



Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

9:00 AM

Agriculture & Conference Center

Board of Commissioner Retreat

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 5 - Commissioner Jim Crawford, Chair Diana Hales, Commissioner Walter Petty, Vice Chair Mike Dasher and Commissioner Karen Howard

BOARD PRIORITIES

[17-2419](#)

Ground rules

Debra Henzey, Community Relations Director, reviewed the ground rules for the retreat.

[17-2420](#)

Overview of budget process and strategy to address Comprehensive Plan

Attachments: [1--FY 19 BudgetCalendar](#)
[2--BudgetProcess \[Compatibility Mode\]](#)
[3--SWOT Summary \[Compatibility Mode\]](#)

Budget Director Lisa West gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Commissioner Crawford asked about the Chatham Park Special Assessment and what fund it would represent in the budget. Vicki stated it is off budget.

Ms. West reviewed the Collaborative Impact Teams and the Summary of the SWOT analyses. Council on Aging Director Dennis Streets helped to elaborate on the work done with his CIT group. (Presentation attached) Ms. West thanked former policy analyst Tansy Long for her work on the SWOT analyses.

Chair Hales asked if there was an inventory of available buildings in the county. Ms. West stated that EDC President Kyle Touchstone will be at the retreat tomorrow and can address that issue.

Commissioner Howard inquired about potential health disparities throughout different parts of the county. Commissioner Petty said that a health assessment might be a good way to address this. Commissioner Howard also expressed an interest in seeing the data pertaining to infant mortality and other health issues relating to the younger population of Chatham County.

Chair Hales would like to see radio repeaters as an agenda item to be discussed in more depth. Commissioner Petty suggested asking Emergency Management Director

Steve Newton to give a little more insight into the issue.

Chair Hales expressed a desire to see more involvement by fire marshalls and emergency management personnel in the planning process for the purpose of public safety.

[17-2421](#)

Report on trends and indicators affecting next year's budget

Attachments: [4--All Trends](#)
 [5--All Indicators](#)

Ms. West presented the report on trends and indicators. (Presentations attached)

Commissioner Petty would like to know what other counties are in Chatham County's population group and expressed his interest in seeing the revenue and expenditure charts shown side by side. He also asked if the Board could be reminded the rating benefits of borrowing \$100 million during the retreat. Staff will look into each of these requests.

LUNCH

[17-2423](#)

HR presentation Pay/Benefits

Attachments: [7--Pay and Benefits Update-BOC Retreat 2018](#)

Human Resources Director Carolyn Miller presented to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Commissioner Petty wanted to know a little bit more about the date and exact figures for the impending "Cadillac tax". He also expressed a desire to know how the County is planning to mitigate the effects this tax. Ms. Miller responded that the County has been planning accordingly and that there were several potential courses of action that would help the County to lessen the blow.

[17-2424](#)

DSS update on Food and Nutrition Services Employment Training Program

Attachments: [8--FNS 2018-01 ETPresentation BOCRetreat](#)

Social Services Director Jennie Kristiansen gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Chair Hales asked about employment resources in Siler City like the former Employment Security Commission. Ms. Kristiansen said she did not know but was under the impression that at least the state employment services were more focused in Pittsboro at this juncture. The Commissioners asked what could be done to make such resources more readily available and accessible for that part of the county. Commissioner Petty suggested utilizing Chatham Transit for these purposes. The County Manager suggested that these concerns be addressed when planning to remodel the Siler City human services campus and by encouraging the college have an office.

Chair Hales asked if the County could work with the EDC to subsidize employment opportunities.

[17-2433](#)

County customer satisfaction survey results

Attachments: [15--2017 Biennial Phone Survey FINAL revised january 12 2018](#)

Community Relations Director Debra Henzey reviewed the results of the customer satisfaction survey. (Presentation attached)

[17-2430](#)

Funding sources for land

Attachments: [14 - Funding Sources](#)

Budget Analyst Darrell Butts presented funding sources for land. (Presentation attached)

Ms. Paschal reiterated the importance of maintaining the debt capacity for things the County will have to pay for and explained that this could be done by setting aside money from the general fund and implementing a pay-as-you-go policy.

Chair Hales asked for clarification on agricultural activity. Mr. Butts will look into it. She suggested that the county more actively endeavors to find grant money for land acquisition, as was done with the Love's Creek in Siler City. She would like to see a group, committee, or program like Orange County's Lands Legacy Program formed in Chatham County given its relevance to the Comprehensive Plan. She also expressed an interest in staff doing more research on stormwater ordinances for a potential fee on the tax bill for land acquisition and other uses. Commissioner Petty stated that any fees collected associated with stormwater must be used for activities specifically pertaining to stormwater. Chair Hales expressed her belief that the fee could lend itself to a number of different uses, citing Chapel Hill as an example. Commissioner Crawford suggested establishing a more universal set of standards for developers that addresses issues like stormwater. Commissioner Howard agreed that a general outline to give to developers would be useful. Vice Chair Dasher suggested looking at non debt related funding mechanisms for land acquisition.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Howard, seconded by Commissioner Petty, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Commissioner Petty, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard