

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
MAY 17, 2004

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Henry H. Dunlap, Jr. Building Classroom, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 2:00 PM on May 17, 2004.

Present: Chairman Tommy Emerson; Commissioners Margaret Pollard, Bunkey Morgan, and Carl Outz; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; Assistant County Manager Renee Dickson; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett

Absent: Commissioner Bob Atwater

The Chairman called the Work Session to order at 2:00 PM.

Work Session Agenda

Budget

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ MATTERS

Mr. Orlan Johnson and Mr. Paul Bauer informed the Board of a problem that they are having with a large number of vicious dogs running loose in their neighborhood. They stated that it has evolved into a dispute with the dog’s owner and the owner making threats against his neighbors. They asked the Board to provide resources for a solution in this matter.

The County Attorney explained that Animal Control had obtained a warrant against one of the owners; that they went to court; that he learned from the Health Department and Animal Control that the warrant did not cite the ordinance number and therefore there was no valid charge; that the judge dismissed the case; and that he had talked with Animal Control and the Health Director.

NON-PROFITS

Jody Minor and Dan Stroupe reviewed the combined non-profit process between Chatham County Government and The United Way of Chatham County.

They reviewed the application format, combining County and United Way information requirements, which requires centralized application distribution. They gave a comprehensive view of program services for County residents and important eligibility requirements as follows:

- Agencies certified by financial professionals

- Financial requirements
- Legal requirements
- Governance
- Human Resources

Program Evaluation:

- Qualifying agencies present program funding request to panels of resident volunteers and County government representatives
- Programs are grouped into focus areas determined by their consumer constituency
- Reduces program duplication

Focus Areas:

- Building self-sufficient (Programs in this group address personal independence and home ownership)
- Health and Wellness (Programs in this group provide preventative and therapeutic services to at-risk individuals)
- Investing in our children (Programs in this group offer value guidance and parental assistance)
- Aiding people in crisis (Programs in this group provide intervention and assistance to people facing personal or legal crisis)

Building Independence /Assisting Seniors:

Empowerment	Chatham Transit
Chatham Trades	Council on Aging
JOCCA	Triangle Reading Service
Hispanic Liaison	Habitat for Humanity

Improving Health and Wellness:

Chatham Social Health	Heads-Up	Family Wellness (Hope Meadow)
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Investing in our Children:

Boy Scouts	Girl Scouts
4-H	Chatham Soccer League
Chatham Arts Council	Chatham Together
Child Care Networks	

Aiding People/Families in Crisis:

Legal Aid	Salvation Army
Family Violence Rape Crisis	Alternative Sentencing
Deep River Mediation	

The dollars invested by County government and local philanthropy are leveraged by local non-profits to magnify services to Chatham County residents.

Human Service Programs:

- 23 Non-profits human service agencies operate 103 individual programs
- The total budget for these agencies is \$15,841,869
- Services range from birth to seniors
- 27,300 residents received services last year

Small Investment Goes a Long Way:

- Last year Chatham County Human Service non-profit agencies served 27,300 individuals and families
- The United Way of Chatham County contributed \$9.89 to each unit of service
- Chatham County government funds contributed \$7.46 to each unit of service

Local Funding Support Yields Larger Resources:

- Fund raising 3%
- County support 1%
- United Way Support 2%
- Leveraged residences 94%

United Way of Chatham County Key Leader Survey:

- Recognized that area needs are changing rapidly
- Identified a list of community leaders in the area of business/professional, education, government health care, clergy, and non-profits
- Developed a questionnaire containing 71 fixed response questions

Questions asked interviewees to prioritize needs in the following areas: food, shelter, safety, and transportation; health and recovery; families, individuals, and children; education, job training, and life skills.

Priority Community Service Needs:Food, Shelter, Safety, and Transportation

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Living Wage
- Affordable Housing
- Family Violence

More than 50 Key Leaders Surveyed:

- Lack of preventive and primary medical care
- Substance abuse
- Lack of prescription drug coverage
- Obesity in children youth

Need of Families, Individuals and Children:

- Deficient parenting skills

- Lack counseling/Intervention Services for Youth
- Lack of foster homes for youth
- Lack of youth guidance programs

Community Needs in the Area of Education, Jobs and Life Skills:

- Immigrant
- Underemployment
- Lack of job readiness
- Lack of adult/family literacy

He asked what would services to Chatham County residents look like if the local matching money went away.

A question and answer period ensued.

