

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 02, 2004

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 9:00 AM on August 02, 2004.

Present: Chairman Tommy Emerson; Vice Chair, Carl Outz; Commissioners Margaret Pollard, Bob Atwater, and Bunkey Morgan; 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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 9:00 AM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

- Chairman Emerson welcomed everyone in attendance and invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance after which he delivered the invocation.

AGENDA

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

The Chairman asked that a report, to be presented by the Tax Assessor, be added to the Agenda after the Public Input Session.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Agenda with the noted request. 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 Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of a request to approve Board Minutes for Regular meeting held July 19, 2004 and Work Session held July 19, 2004

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

2. **Road Names:** Consideration of a request from citizens to approve the naming of private roads in Chatham County as follows:

- A. **Jacks Road**
- B. **Nota Road**
- C. **Dreamscapes**
- D. **Over the Hill Lane**
- E. **Luby Lane**
- F. **Olivia Black Road**
- G. **Lake Ridge Drive**

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

3. **Records Retention and Disposition Schedule:** Consideration of a request to approve Records Retention and Disposition Schedule, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

4. **Tax Collector's Annual Settlement and 2004 Order of Collection:** Consideration of a request to approve Tax Collector's Annual Settlement and 2004 Order of Collection, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

5. **Appointment to Chatham Transit Network Board of Directors:** Consideration of a request to appointment a member (Roxana Beatriz Lopez, PO Box 1001, Siler City, NC) to the Chatham Transit Network Board of Directors

6. **Resolution for Addition of Road to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads – South Langdon, North Langdon, Brookfield, Woodham, and Weathersfield Streets in the Fearington Subdivision:** Consideration of a request to approve **Resolution #2004-38 for the Addition of Streets or Roads to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads - South Langdon, North Langdon, Brookfield, Woodham, and Weathersfield Streets in the Fearington Subdivision**

7. **Work First Planning Committee Appointments:** Consideration of a request to appoint members to the Work First Planning Committee as follows:

Committee Member Agency Representing

Cindy Snipes DSS-Work First Program

Sandy Coletta DSS-Work First Program

John Scotton Vocational Rehabilitation

Connie McAdams Child Care Networks

Helen Stovall Chatham Transit Network

Carol Bradford CCCC

Tom Velivil Chatham Counseling Center

Darien Russell Family Violence

Shirley Poe-David Qualified Substance Abuse Professional

Elaine Doby ESC
Faye Hall JOCCA
Jan Beal DSS-Child Support Unit
Margie Ellison DSS-Children's Services Section
Betty Wilson DSS Board
Mary Linker Health Department
Lisa Stephenson Hope Meadows
George Gregor-Holt Chatham Schools

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

8. **Designation of Chatham County as "Electing" or "Standard Status":** Consideration of a request to designate Chatham County as a "Standard County"

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Gerald R. Smith, 5291 Highway #87N, Pittsboro, NC, voiced concern with regard to the voting on the water bond in the northwest territory. He stated that he voted in the west Pittsboro district; that they were first told that they could not vote because they were not in the territory; that after proving that he lived in the correct territory, he was allowed to vote; that it was his understanding that quite a few people either did not vote because they were told they could not do so or that they were not given a ballot to vote on the water; that he would like to see the group of people that has been placed in the west Pittsboro district return to the Brown's Chapel Church to vote; and that he was not certain exactly how many people were not allowed to vote on the water bond. He thanked Commissioners Pollard and Atwater for their service to the County.

Rosa Sutton, 1002 12th Street, Siler City, NC, Director of Sister to Sister Solution and transportation throughout Chatham County, expressed concern that they had not been allowed to submit a proposal to the County to provide transportation for the County. She stated that they have to go through Chatham Transit Network; that they are a 501C3 nonprofit organization; that they carry the same insurance, etc. that other non-profits carry; that they have not been allowed to actually submit a proposal to see who are the cheapest providers; that it is her understanding that Chatham Transit has already been given the County contract; that she doesn't feel this is right; that with her organization, citizens would not have to sit and wait four or five hours for their transportation to arrive; that they serve as an aid once they carry the person into the facility; that she wonders why the County or State allowing the system to stay monopolized through small business; that they are a minority business; that they are making between \$1,500-1,800 per month from the County providing transportation; that that amount is a very small percentage compared to what Chatham Transit is receiving; and that she would like to know why they are not allowed to submit their own contract.

Chairman Emerson suggested that this matter be scheduled on the next Board of Commissioners' work session with reports from the Department of Social Services and Chatham Transit Network.

Carl Thompson, 67 Robert Thompson Road, Bear Creek, NC, asked that the Board research

additional grant monies, the possibility of extending the sewer lines, and allowing area residents to hook onto the Stockyard Road Sewer System. He thanked Commissioners Pollard and Atwater, stated that they had done a good job, and said that they were going to miss them.

