda after the Commissioners’ Reports. He also asked that Item #6, Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Board Appointment, be moved to the end of the agenda, as Mr. Howard Stier wished to make comments.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to approve the Agenda with the noted requests. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of approval of Board Minutes for Regular Meeting held April 17, 2000 and minutes for work session held April 17, 2000

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

2. **Private Road:** Consideration of a request for approval from citizens for the naming of a private road in Chatham County:

A. Tommy Moody Drive

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

3. **Proclamation Recognizing May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month::** Consideration of a request to approve **Proclamation #2000-15 to Recognize May, 2000 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in Chatham County**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Ray Greenlaw, 5 Jordan Drive, Pittsboro, NC, praised the efforts of Reneé Dickson, Assistant County Manager, who has resigned her position with the County effective the end of May to take a position with the City of Greensboro. He stated that Ms. Dickson has made a tremendous contribution to the County; that she has done an outstanding job with the County budget by enhancing the scope of the process and the quality of the final product; and that he wishes her well in her new endeavor.

NORTH CAROLINA RURAL COMMUNITIES ASSISTANCE PROJECT INC.

Public Hearing:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT: Public hearing to receive public comments for Chatham County's Community Development Block Grant Infrastructure Program application for the Stockyard Road project

Scott Edleman, explained that at the April 17, 2000 Board of Commissioners' work session, the Board voted unanimously to pursue Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Infrastructure program funds for the proposed sewer line extension to Stockyard Road outside of Siler City. He stated that this is the first of two required public hearings which will allow citizens to express their views and proposals prior to the formulation of the application in accordance with the North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program Administrative Code; and that the second public hearing will be held at the Board meeting on May 15, 2000.

There was no one present who wished to make public comments.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Budget Amendments: Consideration of a request to approve Budget Amendments

Commissioner Holland moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips to approve the Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Budget Amendments, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Transfer Resolution for Time Warner Cable: Consideration of a request to approve transfer resolution for Time Warner Cable

Bob Sepe, Cable Consultant, explained the specifics of the two resolutions and stated that this was an extremely important decision and one that could not be taken without substantial consideration.

After considerable discussion, it was decided that the matter would be studied further and returned to the Board at their May 15, 2000 Board meeting.

Brad Phillips, stated that neither of the two resolutions presented to the Board are acceptable to Time Warner; that he hopes to be able to get back with Mr. Sepe to work through the issues; that by the time the resolutions come back before the Board, there will be a resolution on which the Board feels comfortable and that which both parties can agree; that this is not a transfer of the franchise, but a transfer of control; that they will continue to collect and pay franchise fees back to the County; that they feel like the issue of "open access" will be dealt with on the federal level; that they don't think it would be appropriate to be decided on a local level; that they ask that the Board reserve action on the matter until they can return a resolution on which both parties can agree.

Commissioner Phillips asked about the number of cable subscribers in Chatham County and stated that he was interested in public access and in filming County Commissioner events and other public forums that are important to people and that they are often unable to attend.

Brad Phillips stated that those issues are generally brought into the discussion and negotiations when franchising is underway; that they want to know about them, and that they support the idea of public access to meetings.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- **Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Board:** Consideration of a request to appoint a member to the Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Board

Howard Stier, Chairman of the Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Board (MWDB), read the mission statement of the Mid-Carolina Workforce Board, informed the Commissioners of their activities and major developments in the workforce environment, sharing successes and achievements, and stated that they would keep the Board up-to-date on the progress being made in the four-county areas of Chatham, Harnett, Lee, and Sampson Counties.

Faye Hall, reviewed the JobLink Career Center brochure and quarterly status report which is prepared and transmitted to the Workforce Development Board.

Mr. Stier offered his help, and that of Mary Ann Dolister, MCWD Administrator, in the selection process for a new member to fill the public sector vacancy on the Mid-Carolina Workforce Development Board.

