

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 07, 2005

The Board of Commissioners ("the Board") of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 9:00 AM on November 07, 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 9:00 AM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

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Chairman Morgan invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance after which he delivered the invocation.

AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Chairman Morgan asked that the minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda with the noted request as follows:

1. ~~Minutes: Consideration of a request to approve Board Minutes for regular meeting held October 17, 2005 and Work Session held October 17, 2005~~

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

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

A. Morgans End Way B. Foxwood Trail

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

3. **Tax Releases and Refunds:** Consideration of a request to approve tax releases and refunds, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

4. **Purchase of Furniture for Communication Center:** Consideration of a request by the Enhanced 911 Committee to purchase new console furniture for the 911 Communication Center from Wright Line Technical Environmental Solutions in the amount of \$70,846.48

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

5. **Purchase and Update of Phone System for Communication Center and Emergency Operations Center:** Consideration of a request by the Enhanced 911 Committee to approve the purchase and installation of an updated 911 phone system for the 911 Communication Center from Positron Public Safety Systems Corporation in the amount of \$92,779.00; and
The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Consideration of a request by the Enhanced 911 Committee to approve the purchase and installation of a new administrative telephone system for the 911 Communication Center from TSM South, Inc. at a cost of \$88,727.00

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

6. **Award of New Computer Aided Dispatch System:** Consideration of a request by the Enhanced 911 Committee to award the new "Computer Aided Dispatch" (CAD) contract to Positron Public Safety Systems Corporation in the amount of \$363,971.00 plus \$214,665.00 for the first five years of maintenance

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

7. **Purchase of Anti-Discharge Static Flooring:** Consideration of a request by the Enhanced 911 Committee to purchase new anti-discharge static flooring for the 911 Communication Center from Arnon Enterprises, Inc. at a cost of \$10,798.73

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

8. **Subdivision Sketch Design Approval of "Cedar Grove Subdivision, Phase IV):** Consideration of a request by MAC Development, LLC for subdivision sketch design approval of "Cedar Grove Subdivision, Phase IV (Lots 18 – 28), consisting of 11 lots on 43 acres, located off SR #1540, Jones Ferry Road, Baldwin Township

As per the Planning Department and Planning Board recommendation, sketch design approval of "Cedar Grove, Phase IV" was granted with the following conditions:

1. A temporary turnaround at the end of the Phase IV roadway, with an outside radius of 55 feet, shall be shown on the preliminary plat.

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

9. **Subdivision Preliminary Approval of "Scarlet Oak":** Consideration of a request by Christopher Homes, Inc. for subdivision preliminary approval of "Scarlet Oak", consisting of 7 lots on 12 acres, located off SR #1530, Polks Landing Road, Baldwin Township

As per the Planning Department and Planning Board recommendation, approval of the road name "Scarlet Oak Lane" and preliminary approval of the plat were granted as submitted.

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

10. **Subdivision Final Approval of "Cattail Creek":** Consideration of a request by PK Chatham for subdivision final approval of "Cattail Creek Subdivision", Lots 6 – 11", consisting of 6 lots on 14 acres, located off SR #1506, White Smith Road, Hadley Township

As per the Planning Department and Planning Board recommendation, final plat approval of Lots #6 - #11 of "Cattail Creek Subdivision" was granted with the following condition:

1. The plat not be recorded until the County Attorney has approved the financial guarantee.

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

11. **Ag Advisory Committee:** Consideration of a request to reappoint Abdul Chaudhry, PO Box 1019, Siler City, NC, to the Agriculture Advisory Board by Chairman Morgan

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

12. **Triangle J Committee Appointment:** Consideration of a request to appoint Mrs. Lorene Bradley, 3 Carolina Meadows, Apt. #310, Chapel Hill, NC, as the senior appointment to the Triangle J Committee

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

The Chairman explained that the October 03, 2005 Southeast Chatham Water District and Southwest Chatham Water District minutes should have been approved by the board sitting as each individual water district board and that this will be a correction to the October 03, 2005 Board of Commissioners' minutes.

