

MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGECOMBE COUNTY
MARCH 5, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN LEONARD WIGGINS AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Leonard Wiggins, Chairman, Mr. Jonathan Felton, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Donald Boswell, Mr. William Wooten, Mrs. Evelyn Powell and Rev. E. Wayne Hines.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Viola Harris.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Eric Evans, County Manager, Mr. Michael Peters, County Attorney and Ms. Frankie Mungo, Clerk to the Board.

2. PRAYER.
Mr. Felton provided the prayer.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.
Mr. Felton moved to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2018 meeting as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

4. PUBLIC HEARING.
1. Mr. Wiggins called a public hearing to order to receive citizen comments and questions relative to the naming and/or renaming of state maintained roads and private lanes as required in the "Ordinance Establishing Policies and Procedures for Addressing all Public and Private Roads in Edgecombe County."

Mr. Peters read the public notice as published.

Mr. Evans stated that the Planning Board forwarded this request with a favorable recommendation pending any comments from the public.

Mr. Wiggins called for public comment. There being none the public hearing was adjourned.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the road name "Family Lane" located near the intersection of Floods Store Road and Charlie Road as recommended by the Planning Board. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT(S).

A. Recognition of the Phillips Middle School Basketball Team.
Mr. Evans thanked Mrs. Powell for bringing to his attention the Phillips Middle School Basketball Team. He stated that the team has made considerable improvements in their programs and so they were invited to meet the Board of Commissioners. He stated that Sheriff Atkinson and his team have been involved in their improvements.

Mrs. Powell asked Sheriff Atkinson to come forth to explain how the team came to this point.

Sheriff Atkinson stated that he, along with his team recognized that the Phillips Middle School Basketball Team did not have any coaches so they pitched the idea and members of his staff started working with the basketball team.

Detective Lewis, head coach, came forth and thanked Sheriff Atkinson for allowing his staff to work with all the young men. He thanked the parents and community for their support.

The basketball team members and coaches were invited to come forth to take pictures with the Board.

Mr. Wiggins thanked staff for contributing back to the community. He thanked Sheriff Atkinson for allowing the officers to become teachers and thanked the students for participating. Mr. Wiggins also thanked the Principal for allowing the officers into the school.

B. Karen Lachapelle, Health Director, Dr. Mandy Tolson and Susan Rogerson, Director of Nursing presented on the State law changes regarding rabies.

Mrs. Lachapelle stated that in October 2017 the State of North Carolina adopted new rabies laws. Edgecombe County ordinance states that we will follow the State laws.

Dr. Tolson stated that the new laws give the State and the County Health Directors more flexibility with regarding the opportunity to quarantine versus euthanizing if the animal is of unknown status or unvaccinated. Before the law changes the animal automatically had to be tested for rabies by submitting brain tissue to be tested, which required the animal to be euthanized. With the new laws they are able to evaluate the status of the animal in a different way and if the Health Director feels like quarantine is a viable option it can be done. She stated that hopefully this will lead to more people admitting to animal bites, because if a person has not been vaccinated and contracts the rabies virus it is almost 100% fatal.

Mrs. Rogerson stated that one of the big differences with the old law is if you had a dog or cat and the Health Department was unsure about the vaccination status they would have to be quarantined in an animal shelter for up to six months at the owner's expense. The new law does allow the Health Director and veterinarian to agree to give permission for at home quarantine and observation for 45 days, which is cheaper for the pet owner and hopefully will result in less euthanization of animals that do not need to be euthanized. Mrs. Rogerson explained the rabies virus treatment for a person who has been bitten.

6. PUBLIC PETITIONS.

Kathy Williams, 2228 Robin Drive, Tarboro, animal shelter volunteer, stated that any dog that is picked up as a stray or a welfare check of a house is done, Animal Control will verify that the dog is current on rabies vaccines. If it is not, the owner is issued \$100 citation and normally given ten days to comply. The Sheriff's office takes care of the citation piece and no animal leaves the shelter that is not current in vaccinations.

Janice Thompson, 110 Rollingwood Drive, Tarboro, stated that in here research of rabies vaccines she found that the only difference between the one year and three year rabies vaccines is "nothing". Over vaccinating children and over vaccinating animals is not good. She stated that to protect the animals all clinics should offer a three year vaccination. Mrs. Thompson stated that she was happy about the new quarantine rule so that an owner can watch their own dog and not have to pay for the quarantine.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Approval of budget amendments.

Mrs. Powell moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of the Health Department's Bad Debt Write-offs.

Mr. Evans stated that the Edgecombe County Health Department's Bad Debt Write-Off Policy stated that a patient's account will be handled as Bad Debt when there has been no activity on the account for more than twelve months. This does not mean that there will be no further efforts to collect the debt. In fact, if there is any new activity on the account, for example the patient presents at the Health Department for services, then the account is reactivated. This action is an accounting method whereas the written off debt no longer shows on the books as a receivable. Mr. Evans stated that the Human Services Board voted unanimously to recommend this debt be written off.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the Bad Debt Write-offs as recommended by the Human Services Board. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Approval of change in mileage reimbursement rate.