Jimmy Price, 1684 Stock Yard Road, Siler City, NC, stated that he received a couple of letters in reference to the project. He stated that there was an easement rejection by Larry Thurman; that as it progressed, it was decided to scale back after Mr. Thurman did not want it; and that then the money ran out. He asked the original cost of the project.

Kenneth Neff, 1692 Stockyard Road, Staley, NC, stated that he owned several homes on Stockyard Road. He stated that one is across the street from Mr. Thurman; that it is only a quarter acre lot and there are sewage problems; that he has two other dwellings further down on Stockyard Road to which he would like to have sewer and water run; and that there are problems with those also.

TAX ASSESSOR REPORT

Frances Wilson, Chatham County Tax Assessor, stated that the Tax Office started the tax year off with an unfortunate circumstance which was having to re-bill for some of the fire districts; that they all pulled together as a team and weathered the storm; that at the close of fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, they found that they achieved a higher percentage of collection; that they are now collecting real estate taxes for the Town of Pittsboro; that this is another way of providing better service to the County's customers; that reports from the NC Department of State Treasury show that Chatham is near the top in their population group and above average in the State when it comes to collecting taxes; that bankruptcies, mobile homes, and motor vehicles are areas of concern; that prior to taking action against delinquent accounts, they inform the taxpayers what options they can exercise to collect amounts due; that approximately "new owner" letters are being mailed in August to those who have purchased property in Chatham County; that approximately 4,000-5,000 tax notices are mailed per month; that approximately 900-1,000 blocks are placed on registrations per month; that blocks are placed on registrations four months after the bills become delinquent; that they recently mailed 39,647 tax bills for the current tax year; and that those notices total \$30,402,860.32 which include \$2,179,638 in solid waste fees.

FINANCE OFFICE

2004 Scattered Site Project Ordinance: Consideration of a request to approve the 2004 Scattered Site Project Ordinance

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, to approve the 2004 Scattered Site Project Ordinance, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to accept staff recommendation and approve the waiver of permitting and inspection fees for the four houses specified in the Scattered Site Project within the County's jurisdiction. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Outz dissenting.

Commissioner Morgan stated that before the next selection process for the scattered site project begins, he would like to have more information as to the applicants' capacity to pay fees and a list of the people for whom the work is being done.

MANAGER' S REPORTS

There were no Manager reports.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Water in Extraterritorial Jurisdictions:

Commissioner Morgan asked if the legal research requested at the June 21, 2004 Board of Commissioners' meeting on the County serving within others extraterritorial jurisdictions (ETJ) and the policy of not permitting others to come into the County with water without permission had been researched.

The County Attorney stated that he had done some research; that the laws on municipalities serving outside of their boundaries was broad; that the General Statutes say that they can do so if "reasonable"; that private utilities are regulated by State Utilities Commission; and that he will further research the matter.

Deer Run Water Supply:

Commissioner Morgan asked about requests he had received with regard to supplying water in Deer Run.

The County Manager explained that he had received an e-mail from one individual stating that he represented seven others requesting water to be run to Deer Run; that unless they were people who owned property in the water districts, he was uncertain of the request.

Budget Quarterly Reports:

Commissioner Morgan asked about the requested quarterly budget reports stating that with the upcoming revaluation year and the new budget process beginning in December, the Board would definitely need to know the finances of the County for the current year.

The Finance Officer stated that her program was not working properly, and that she would prepare a short report for Commissioner review.

Waste Proposal RFPs:

Commissioner Morgan asked about the decision made on June 7, 2004 to send out "Request for Proposals" with regard to waste proposals. He asked about the review session which was to be held before the RFPs were distributed.

The County Manager explained that a pre-bid conference was to be held Monday, August 9, 2004 at 10:00 AM in the Dunlap Classroom.

Jack Bennett Road Land:

Commissioner Outz stated that he had a person who owned land on Jack Bennett Road that was interested in selling the land for a County park.

Highway #902 Water:

Commissioner Outz stated that he hoped that a waterline could be extended from a point on Highway #902 from the Goldston Road back to Pittsboro for approximately one and six tenths miles along Sanford Road and Chatham Church Road and that specifics would need to be worked out with the Town of Pittsboro.

Paving of Road in Bennett:

Commissioner Outz asked if a letter had been written to the NC Department of Transportation regarding the paving of State Road #2223.

The County Manager stated that he would confirm that this had been done.

RECESS

Commissioner Pollard moved to recess the Regular Meeting for the scheduled Work Session. Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was recessed at 9:56 AM.

Thomas J. Emerson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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