Minutes: Consideration of a request to approve Board Minutes for regular meeting held October 17, 2005 and Work Session held October 17, 2005

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve board Minutes for regular meeting held October 17, 2005 and Work Session held October 17, 2005. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

WATER DISTRICT BOARD MATTERS

Southeast Water District Board:

Commissioner Barnes moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to recess as the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Barnes moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to convene as the Southeast Water

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

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Minutes Approval: Consideration of a request to approve Southeast Water District Board Minutes for meeting held October 03, 2005

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to approve the Southeast Water District Board Minutes for meeting held October 3, 2005. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to adjourn as the Southeast Water District Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Southwest Water District Board :

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to convene as the Southwest Water District Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Minutes Approval: Consideration of a request to approve Southwest Water District Board Minutes for meeting held October 03, 2005

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to approve the Southwest Water District Board Minutes for meeting held October 3, 2005. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to adjourn as the Southwest Water District Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to reconvene as the Board of Commissioners. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Jerry Polston, 10860 NC Highway #42, Bennett, NC, stated that they had heard there was a proposed \$2,500 tuition fee to go to out-of-county children coming into the County. He stated that he is a Chatham County tax payer; that he pays an average of \$280.00 per each child he has in school; that in their area, this is a big concern because of the on-going debate with the Chatham County Board of Education that the children from Randolph County should not be allowed to come to the Chatham County Schools; that they were told by the Board of Education Chairman and the new superintendent that the Commissioners were the ones who wanted to charge the fee; and that he would like to be placed on a future agenda to be able to show the outlay of the area o the Board.

After considerable discussion and question period, Chairman Morgan asked Mr. Polston to attend the December 12, 2005 Board meeting explaining that the Board of Education would be contacted and asked to also attend the meeting.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Proposed Revisions to Watershed and Buffer Areas of Watershed Protection Ordinance: Consideration of proposed revisions to Sections 102, Jurisdiction; 301, Establishment of Watershed Area; and 304, Buffer Areas Required of the Watershed Protection Ordinance. The amendments are related to the reclassification of an area 0.5 miles from the proposed Rocky River Lower Reservoir and include revisions to the "Watershed Map of Chatham County" and stream buffer requirements.

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to approve a revision to the Chatham County Water Supply Watershed Protection Ordinance and Map to classify land shown as WS III (critical area) and revise language attached concerning perennial stream buffers. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The ordinance and map are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Community Backyard Presentation: Consideration of a Community Backyard Presentation

George Greger-Holt, stated that he was very pleased to announce that The Community Backyard has been awarded a \$100,000 matching grant from the Office of national Drug Control Policy and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. He stated that as part of the Drug Free Communities support Program administered by the two federal agencies, the award is focused on efforts to reduce substance abuse, including alcohol, tobacco, and drugs among Orange and Chatham County youth and to strengthen collaboration among various sectors in the community; that the grant is renewable for up to five years for a total of \$500,000; that the competition was difficult; that Chatham County was very fortunate to receive the grant; that the grant will provide a position for Chatham County and will provide funds for training school teachers in evidenced based prevention programs, training community members in substance abuse prevention, provide funds to buy curricula and bilingual materials for the school system.

Elizabeth Vickery, a resident of Siler City, member of the OPC Board, and Chair of The Community Backyard, stated that she has three adolescent daughters, two of which are in the Jordan Matthews School system; that the older girl left the school system at age fifteen with very serious drug-related issues; that she is doing well today; that they received a lot of support from Jordan Matthews School; that this problem opened her eyes; that knowing and studying, then living it, are two different things; that she is grateful that she is alive and well; that it has opened up a level of passion of her to bring as much prevention information into the County and help parents, community members, and children be aware of how serious this issue is; that up to 60% of Chatham County high school students report that it is fairly easy to obtain drugs; that more than 25% of Chatham County middle and high school students report that they have tried alcohol before they are in eighth grade; that approximately 4% of all middle and high school students report that they have a drug and/or alcohol problem; and that only 20-30% of all students report that their parents talk about the dangers of drugs and alcohol with any frequency at all; that they are fortunate to be able to share how graphic the situation is with the community; that their first coalition meeting on November 16, 2005 at Central Carolina Community College with an array of community members, parents, professionals, clinical folks, and school members who are invited to come together to start together and plan where they want to go.

Commissioner Emerson commended Ms. Vickery with regard to talking about personal experiences stating that he felt that she was doing it for the right purpose of making everyone aware of the seriousness of the problem and bringing it to the Board of Commissioners. He stated that the future of the County depends on the children and drug abuse is a cancer that is spreading rapidly

Isabel Geffner, executive director of the Community Backyard, stated that the Board of Commissioners was incredibly generous in providing \$10,000.00 as part of the match. She distributed a copy of their newsletter which outlines what the grant means.