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager reported the following issues to the Board of Commissioners:

Budget Public Hearing Date:

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to set May 17, 2000 as the date on which to hold a public hearing to receive public comments on the Fiscal Year 2000-01 budget at North Chatham Elementary School. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Non-Profit Presentations:

The County Manager asked if the Board would like to have presentations by the non-profit organizations in the County.

The Board, by consensus, decided not to ask non-profit organizations to present their requests before the Board.

Budget Work Session Dates:

The County Manager asked the Board to set dates on which to hold work sessions to discuss the budget.

By consensus, the following dates were set on which to hold work sessions to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2000-2001:

May 19, 2000 – 8:30 AM -
May 24, 2000 - 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

County Manager's Evaluation:

The County Manager asked that the Board consider setting a date on which to hold the Manager's evaluation.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

- Presentation of Shirt:

Commissioner Phillips forwarded a tee shirt with a comical inscription which had been previously presented to him, to Chairman Givens in honor of his handling of public hearings, stating that Commissioner Givens deserved the shirt more than he.

- Inventorying Historical Property:

Commissioner Phillips stated that one of the effects of moving from a rural county to an urbanized county is that as residential developments increase, taxes increase; that one of the effects that is happening now is that both in the agricultural community and the timber community is a conversion of land from open land into residential development; that one of the biggest tracts of land to be offered in the county has been offered by one of the largest land owners which is timber company in the County; that it totals over 1600 acres; that they are beginning the sale of this property by first cutting all the timber; that a local group of community folks tried to persuade them not to clear cut all of the timber; that they should allow some multiple use for the property; that they asked him to do a site visit to both parcels which he did; that one of these parcels has a cabin that was built in the 1820s which was burned down by a local fire department approximately 35-40 years ago; that the hand-laid, 18 ft. chimney is perfectly laid without any mortar; that the foundation was done with the same type of care; that there are three springs on the property; that when he saw the timber trucks arrive, it concerned him that there are a lot of precious resources in Chatham County that are historical, botanical, and community; that the process must soon be started to find what and where they are, and that there will be no way to have a conversation with people when they have the tremendous changes in

land use. He suggested that the County begin some kind of an inventory process for historical property for significant botanical areas so that when a large land-use change happens, land owners will not be restricted from doing what they want to do as they certainly want to be encouraged to preserve the sites.

Resurfacing of Fairground Road and Courthouse Circle:

Commissioner Outz reminded the Board of their previous discussion to pave the road to the fairground. He stated that it was his understanding at one time that the State, County, and Town of Pittsboro was to each provide one third of the necessary funds for paving the road; that the road needs to be redone. He also expressed concern with regard to the traffic circle around the courthouse.

The County Manager explained that he knew nothing of an agreement with the State and Town to resurface the roads and that typically counties in North Carolina are not in the paving business.

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard to write a letter to the Department of Transportation, Senator Howard Lee, and Representative Joe Hackney with regard to finding the necessary funds to resurface the Fairground Road and the Pittsboro Traffic Circle. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Soil Conservation Survey:

Commissioner Outz stated that the Soil Conservation Service has been working on a soil survey for fifteen years; that as yet, it has not been completed; that they need to be encouraged to complete the survey.

The County Manager explained that funds have been put in the proposed budget for completion of the process.

Required Inspections:

Chairman Givens stated that a meeting needs to take place with the Health Director, the Environmental Health Supervisor, and the Board of Health Chair regarding inspecting and re-inspecting septic systems and the subsequent fees incurred.

“Welcome to Chatham County” Signs:

Chairman Givens asked about placing “Welcome to Chatham County” signs on the main road entrances to the County.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to recess as the Board of Commissioners and convene as the Board of Equalization and Review. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Note: See “Resolution of Chatham County Board of Equalization and Review Concerning

Appeal of Turner Hargrove Wood Products, Inc.” by the Board sitting as the Board of Equalization and Review for disposition of Hargrove appeal on discovered property matter.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to recess as the Board of Equalization and Review and reconvene as the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to go out of Regular Session and convene in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing property acquisition. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to go out of Closed Session and reconvene in Regular Session. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pollard moved, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Outz seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Rick Givens, Chairman

ATTEST:

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