

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
APRIL 04, 2005

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 9:35 AM on April 04, 2005.

Present: Chairman Bunkey Morgan; Vice Chair, Tommy Emerson; Commissioners Patrick Barnes, Mike Cross, 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

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 9:35 AM.

Work Session

1. **Presentation by CORA**
2. **Recreation Presentation**
3. **Historical Marker for Simon Green Atkins (Resolution)**
4. **Capital Projects Discussion**

RECREATION PRESENTATION

This item was deferred until a later date.

HISTORICAL MARKER FOR SIMON GREEN ATKINS

The Chairman explained that the committee for the placement of the historical marker for Simon Green Atkins identified a site near the former location of the school that Atkins attended and at which he taught briefly before entering his distinguished career as educator and community leader; that the site appeared to be on property owned by the Liberty Chapel Church, from whom permission was requested to put up the marker; that they have been told that it is actually on the edge of the highway right-of-way; that to use this appropriate location would involve permission from the Department of Transportation; and that they are requesting the Board of Commissioners' help in obtaining this permission.

By consensus, the Board endorsed the location or a location close-by the original site for placement of the historical marker for Simon Green Atkins.

SILK HOPE WATER LINE

Tim Carpenter, Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates engineer, explained that they are continuing to negotiate with the contractors on the Silk Hope water line; that bids exceeded appropriations; and that they will follow-up with the Board of Commissioners for the next steps when negotiations are finalized.

BREAK

The Chairman called for a five-minute break.

PRESENTATION BY CORA

Roxane Gwyn, Board of Directors President, explained that Chatham OutReach Alliance (CORA) is an all volunteer organization dedicated to acquiring and distributing food to Chatham County residents who have a need for temporary community support to keep themselves and their families fed. She stated that the federal government gives them food at no cost; that they have little choice in the food delivered to them; that the amount is based on the number of clients served; that the North Carolina Food Bank sells them groceries at fourteen cents per pound and gives them bread and produce at no charge; that the types and amount of food available vary greatly; that this food cannot begin to supply all the needs of their clients; that generous donations are made from the community and often secured through CORA-organized food drives; that all food is distributed by a volunteer staff at their food pantry in Pittsboro to Chatham County citizens in need; that they are able to provide seven days worth of basic food to a family up to four times per year; that their clients are from all towns and rural areas in the County; that all are screened and referred to CORA by Social Services; that they served twelve hundred families in 2002, fourteen hundred families in 2003, and almost two thousand families in 2004.

She stated that their food drives in 2004 brought in a total of approximately 16,000 non-perishable items; that they continually have difficulty in finding enough storage space to stock their food; that their storage resources were especially taxed during November and December when 7,856 non-perishables arrived at CORA; that it was imperative to find a storage facility for this food; that for the past two years, they have been fortunate that one of their provisioners has allowed them to temporarily store their overstock food at his home; that they are continually bringing food from this off-site facility to CORA to meet the needs of the increased number of clients which places an unacceptable burden on their volunteer man hours; that the off-site facility will no longer be available for their use by summer and they must find alternative storage space; that their main need is for space. She stated that they know that the Camp Street Building will not always be available; therefore, they sketched a "space needs" for the CORA Food Pantry including square feet/space needs. She thanked the Board for consideration of their request.

Commissioner Emerson applauded Ms. Gwyn for her efforts and encouraged her to communicate with the West Chatham Ministers Association and the Sandy Branch Baptist Association to coordinate efforts and supplement what they are doing.

CAPITAL PROJECTS DISCUSSION

The Finance Officer reviewed the Funding Priority Projects approved by the Board at their last meeting. She stated that the data used to calculate debt payments may change; that numerous assumptions were made in order to make projections; that cost of projects, timing, interest rates, and the Impact Fee availability (collection of fees and number of houses) were made. School capital projects for Siler City Elementary and Northeast Middle Schools were reviewed. Total debt, projected revenue, and projected surplus were evaluated.

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to give the schools permission to fund

for Siler City Elementary, Jordan Matthews Cafeteria, Northeast Middle, Horton Renovations, and softball/tennis lights as described by the school's capital request. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHATHAM COUNTY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE

Chairman Morgan moved to adopt **An Ordinance Amending the Chatham County Educational Facilities Impact Fee Ordinance** to increase the Impact Fee to \$2,900 effective April 15, 2005.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion.

Chairman Morgan called the question. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Barnes opposing. The ordinance is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The Finance Officer discussed other capital projects including Social Services (2005-06, 10 years), Phase I – Business Park (2005-06, 10 years), Central Carolina Community College – Siler City Campus (2006-07, 10 years), Central Carolina Community College – Pittsboro Campus (2007-08, 15 years), Pittsboro Library (2007-08, 15 years), Judicial Facility (2008-09, 15 years), and Phase II – Business Park.

By consensus, the Board asked that the above projects be projected in the upcoming budget.

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to approve the capital projects (see above) such that appropriate considerations can be made for projects with funding implications in the coming budget. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

The County Manager asked for Board clarification on installation of the new Impact Fees.

By consensus, the Board agreed that anyone applying for a building permit on April 15, 2005 would pay the increased Impact Fee.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 AM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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