Mr. Evans stated that it is the County's practice to follow the standard mileage reimbursement rates set by the Internal Revenue Service. Recently, the IRS issued a notice that it is increasing the rate from 53.5 cents to 54.5 cents.

Rev. Hines moved to approve a new mileage reimbursement rate at 54.5 cents. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Approval of amendment to the sewer service contract with the City of Rocky Mount.

Mr. Evans stated that the new industrial development coming to Kingsboro will increase the demand for sewer capacity. This requires a revision of the contract we have with the City of Rocky Mount to receive additional sewer flow from the County at their treatment facility. Mr. Evans stated that our current agreement limits our capacity to send to Rocky Mount to 240,000 gallons per day (gpd). Based on the projected need for both Triangle Tire and Corning, plus some additional capacity to accommodate expected growth, Mr. Evans requested that Rocky Mount considers granting the County an increase of 154,000 gpd, for a total of 404,000 gpd.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the contract amendment as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Approval of a structure for an Animal Welfare Advisory Council.

Mr. Evans stated that at the last meeting, the Board expressed interest in creating a committee to study issues related to animal welfare. He created for the Board's consideration a structure to establish an Animal Welfare Advisory Council. Mr. Evans recommended that the Board approve the document as presented and to establish an Animal Welfare Advisory Council and suggested a delay in appointing members until the next meeting so as to give time to consider other candidates in addition to the three who have already expressed interest, and for others who may be interested to submit their names for consideration.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the document establishing an Animal welfare Advisory Council. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Rev. Hines asked a question regarding the different initial terms of office.

Mr. Evans stated this will provide staggered terms.

Mr. Wiggins stated the members terms will not expire at the same time.

Mr. Felton suggested that there be a wide distribution of membership on the council.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

F. Approval of a Lift Station Contingency Plan.

Mr. Evans presented to the Board the Edgecombe County Water & Sewer Department's Lift Station Contingency Plan. He stated that the County is required to have a Sewer System Permit through the NC Division of Water Quality. The new permit requirements call for a Lift Station Contingency Plan. This plan outlines the procedures taken both with ongoing maintenance of the lift stations and the measures put in place to address emergencies that arise with lift station failures. This plan will be submitted with the Edgecombe County Water & Sewer System permit.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the plan as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Rev. Hines expressed concerns regarding the placement of lift stations in order to avoid situations once encountered. He suggested that the communities are made aware of the locations of the lift stations.

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

8. APPOINTMENTS.

A. Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Boswell moved to appoint Mr. John Allen Killebrew. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

9. PLANNING BOARD REPORT. **Received******

Mrs. Cynthia Jones, Planning Director, provided the report.

A. New Business

1. Request for Text amendment approval.

Planning Board voted unanimously to approve a text amendment to allow a petting zoo in AR-30 zoning district; which includes development standards.

Mr. Felton moved to call for a public hearing at the April 2, 2018 Board of

Commissioners meeting to consider the text amendment request. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Minutes of February 19, 2018 meeting.

10. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.
Mrs. Powell moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.
11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW.****Received****
 - A. Water Services.
 - B. Financial Summary Report.
 - C. Fire Department rating inspection.
 - D. Tax Administration and Board of Equalization and Review.
 - E. House Bill 630.
 - F. Hurricane Matthew update.
12. MANAGER'S REPORT.
 - A. Economic and Workforce Indicators.
 - B. Update on County beautification efforts.
 - C. Follow-up on service area restrictions for rehab programs.
 - D. Pinetops request to Tar River Transit.
 - E. Legislative Forum
 - F. Letter from NC-DOT on grave site removal.
 - G. Proposed meeting dates:
 - Retreat: March 19, 2018 (Board agreed that March 19, 2018 worked best.)
 - Joint meeting with Edgecombe County Public Schools: April 23, 2018
 - Joint meeting with Nash/Rocky Mount Schools: May 14, 2018
13. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.
Mr. Boswell congratulated Mr. Felton on receiving the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award.
14. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.
15. CLOSED SESSION.
Mr. Boswell moved to go into closed session to discuss economic development. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Felton moved to go out of closed session and resume the regular meeting. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

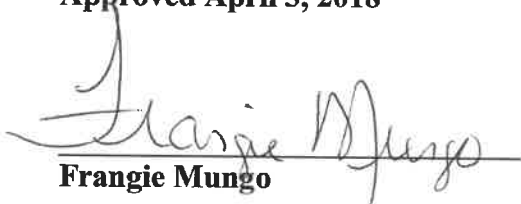
Mr. Wooten moved to approve the Relocation Plan for Midlakes Mobile Home Park residents. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$350,000.00 to appropriate funds for industrial incentive. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$1,225,000.00 to appropriate funds for purchase of Midlakes Mobile Home Park. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mrs. Powell moved to change the April meeting date from Monday, April 2, 2018 to Tuesday, April 3, 2018 due to April 2nd being Easter Monday. Mr. Wiggins seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.
16. MR. WOOTEN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. MRS. POWELL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved April 3, 2018


Frangie Mungo