

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
NOVEMBER 15, 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 3:30 PM on November 15, 2004.

Present: Chairman Tommy Emerson; Vice Chair Carl Outz; Commissioners Margaret Pollard, Bunkey Morgan, and Bob Atwater; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; Assistant County Manager Renee Dickson; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; Human Resources Director, Carolyn Miller, and Deputy Clerk to the Board, Marilyn Collins

The Chairman called the Work Session to order at 3:00 PM.

Work Session Agenda

1. Health Department Report on Child Fatality
2. Discussion of Planning Board Appointments
3. Request for Review of Solid Waste “Request for Proposals”
4. Proposal for Mental Health

CHILD FATALITIES REPORT

Dorothy Cilenti, Chatham County Health Director, presented the Annual Report of Child Fatalities on behalf of the Child Fatality Prevention Team. She reviewed the causes of deaths of children in the County and the strategies being developed to prevent the recurrence of similar types of deaths.

Mary Linker, Family Outreach Support and Services Supervisor, presented the Annual Community Protection Team Report and made recommendations to the Board of Commissioners, including communications, increased resources, and training.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to approve the members recommended for the new Community Child Protective Service Review Team: Vicki Newell, c/o Chatham County Partnership for Children, 200 Sanford Highway, Suite 4, Pittsboro, NC; Vince Sanabria, c/o Hispanic Liaison, 105 East Second Street, Siler City, NC; Jeff McKay, c/o Chatham Counseling Center, 40 Camp Street, Pittsboro, NC; and Sandra Sanchez, c/o JOCCA, PO Box 27, (35 West Chatham Street), Pittsboro, NC. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MENTAL HEALTH PROPOSAL

Tom Maynard, Orange-Person-Chatham Director, presented a draft transition plan for mental health to provide for governance and administration as mental health transitions from the current system to the state-mandated system, which requires the divestiture of mental health services.

The Governing Board is considering issuing a request for proposals (RFP) for a comprehensive service agency in the latter half of fiscal year 2005. This proposal would include any specifications chosen by the County.

An RFP for crisis services will be developed at a later time.

Chairman Emerson requested that Mr. Maynard communicate with Chatham Hospital about the possibility of the hospital serving as the crisis center as the hospital develops plans to construct a new facility.

Mr. Maynard stated that OPC would support the County's efforts to provide substance abuse detoxification.

Commissioner Pollard raised the issue of whom, from the Board, would represent the County, since she is leaving the Board. Chairman Emerson suggested that the new Board consider the issue at the December 6, 2004 Board of Commissioners' meeting.

WILLIAMS POND PUBLIC HEARING RULES

Keith Megginson, Chatham County Planning Director, discussed the text amendment and pointed out that it is a legislative issue. He recommended a time limit of three to five minutes per speaker.

He stated that the conditional use permit would require sworn testimony. He said that cross-examination would be permitted from adjoining landowners or their legal representative.

Chairman Emerson suggested that a five-minute limit, with the chairman's discretion, be imposed for the text amendment and rezoning.

Commissioner Atwater asked about the provision limiting cross-examination to those directly affected.

Mr. Gunn, County Attorney, stated that it was a provision of the legislation that has not previously been followed by the County.

By consensus, the Board agreed to these rules.

PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Horne stated that the eleventh Planning Board member had recently resigned. He pointed out that this position was recently added and asked if the Board wanted to return to a ten-member board.

Chairman Emerson asked the opinion of the Planning Board Chairman, Charles Eliason. Mr. Eliason stated that the eleventh member was added as a liaison between the Land Use Implementation Committee and the Planning Board. He asked that the Planning Board be restored to ten members because it provides for greater participation from members. He asked that the position be held open in case a liaison with another board was needed.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to not fill the eleventh slot vacancy at the present time. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

SOLID WASTE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Chairman Emerson asked the Vice Chair of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to share their views.

The Vice Chairman stated that the committee members would like to be a part of the review process, whether they serve as the committee or have some of the members appointed to review committee.

Mr. Horne recommended that the Waste Management staff not serve as staff to the committee to review the proposals because of the perception of a conflict of interest.

The Board discussed the composition of the review committee.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, along with a senior staff member, begin reviewing the bids and allow the committee to bring in other persons as needed. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Mike Cross, Commissioner-elect, recommended that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee rank all proposals and return with it to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to award the bid for sludge removal at the water treatment plant to Bio-Nomics in the amount of \$189,400. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The contract is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

SIMON GREEN ATKINS MARKER

Commissioner Pollard stated that Simon Green Atkins was born in Haywood and that it was important for the community to have a marker designating it as the birthplace of the founder of the institution that became Winston-Salem State University. She said there is currently a marker for him at Winston Salem State University and that the Department of Transportation would not participate in funding two markers for the same person.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Atwater, to allocate \$800 from contingency to participate with the Chatham County Historical Association in purchasing a marker for Simon Green Atkins. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Mr. John Gray, who was in attendance, stated that he would donate \$100 of the \$800.

ADDENDUM TO CHATHAM COUNTY'S STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR WATER SYSTEM EXTENSIONS (Adopted August 2, 2004)

Bill Lowery presented the addendum to require ductile iron pipe for water mains of six inches and larger that are constructed by landowners, developers, and contractors, if the County will assume ownership of the water system.

Commissioner Morgan pointed out the need for the County to conduct water line inspections as

prescribed by the policy.

Commissioners discussed the fact that this addendum and all current policies would not apply in the water districts, unless these policies are approved for the districts. Commissioners raised the issue that this policy requires developers to meet a standard that the County would not have to meet in the water districts because of USDA requirements.

Mr. Lowery stated that the provision is necessary because the County is assuming responsibility for a system built by another party.

Commissioner Morgan suggested that language be added to allow Commissioners to approve exceptions to this standard.

Commissioner Atwater suggested that the policy be returned to the Water Board to rewrite the policy to apply countywide and address USDA requirements.

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Addendum to Chatham County's Standard Specifications for Water System Extensions adopted August 2, 2004 and add the language, "Except where the County is restricted from requiring ductile iron due to the County's funding source." The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

RAMSEY GYM IN SILER CITY

Chairman Emerson raised the issue of Ramsey Gym burning and stated that Siler City is interested in acquiring title to the gym and renovating it. He stated that the gym is currently owned by Chatham County Schools; and that the school system wants the County to be aware that this transaction may take place.

Chairman Emerson asked if the Board had any reservations about this. Commissioner Morgan asked what entity would receive the insurance money. No other concerns were raised.

PTA THRIFT SHOP

Chairman Emerson stated that he had been contacted by a representative of the PTA Thrift Shop which donates all of its funds to the Chatham County School System. The chairman asked if the PTA Thrift Shop could have access to the collection centers to dispose of waste.

Bob Holden, Solid Waste Manager, stated that a representative had also contacted his office and his office has agreed to monitor their waste and make a recommendation on this.

Commissioner Pollard suggested that it be included with Chatham County Schools' waste stream so as not to set a precedent.

RECESS

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Pollard, that the meeting be recessed to the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners' meeting in the Superior Courtroom. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was recessed at 5:00 PM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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