

**MINUTES**  
**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING AND WORK SESSION**  
**FEBRUARY 21, 2000**

---

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the District Courtroom, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 7:00 PM on February 21, 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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 PM.

**AGENDA**

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

The County Manager asked that consideration of a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition be added to the end of the Agenda.

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.

The Clerk to the Board asked that an adjustment be made to the previously distributed minutes to include a motion with regard to “Even Start”.

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

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of approval of Board Minutes for meeting held February 07, 2000 and Work Session held February 07, 2000

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

2. **Refunds on Regular Tax Bills:** Consideration of a request for approval of refunds on regular tax bills paid in error, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

3. **Tax Releases:** Consideration of a request for approval of tax releases, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

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

**A. Paw Paw Road**

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

5. **Funds Acceptance for Environmental Health Services:** Consideration of approval of a request to accept additional DENR funds in the amount of \$2,429.89 for the Environmental Health Services Division of the Health Department

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

6. **Funds Acceptance for Health Department:** Consideration of approval of a request to accept grant funds in the amount of \$47,268 awarded to the Health Department from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust to out place a Public Health Nurse Practitioner in a private medical practice

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

7. **Sketch Design Approval of "E. T. Development Corporation":** Consideration of approval of a request by E. T. Development Corporation for sketch design approval of **E. T. Development Corporation**, consisting of 24 lots on 41.50 acres off of SR #1532 (Manns Chapel Road), in Baldwin township

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

8. **Sketch Design Approval of "Governors Forest":** Consideration of approval of a request by Elam Todd, d'Ambrosi, PA on behalf of Governors Club Development Limited Partnership for sketch design approval of **Governors Forest** consisting of 51 lots on 60.704 acres off SR #1726 in Williams Township

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

9. **Preliminary Design Approval of "Greenbrier Creek Farms":** Consideration of approval of a request by Jesse Hancock of Cedar Creek Land Company LLC for preliminary design approval of **Greenbrier Creek Farms** consisting of 15 lots on 75.70 acres off SR #1300 (Staley-Snow Camp Road) in Albright Township

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

10. **Preliminary Design Approval of "Penny Lane Subdivision":** Consideration of approval of a request by George Tate, Tate Construction and Realty, for Samuel Johnson, owner, for a 12 month extension of preliminary design approval of **Penny Lane Subdivision** consisting of 15

lots on 28.5 acres off SR #1529 (Taylor Road), in Baldwin Township

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

11. **Final Plat Approval of “Deep River Bluffs, Phase I”:** Consideration of approval of a request by Dave Heidiger for White Pines Properties for final plat approval of **Deep River Bluffs, Phase I**, consisting of 7 lots on 33.9 acres, off SR #1956 (East Gargus Road), in Oakland Township

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

**\*See minutes of April 17, 2000 Board of Commissioners’ meeting for correction of this item to indicate that only 6 lots were approved.**

12. **Old Chatham Golf Club Storm Water Management Plan:** Consideration of a request to approve the Old Chatham Golf Club storm water management plan, ground water, and surface water monitoring plan

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

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC INPUT SESSION**

David Williams, 2642 Hamp Stone Road, Siler City, NC, explained that he owns a seven month old male African Serval Cat; that the cat looks like a miniature cheetah; that the serval is one of the few spotted cats not on the endangered species list; that it is a medium-sized elegant looking cat with very long legs, a relatively small head and very large ears; that an adult serval weighs between 18-44 pounds; that if a serval is raised from infancy with a great deal of attention and loving care, it can become comparatively tame and friendly, blending well with other home pets as many species of animals which are termed domestic; that he was unaware of the Chatham County Ordinance prohibiting the keeping of wild animals when he purchased the cat in November, 1999; that he is in the process of selling his home and moving to Louisiana because of a job transfer. He asked for a four-month extension to the Chatham County Ordinance, “The Keeping of Wild and Vicious Animals Within Chatham County and stated that due to the move, he is unable to financially meet minimum standards for which the ordinance calls to include: 1) one million dollar liability insurance policy; 2) tranquilizer gun; 3) 12 ft. fencing with primary and secondary barriers; 4) veterinarian on call 24 hours per day/7 days per week; 5) he and/or his wife at home 24 hours per day. He invited any/all members of the Board to visit his property at any time, and asked for consideration of his request for an extension.

