



Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Monday, October 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Agriculture and Conference Center

Special Meeting - 4:00 PM - Agriculture and Conference Center

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

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

No one signed up to speak.

BOARD PRIORITIES

[20-3629](#)

Vote on a request to approve edits to Emergency Housing Fund policy

Attachments: [FY20EmergencyHousingFundPolicyed](#)

Policy Analyst Stephanie Watkins-Cruz reviewed the specifics of the request.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hales, seconded by Commissioner Crawford, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[20-3637](#)

Receive Annual Report from Chatham County Cooperative Extension 4-H Program

Attachments: [2020 BOC Meeting - Chatham County 4-H Presentation.pptx](#)

Chatham County Cooperative Extension Director Ginger Cunningham gave a presentation to the Board along with Liz Mauney, Victoria Brewer, and Kaley Lawing. (Presentation attached)

Chair Howard asked if the Leadership Conference was for students or adults. Ms. Lawing stated anyone can be a part of it and she would love to have some Chatham County representatives.

Chair Howard asked if the 4-H Club was being promoted on social media. Ms. Cunningham stated they are promoting it on Cooperative Extension social media pages.

End of Work Session

The Board recessed the meeting until 6:00 PM.

Regular Session - 6:00 PM - Agriculture and Conference Center

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

INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Howard asked everyone to pause for a moment of silence after which she invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Howard welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, that the Agenda and Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[20-3639](#)

Vote on a request to approve the August 27, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes, the September 3, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes and the August 17, 2020 Work and Regular Session Minutes.

Attachments: [08.17.2020 Draft Minutes](#)
[08.27.2020 Draft Minutes](#)
[09.03.2020 Draft Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, that these Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[20-3634](#)

Vote to Approve a Grant Application to Increase Backyard Composting in Chatham County.

Attachments: [Internal Grant Approval Form Backyard Composting.docx](#)
Chatham County Backyard Composting Grant Proposal.docx

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[20-3638](#)

Vote on a request to adopt a Resolution Proclaiming November as Family Caregivers Month

Attachments: [Family Caregiver Month 2020](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, that this Resolution #2020-39 Proclaiming November as Family Caregivers Month, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

End of Consent Agenda

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Don Medlin submitted the following comments:

Good evening Board members.

I am Don Medlin residing at 242 Half Dollar Road. My family has owned the land adjacent to Briar Chapel Phase 12 for greater than 94 years.

I am here to outline why the plats for Briar Chapel Phase 13 & 14 should not be approved and need additional review. With Phase 12 approval, contiguous landowners were made aware that the 100 feet perimeter buffer is to be used for bike trails. I always interpreted the perimeter buffer to be an unspoiled area that is intended to remain completely natural and unused for any activity to distance the unrelated properties and protect property values on both sides of a neutral zone. Building bike trails in the perimeter buffer is like installing a city park next to all properties.

All citizens will be invited to use the trail and jeopardize the security of my property and my neighbors. We constantly have trespassers on our private property and document vandalism to rail fencing, no trespassing signs and rock fences. With bike trails in place, the trespassing will grow and damage all property values. I believe part of the Board's purpose is to help protect all property values when the Board is presented with transparent and fully disclosed presentations regarding parcel intended use and design.

A landowner next to Phase 13, Gary Oakley, submitted a large public file about this subject for the September 1st Planning Board meeting. Teresa Wilson, my cousin, also submitted a file. Since the September 1st Planning Board non-approval recommendation, Tanya Matzen with Newland has agreed to meet with Teresa Wilson and me to discuss whether a deed restriction is needed for Phase 12 & 13 perimeter buffers or a CCO amendment is needed. I am open to any correction, but our understanding is that the CCO does not explicitly restrict use of the perimeter buffer. I would ask the BOC members to ensure all CCO perimeter buffers are

restricted.

Thank you and may I answer any questions?

Doug Roberts stated that language around perimeter buffers had changed since being presented and no one on Half Dollar Road was consulted about an easement. He also stated he was concerned about damage to his well casing. He believes was caused by Newland Communities. He asked the Board to protect residents of Briar Chapel.

Rusty Field stated he was a part of StopChathamNorth and chose to yield his time.

Doug Sedlak submitted the following comments:

Commissioners, the following is public record.

Included is a graph of County residents Life Expectancy, and the False Science that County officials made up about it:

<http://www.douglassedlak.com/ChathamCountyLifeExpectancies.jpg>

You say you are transparent, democratic, and science based. Your actions don't. Your actions are secretive, not transparent. Fascist, not democratic. You condone false science.

In secret, you all created the new Structural Racism Health Crisis. Your BoH Chairperson says, [quote] "I will no longer entertain your emails as it relates to the BOH Statement." Secretive, not transparent.

You say you are democratic. But the Structural Racism Health Crisis imperils Civil Liberties. I've notified the ACLU and CIR. It's Fascist to weaponize race and health, endangering Civil Liberties. Hitler did that.

I approach you with data-driven methods. Until I spoke out, you didn't know you had missing Hispanic COVID data. Now you tell me to get lost. Science deniers act this way.

