

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
JUNE 05, 2006

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 9:10 AM on June 05, 2006.

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 10:23 AM.

Work Session

Budget Discussion

Commissioner Emerson praised the efforts of the Chatham Central Bears on their efforts in winning the State 1-A baseball championship.

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to adopt **Resolution #2006-29 Recognizing the Chatham Central Bears Baseball Team for Winning the State 1-A Championship**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BUDGET

Schools:

The Board discussed the possibility of building a new auxiliary gym at Northwood High School. Several concerns arose about funding mechanisms and partnership agreements.

After considerable discussion, the Board decided to look at the proposal in Fiscal Year 2007-08.

Commissioner Barnes moved to table the matter until next year’s budget cycle.

After further discussion, Commissioner Cross seconded the motion.

The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Chairman Morgan opposing.

Virginia Cross and Jordan Matthews Budget Review:

The County Manager explained the Virginia Cross and Jordan Matthews technology and media equipment request from the schools. Dr. Hart and Norman Clark elaborated on the request.

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to take the additional \$1.1 out of the original \$3.2 from the low bid on construction projects with funding as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Project Funding Available: | \$23,895,392.00 |
| Fees and Contingency: | \$ 2,324,648.00 |
| Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment: | \$ 1,610,000.00 |
| Additional known work not included in bids: | \$ 575,000.00 |
| Low Bid Amounts: | \$16,173,770.00 |
| Remaining Funds: | \$ 3,211,974.00 |

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). A copy of the budget review is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

UPDATES

Revenue Neutral:

The Assistant County Manager gave a report on revenue neutral that showed the tax rate was set correctly and was not too high. She stated that excluding discoveries and rollbacks, staff projections were 0.25 percent over the true revenue neutral rate, meaning the tax rate should have been set slightly higher than it was. She also explained that staff does not budget for discoveries and rollbacks because of the difficulty in projecting them accurately.

Non-Profit Funding Process:

The Assistant County Manager explained that they have reviewed their non-profit funding process; that she believes the process worked well this year but that there are opportunities for improvement; that they have outlined seven steps that they are going to take; that part of it will require Board action in the future and part will require staff work; that Chatham County and United Way of Chatham County have a long history of working together to streamline the process for non-profit agencies applying for funding; that both entities value the working relationship they have built over the last decade or so; that FY 2007 marked a true consolidation of the funding processes; that while they are pleased with how this process worked, staff is recommending several changes for next year to further strengthen this process.

She reviewed the recommendations as follows:

Recommendations for Strengthening Joint Chatham County and United Way Funding Process

1. Conduct a needs assessment to obtain information on human services needs in Chatham County
2. Present findings to the Board of Commissioners during the January Budget Retreat; ask Commissioners to establish priorities for funding non-profit agencies – priorities can be broader than human services needs (e.g., economic development)
3. Volunteer panels will be separately recruited and appointed by Chatham County and United Way; volunteers will meet jointly to hear from agencies, but make decisions separately
4. United Way will be responsible for coordinating the panels, including corresponding with volunteers, arranging the panels with the non-profit agencies, etc., except for the duties specifically outlined below by Chatham County
5. Commissioners will appoint allocation volunteers for Chatham County
6. Staff will prepare a scoring mechanism based on Commissioner priorities for volunteers to use in the allocations process
7. The County and United Way will revise the joint application and jointly conduct a mandatory training session for non-profits in mid January to achieve greater uniformity of information and address concerns by last year's volunteers and feedback from agencies

Salary Adjustments:

Chairman Morgan recommended that the Sheriff, County Manager, and Register of Deeds salaries be discussed in Closed Session.

Commissioner Emerson stated that he had no appetite to make any adjustments to the Board's salaries.

By consensus, the Board agreed to make no salary adjustment for the present Board of Commissioners stating that the new Board could address this matter in December.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to go out of Regular Session and convene in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing personnel performance. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Barnes moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene in Regular Session. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Register of Deeds' Salary:

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to increase the Register of Deeds salary to \$69,030 per year. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Sheriff's Salary:

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to increase the Sheriff's salary to \$75,492. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Outz opposing.

County Manager's Salary:

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to increase the County Manager's salary to \$116,305. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Outz opposing.

Colvard Farms - Jeff Hunter:

The County Manger recounted that approximately six months prior, Jeff Hunter had come before the Board to appeal his recreation fees on Colvard Farms. He stated that Mr. Hunter was asking that the Board consider a credit for the requested amount of relief.

The Board expressed no interest in granting the appeal.

CENTRAL CAROLINA BUSINESS PARK

The Finance Officer explained that at the November 21, 2005 Board of Commissioners' meeting, the Board discussed changes in the design of the bridge and the culvert located in the Central Carolina Business Park. These design changes resulted in an increase in engineering costs of \$130,000 and \$52,000, respectively. Although the Board agreed to the changes at the November 21st meeting, no formal motion to approve the additional design fees was taken. She asked that the Board formally approve the increase in design fees at this time.

Commissioner Barnes moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to approve a change order with Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates in the amount of \$130,000.00 for the bridge design and \$52,000 for the culvert design in the Central Carolina Business Park. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The contract is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 PM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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