Commissioner Phillips moved to allow Mr. Williams a four to five month extension of time in which to keep her serval.

The motion died for lack of second.

After considerable discussion, the matter was tabled for attorney review and further discussion at a later date.

**Rev. Carrie Bolton, 2726 Alston Chapel Road, Pittsboro, NC, expressed concern with regard to the march held in Siler City organized by a group that she stated propagates hatred. She stated that she feels that**

there are a lot of people in her congregation who are looking for ways to reach out for ways to feel safe and to feel that their pro-action counts through which these types of issues can be addressed; that they hope to avoid the kind of blood baths and other vicious acts of violence that have occurred in other places; that earlier in the day, she had a discussion with the County Manager with regard to the status of the Human Relations Council and urged the Board of Commissioners to go on record encouraging people to support the Human Relations Council; that the Council can be a conduit through which people can talk about better race relations and positive adhesions of all citizens in the County and as a channel through which private citizens can do fund raising and other activities; and that the Council will be a forum to help talk about how we can get to know each other better and eliminate the castigation of brothers and sisters in Chatham County.

### **CHATHAM VISITOR'S GUIDE PRESENTATION**

- **Chatham Visitor's Guide Presentation:** Presentation of the Chatham Visitor's Guide

**Neha Shah**, Travel and Tourism Director for Chatham County, explained that the Chatham County Visitor's Guide is an excellent tour planner and promotional tool which includes accommodations information and attractions, and covers all different aspects of the County and things to do for all ages and interests; that it has already been used extensively to write press releases to submit to local, national, and regional media as well as for the Chamber of Commerce to mail to those requesting information prior to visiting. She stated that it is the perfect start to Chatham County's official tourism efforts.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**Healthy Chatham Funds Request:** Consideration of approval of a request to provide \$15,000 in matching funds to support the Healthy Chatham Program if funds requested from Kate B. Reynolds' Foundation are awarded

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to provide \$15,000 matching funds over three years beginning FY 2000-01 to support Healthy Chatham if funds requested from Kate B. Reynolds Foundation are awarded. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

### **TAX DEPARTMENT**

- **Amended Business Personal Property Listing – Paul L. Powell, Jr., DDS:** Consideration of a request by Paul L. Powell, Jr., DDS to accept amended Business Personal Property Listings for tax years prior to 1999

Due to the Paul L. Powell, Jr. audit amendment, there was no Board action necessary.

**Business Personal Property Audit Appeal by Health First Chiropractic:** Consideration of a request for approval by Health First Chiropractic to accept business personal property audit appeal

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Givens moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to deny the request for audit appeal of business personal property listing for tax years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999 for Health First Chiropractic. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Economic Development Bylaws Change:** Consideration of a request to approve changes in Economic Development current bylaws

This issue is to return to the Board for consideration at a later date.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

**Durham Water Interconnect Award:** Consideration of a request for approval to award construction contract of Durham Water Interconnect

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to award the construction contract for the Durham Water Interconnect to Sandhills Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$788,788.00. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

**Carbonton Water Mains Award:** Consideration of a request for approval to award construction contract of Carbonton Water Mains

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to award the construction contract for the Carbonton Water Mains to Thalle Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$1,037,642.70. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

**Governor Hunt's "Clean NC 2000" Initiative:** Consideration of a request to proceed with Governor Hunt's "Clean NC 2000" Initiative