Debate rages about Civil Liberties and the 1st Health Crisis, COVID-19. You created a 2nd Health Crisis with NO consideration of Civil Liberties. Questions you ignore:

- 1: Did you consult with Civil Liberties experts like the ACLU in creating this 2nd Health Crisis? What other legal scholars or Constitutional lawyers did you consult?
- 2: Are you yourselves Civil Liberties experts?
- 3: Isn't the duration of this "Health Crisis" indefinite? COULDN'T it last for decades?
- 4: Do you admit it enables "Police State" powers?
- 5: Is it POSSIBLE it could allow authorities a "Health Reg" requiring a citizen to remove Iran's offensive Pre-Islamic Flag if Shah-haters claim it aggravates their PTSD. Enforceable with fines or jail time? What about a Confederate flag?
6. Where are your debates and votes and Civil Liberties discussions?
7. Can you PROVE this Health Crisis CAN NEVER infringe on Civil Liberties?

More questions. Across the board, County Health materials use shoddy science; will you have them ALL AUDITED by Public Health Statisticians?

Will you state that partnering with citizens is GOOD? That squelching debate is BAD?

Do you 'fess up to this travesty? Will you correct it? Apologize? Will involved Commissioners, BoH members, and County employees resign? Meaning MANY resignations.

We don't want to believe you are power hungry Fascist science deniers.

Adolf Hitler said: "All effective propaganda must be limited to a very few points and must harp on these in slogans until the last member of the public understands what you want him to understand by your slogan."

Commissioners, stop harping. Be public servants, not Hitler. Respect us. Stop bullying us. Come clean and mop up this Exxon Valdez like disaster. Let heads roll, including Commissioners.

Here's an example of how bad you all ABUSED data. I graphed your Life Expectancy data for "the decreased life expectancy of African American men". What pops out too? Decreased life expectancy for all MEN. Black, White, you name it. MEN. Maybe you owe us a THIRD Health Crisis? "Structural SEXISM" since systemically privileged women live longer? YEAH, I want me a crisis too Commissioners.

Civil rights, Commissioners. Civil rights MATTER. Civil liberties MATTER.

Here is the Life Expectancy graph for Chatham County residents. It uses the data certified by Health Director Zelek as correct:

<http://www.douglassedlak.com/ChathamCountyLifeExpectancies.jpg>

Check it out: ALL men are Health "under privileged" in the graph. Underprivileged turns out to be about what County officials WANT to see, not everything that's REALLY there.

Someone who saw the graph said, "looks to me like we have a Male health emergency".

The following is email to the BoH and a Commissioner about Civil Liberties. NO RESPONSE. They refuse to respond when confronted with uncomfortable facts. As Vice President Al Gore said, An Inconvenient Truth.

Science and truth lovers can contact me at: douglasjsedlak@gmail.com

Dwight Allen stated he represented StopChathamNorth and was yielding his time.

BOARD PRIORITIES

[20-3635](#)

Receive presentation from NNP Briar Chapel, LLC

Attachments: [October 19, 2020 BOC Presentation Final](#)

Attorney Nick Robinson addressed the Board and asked that the presentation be postponed to the October 19, 2020 meeting. Mr. Robinson stated that there were conversations underway to try to reach a compromise regarding concern around wastewater treatment. The four parties involved agreed to continue conversations between themselves before the presentation was given to the Board.

Chair Howard stated the Board looked forward to hearing the presentation on October 19, 2020.

[20-3636](#)

Receive presentation from Old North State Water Company, LLC

Attachments: [Briar Chapel Reclaimed Water System-C1 final-C1-C2](#)

Mr. Robinson's presentation was also for Old North State Water Company.

[20-3646](#)

Vote on a request to adopt a resolution amending the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Meeting Calendar for the remainder of calendar year 2020 and vote on a request to adopt a resolution setting the time and place for meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2021.

Attachments: [2020 REVISED BOC Meeting Calendar Resolution](#)
[2021 BOC Meeting Calendar Resolution](#)

Clerk to the Board Lindsay Ray presented the item.

Commissioner Crawford asked when the swearing in ceremony would take place. Ms. Ray stated the swearing in would happen on December 7.

Vice Chair Hales asked if staff was assuming the Board would be back to meeting in the Historic Courthouse in January. Ms. Ray stated that was the assumption but that County Attorney Bob Hagemann stated they could add an amended calendar to the consent agenda if there was a need to change location.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Wilkie, that this Resolution #2020-40 amending the resolution setting the time and place for meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for the remainder of calendar year 2020, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Clerk to the Board Lindsay Ray presented the item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilkie, seconded by Vice Chair Hales, that this Resolution #2020-41 amending the resolution setting the time and place for meetings of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2021, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

CLERK'S REPORT

Lindsay Ray stated that she had been asked by UNC's School of Government to serve on a panel at the annual Clerks Academy to discuss the county's candidate and commissioner orientation process.

MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Dan LaMontagne stated that the governor moved the state to Phase 3 of the stay-at-home order and the county will begin opening certain lobbies and offices.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Wilkie stated that the Southern Supreme Fruitcake Company is having their open house from Thursday, October 8 at 9:00am until Sunday, October 11 at 5:00pm.

Vice Chair Hales stated she has been attending the Triangle J Council on Government's seminars on equity.

Chair Howard thanked Chatham County for their participation in the Triangle J Council on Government's equity session on health.

ADJOURNMENT