A question and answer period ensued.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Recreation Advisory Board: Consideration of a request to appoint/reappoint a member to the Chatham County Recreation Advisory Board by Commissioner Cross

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to appoint Al Craven, 2832 Airport road, Siler City, NC to the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager reported on the following:

Veteran's Day Celebration:

Linda Harris, invited each Commissioner to attend the Veteran's Day celebration on November 11, 2005 at 6:00-8:00 PM at the Goldston Veteran's Memorial stating that Commissioner Cross would be the guest speaker.

JS Waters School:

Mrs. Harris thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She expressed her concern as the parent of an eighth grader at JS Waters School stating that approximately three weeks into the school year, a majority of parents, the principal, and she began to see that there was a problem with the seventh and eighth grade math classes; that when the first pre-algebra test was given, all but six students of the thirty-nine students failed the test; that this was a grave concern to the teacher; that this position has been a half-time position for the last eight-nine years; that Dr. Mabe made it a full-time position; that this is the first year with a full-time position; that last year's proficiency was the lowest in the County at 67.9 percent; that they believe that this lies in there not being enough classroom time for instruction; that they had a meeting with the principal at four weeks into the school year with the teacher reviewing the problem and looking for a solution; that again they felt that there was insufficient classroom time; that Mrs. McIntyre is a wonderful teacher; that they went to the Board of Education to present their problem; that the parents who can afford them are hiring tutors for their children; that they asked the Board of Education for a half-time position that would alleviate the number of Mrs. McIntyre's students; that she is the only teacher who has six classes per day; that there is no way a math teacher can instruct six classes of pre-algebra per day with 35-40 minutes of instructional time and be able to give them the instructions they need in order to do well on tests and homework.

Mrs. Harris asked the Board of Commissioners for a half-time locally funded position for JS Waters School.

A question and answer period ensued.

ARCHITECTS

Grimsley Hobbs and Taylor Hobbs, architects, presented their qualifications for the Department of Social Services, the Sheriff's Office, Henry H. Dunlap, Jr. Building, and Siler City Health Department renovations.

Commissioner Barnes expressed his appreciation for being a part of the architect selection committee and stated that he was impressed with their design work and the comments he had heard about them. He thanked Renee Dickson, Assistant County Manager for all of her hard work efforts. He stated that he is confident that the architectural team will do a good job.

Commissioner Barnes moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to contract with Hobbs Architects for the projects subject to successful negotiation of terms, approval by the County Attorney, and provided that the fee does not exceed the budgeted amount. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Chatham County Fair Association Appointment:

Chairman Morgan stated that the Chatham County Fair Association needs a Commissioner appointment to serve on the Chatham County Fair Board. He asked that the appointment be placed on the agenda for the next Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Water Provisions for Newly Established Lawns:

Chairman Morgan stated that he had received telephone calls from landscape people regarding provisions for newly landscaped lawns. He asked Will Baker, Utilities Director, for comments.

Mr. Baker stated that they recommended hand-watering of sod placed at new homes rather than sprinkler during the water shortage.

Newspaper Farm Article:

Commissioner Barnes commented on the article on the front page of *The News & Observer* regarding farms in Chatham County. He stated that it was a good article and that he recommended everyone read it.

Sewage Noise at Bynum Plant:

Commissioner Barnes stated that he had received telephone calls regarding the noise emanating from the sewage plant at Bynum.

Will Baker, Utilities Director, stated that the noise level had been significantly reduced during the past two weeks.

Jordan Lake Highway Vegetation:

Commissioner Outz asked if G. R. Kindley had been contacted regarding the cutting of trees and vegetation along the Jordan Lake highways.

Commissioner Barnes explained that this was done by inmates; that there was a schedule; and that it was up for consideration.

Haw River Rescues:

Commissioner Outz asked where the responsibility lies for those needing rescue on the County's high and flooded rivers.

Chairman Morgan explained that this fell to Tony Tucker in Emergency Operations. Commissioner Barnes explained that people are now charged when Fort Bragg helicopters have to be called out on rescue missions.

Lottery Funds:

Commissioner Outz stated that he was concerned about how proceeds from the lottery were being distributed to counties; that counties with tax rates higher than the State average are receiving additional funds; that Chatham County had worked hard to keep its tax rate low and he felt that the lottery formula penalized Chatham and other efficient counties; and that he thought the County's legislators and representatives should be contacted about these concerns.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to contact the County's representatives to inform them of the County's concerns regarding the lottery formula. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Recreation Fees:

Commissioner Outz asked about taking a quarter of the funds from the Recreation Fees to be used for other recreation areas.

A discussion ensued and this issue will be returned to the Board at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to adjourn the regular meeting to the scheduled work session. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 AM.

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Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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