Muriel Williman, Chatham County Waste Reduction Coordinator, explained that "The Clean NC 2000" is an initiative set forth by executive order by Governor James B. Hunt which aims to clean up North Carolina so that by the end of the year 2000, the rivers, lakes, roadsides, and streams will be completely free of litter and debris; that the intention of this initiative is to put a halt to the negative effects that roadside debris, abandoned cars, dilapidated structures and the like have on our environment, community pride, the ability to attract new business and industry, and the impression on visitors for our State; that Governor Hunt has charged each respective county with the responsibility of seeing that the goals of Clean NC 2000 can be reached by the State as a whole; that goals of the campaign are: 1) Instill a sense of pride among North Carolinians in the beauty of the State and a responsibility to keep it that way; 2) Reduce the number of unsightly, unsafe, and irreparable structures from North Carolina's roadsides; 3) Clean up litter and other debris from lakes, rivers, and streams; 4) Educate North Carolinians, including the children, on the importance of recycling and keeping North Carolina litter free; 5) Recognize and honor the people who contribute to keeping North Carolina clean and litter free. He stated that in order to strengthen these goals, the Governor has enlisted the help of the State Department of Transportation, State Fire Marshal, and the State Highway Patrol; that Governor Hunt also signed Senate House Bill 222 which consists of stiffer littering penalties that more than double the fines; that requests are that each county become involved in such stated-wide efforts such as "Big Sweep", "Earth Day", and "Adopt-a-Block" for governmental complexes;

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to proceed with the Clean NC 2000 Initiative. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

## **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

**Creation of Satellite Voting Place and Temporary Precinct:** Consideration of a request to grant funds for the creation of a satellite voting place and a temporary precinct

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve funding for a satellite voting place and a temporary precinct in the amount of \$5,780.00, funds to come from contingency. The

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

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**Orange-Person-Chatham (OPC) Reappointment:** Consideration of a request to reappoint a member to the Orange-Person-Chatham Area Program

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to reappoint George Greger-Holt to another four-year term to the Orange-Person-Chatham Area Program Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

**Chatham County Workforce Development Board Appointments:** Consideration of a request to appoint two members, one private sector vacancy and one public sector vacancy, to the Chatham County Workforce Development Board

This item was tabled until a later date.

## **MANAGER'S REPORTS**

The County Manager informed the Board of the following:

**Resolution Designation of Applicant's Agent:** The Manager explained that the Board, by Resolution, needed to designate a FEMA Agent, Vicki McConnell, with regard to the past snow storm.

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to approve **Resolution #2000-05 Designation of Applicant's Agent**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

## **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

### **Cell Tower Technology:**

Commissioner Pollard stated that she thinks that the Board should assure that the County ordinance requires that the least intrusive tower be promoted as the technology changes and improves; that she thinks that the Planning Board/Planning Department should work on appropriate language to do so, as there will be an increase for more cell phone towers; and that she feels that co-locations are good, but that that the County still needs to keep up with modern technology.

### **Commendation Letter to Law Enforcement:**

Commissioner Pollard praised the efforts of law enforcement officials and their work efforts for crowd management during the march in Siler City; that it was a high-stress situation; and that a letter of support for them would be timely. A copy of the letter is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

### **CORA Letter:**

Commissioner Pollard asked that a letter of commendation for its work to feed the hungry in Chatham County be sent to CORA.

### **Resolution in Support of the Campaign Finance Reform:**

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to approve **Resolution #2000-06 in Support of Campaign Finance Reform**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

#### **Rally in Siler City:**

Commissioner Phillips stated that he had spoken with some citizens who thought that because the rally in Siler City was held at Town Hall, that it had the support of County government. He asked the Board to adopt a resolution or make a statement to show opposition to the march.

#### **Appreciation for Service by Board Members:**

Commissioner Givens expressed his appreciation to the Board for their time in serving on the Board. He stated that people do not realize how much time it takes to serve in the capacity of a Commissioner; that it is a full-time job dealing in all of the issues that come before the Board, and that it is done for a pittance.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

- Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

#### **REGULAR SESSION**

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

#### **Serval Cat Committee:**

Commissioner Holland moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to appoint Commissioners Rick Givens, Gary Phillips, and Carl Outz, and the Chatham County Health Director, Wayne Sherman, to serve on a special committee to investigate the Serval Cat owned by David Williams. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Outz moved, that there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

---

Rick Givens, Chairman

ATTEST:

---

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