BREAK

- The Chairman called for a five-minute break.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES REAPPOINTMENT

- Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Carl Outz to reappoint Albert P. McClain, 715 Hill Street, Siler City, NC, to the Chatham County Board of Social Services, term beginning July 1,2004 and ending June 30,2007. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

SILK HOPE SCHOOL WATER MAIN EXTENSION

- The County Manager explained that given the need for water at Silk Hope School and the timing of the Western Transmission Main Construction, the initial route of the water main could extend from the Town of Siler City's existing 12" water main located at the Wal Mart Shopping Center and extend from this main east along Highway #64 crossing the Rocky River to Silk Hope Road and then along Silk Hope Road to the school; that as the western transmission main is constructed, water service would then be supplied by the Chatham County Water System and the connection to Siler City's system would be an emergency connection for the purpose of transmitting water in either direction; that the project would involve the installation of approximately 4,200 linear feet of water main along US Highway #64 and 23,000 linear feet of water main along Silk Hope Road; that the total estimated project cost is \$822,575; and that this includes construction, contingencies and engineering design.

He further explained that "Section I – Design Services" were amended to include design, permitting, and bidding procedures for the Silk Hope School water main; that "Section II – Construction Administration Services" were amended to include Silk Hope School Water Main; and that "Section III – Payment – Task Order #2 Design of Final Plans and Specifications" were amended to include an increase of \$46,000.00 for the Silk Hope School Water Main; that "Task Order #3 – Construction Administration shall remain at the current amount of \$399,411.00; and that they anticipate that the amount specified in this section will be sufficient to provide the additional construction administration services for the Silk Hope School Water Main.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve the Design of Final Plans and Specifications, to include an increase of \$46,000 for the Silk Hope School Water Main.

The motion carried four (4) to zero (0). The Project Ordinance and a copy of the estimated project costs are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Commissioner Pollard asked the County Manager to write a letter to the NC Department of Transportation regarding the correction of the water lines located under the newly constructed portion of Highway #15-501. By consensus, the Board supported this request.

TRIANGLE J BILLING

Title V Senior Employment Program:

The County Manager explained that Triangle J invoices each member county for their respective local dues and for the local aging program match; that the aging local match typically included monies for planning, the Ombudsman Program, and the Senior Employment Program; that the County paid its local dues for membership in Triangle J; that the billing for local aging match remains unpaid; that the unpaid amount from the two invoices amounts to \$34,581; that the local match is mandatory for participation in the Area Agency on Aging and the accompanying funding from the Older Americans Act Block Grant funds for Chatham which amounts to over \$380,000 this year for the County; and that included in the amount due is the 2003 billing for the Title V Senior Employment Program (\$7,326); that the Title V Program has since been discontinued; that they are suggesting that Chatham County be credited for that expense; that this action would lower the total to \$27,255; and that with Triangle J's acceptance of payment in this amount, it would become current with its accounts.

Commissioner Pollard moved to pay the past due bill in the amount of \$27,255 out of Fund Balance.

Commissioner Morgan asked for more detailed information as to the nature of the expenses.

After further discussion, Commissioner Pollard withdrew her motion.

RADIO COMMUNICATION TOWER

The Finance Officer asked for approval of approximately \$9,000 to complete the radio installation on the UNC Tower.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve the increase in the amount of money, not to exceed \$40,000.00, to complete the radio installation on the UNC Tower. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

BUDGET

The Board reviewed portions of the FY 04-05 Recommended Budget.

Non-Profits:

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to accept Management's recommendation and approve the FY05 Recommended Funding for Non-Profits, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Health – Animal Control:

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve the Animal Control budget as recommended by the County Manager and to authorize the money for the Animal Control External Study but that the Health Department would have to return to the Board of Commissioners for the authorization to spend it. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0).

Budget Work Session:

The first round of budget review was completed, and the Board will reconvene on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, 1:00 PM for continued discussion of the budget.

Joint Meeting with Board of Education:

The Board will hold a joint meeting with the Chatham County Board of Education on Wednesday, May 19, 2004 at 1:00 PM at the School Administrative Offices.

Public Hearing on Water Districts:

A public hearing will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2004 at 6:00 PM in the District Courtroom to receive public comments on the Northwest, Southwest, and Southeast Water Districts.

Joint Meeting with Town of Pittsboro:

By consensus, the Board agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Pittsboro Town Board on Thursday, June 10, 2004 at 7:00 PM, location to be determined.

RECESS

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Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, that the meeting be recessed to the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners' meeting in the District Courtroom. The motion carried four (4) to zero (0), and the meeting was recessed at 5:16 PM.

Thomas J. Emerson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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