

MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGEcombe COUNTY
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 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. Ralph Webb, Mrs. Evelyn Powell, Mr. William Wooten and Mrs. Viola Harris.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rev. E. Wayne Hines and Mr. Donald Boswell.

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

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS.

Mr. William Johnson, Assistant County Manager, provided safety instructions for all present.

3. PRAYER.

Mrs. Harris provided the prayer.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2019 meeting as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. PUBLIC PETITIONS.

No petitioners came forth.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Approval of budget amendments.

Mr. Evans provided explanations on several of the budget amendments and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of a resolution to name the Bridge at NC 42 at Old Sparta after Karo and Katie Edmondson.

Mr. Evans stated that Ms. Kaye Bunting, the daughter of Katie and Karo Edmondson, is petitioning North Carolina Department of Transportation to have Bridge #28, which is on Highway 42 at old Sparta, named after her parents. This action does require a resolution of support from the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Evans pointed out the correspondence from a number of citizens that provided their support. He stated that family members were in attendance of tonight's meeting showing their support of this action.

Mr. Wiggins asked the family members to stand and if they wanted to speak to do so.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the Resolution to Support the Naming of Bridge #28 In Honor of Katie and Karo Edmondson as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Wiggins recognized Mr. Gus Tulloss, NCDOT Representative from the State Board.

Mr. Evans read the resolution.

C. Approval of a resolution to name the Bridge at McNair Road and 64 Bypass after three fallen deputies.

Mr. Evans stated that Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office is petitioning the North Carolina Department of Transportation to name Bridge #316 on McNair Road after three fallen officers, Deputy H. Webb, Deputy T. Cone and Deputy D. Manning. He stated that Sheriff Atkinson is prepared to comment.

Sheriff Atkinson stated that in between his office and his deputies' office there is a wall of heroes with Deputy Webb, Deputy Cone and Deputy Manning, so each and every day they have to pass these fine gentlemen when they walk down the hall. That let's us know that they paid the ultimate sacrifice for Edgecombe County. He stated that as a Sheriff how do we honor these heroes, so his team brought the idea to him to honor them by naming a bridge after them.

Sargent Robbie Tender asked each family members of the fallen deputies to stand as well as the members of the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Webb read the resolution and moved to approve as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Tellus stated that this is a great day. He stated that he is the representative for the North Carolina Board of Transportation. He stated that there are nineteen representatives on the Board and each Board member has different counties. He stated that he has division four which handles Edgecombe County, Nash County, Halifax County, Wilson County and Johnston County. He stated that he was thrilled to be here tonight to support this. The highest honor that the Department of Transportation can give somebody is to name a bridge or road after them. He stated that what will happen now that the resolution has been passed, it will be sent, along with other paperwork, to the NCDOT and a committee called the Road Naming/Bridge Naming/Ferry Naming Committee will read over and approve it and then it will be presented to the full board for approval.

D. Tax appeal from ALL Carolina Crane and Equipment.

Mr. Evans stated that ALL Carolina Crane & Equipment LLC was assessed a 10% penalty for late property listing. The period during which property is to be listed begins the first business day of January and ends January 31st. Their listing was not received by the County until February 4th. The company is appealing to the board that this penalty be waived. Mr. Evans stated that he supports the Tax Administrator's recommendation to not approve an adjustment of this penalty.

No representative from ALL Carolina Crane and Equipment was present.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the recommendation to not approve an adjustment of the penalty. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Approval of annual contract with North Carolina Forestry Service.

Mr. Evans presented for the Board's consideration the agreement with the NC Forest Service. This renews the annual cooperative relationship with the Forest service to provide forest protection, development, reforestation, management, and improvement. This agreement requires a 40% cost share, or \$99,191 appropriation from the County, which is included in this year's budget.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the contract as presented and to authorize the Chairman and Finance Director to execute. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F. Approval of timber sale for Kingsboro and landfill tracts.

Mr. Evans stated that the County contracted with Premier Forestry & Environmental Consulting to develop a forestry management plan for the County. Seth Ward with Premier Forestry presented recommendations that included the sale of timber on tracts at the landfill (stand 1) and Kingsboro Industrial Park (stands 8,12 and 13). At the Board's July meeting the Board authorized Mr. Ward to proceed with soliciting bids for the timber on these tracts. Mr. Evans presented a letter with Mr. Ward's recommendation to proceed with the sale of the timber to Tidewater Land & Timber at the prices listed. He stated that the contract with Premier Forestry includes a 6% commission on clear-cut harvests. He recommended that the Board approve the sale of timber at Kingsboro and the landfill to Tidewater Land and Timber and authorize the Manager to sign the forthcoming timber agreement for the County.

Mr. Seth Ward was invited up to explain the next steps and to answer any questions.

Mr. Wooten stated, regarding Kingsboro Industrial Park, that he was concerned that if they are out there with heavy equipment and disturb the creek beds or the wet sensitive areas, that it could put our property into a category that it is not in right now that would inhibit development. He asked what assurance do we have that it will not be a problem.

Mr. Ward stated that in North Carolina they have to work inside the best management practices that Water Quality and Air Quality and North Carolina Forest Services put together that are statutes so they can operate under them. They cannot drive through creek beds, if they do it is a crossing that is dictated and already in their exemption and portion of the law. He stated that the North Carolina Forest Services comes and reviews while they are actually on site to make sure they are not impacting in any of those areas and fines are associated with it. He stated that it was his job to be out there to make sure they are not tracking in the wet areas.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the sale of the timber as presented and to authorize the Manager to execute the agreement. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by unanimous vote.

G. Approval of amendments to Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Evans presented for the Board's consideration two proposed changes to the Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations. The proposed changes are:

- Adding the word "land" under proof of ownership requirements. This will help to clarify situations where service is sought for a mobile home on a rented lot.
- Adding a requirement that all outstanding balances owed to the County must be paid before a new service will be approved.
- To update the deposit fee for residential service to be consistent with our current fee schedule.

Mr. Wiggins asked what prompted us to want to change the Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Evans stated that the change regarding proof of ownership currently refers "owner", but often times you will have a property that is owned by one person

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then rented and the account holder ends up being the one renting, as in renting a lot for a mobile home. We need to clarify who needs to show proof of ownership. In the past we have had situations where the landowner will say it was the person renting the lot responsibility to come in and the person renting the lot will say they thought the landowner was supposed to. This pushes the responsibility back on landowner.

Mr. Wiggins stated that it could be an issue if no leases or written receipts were issued.

Mr. Mike Matthews, Water/Sewer Director, stated that his department has a standardized lease agreement that they give out to people that do not have a formal lease agreement. They give it to them to go have it filled out and signed.

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the amendments as presented. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

H. Approval of a change order for Midlakes clean-up contract.

Mr. Evans presented for the Board's consideration an amendment to the contract with Anderson & Company, Inc. for the clean-up of Midlakes Mobile Home Park. The amendment includes the demolition of three additional mobile homes. Two are homes we thought were salvageable, but have found their condition to be worse than realized. The third is a dilapidated mobile home located at the Kingsboro water tank donated many years ago to the County from the school system which had been used for storage. This change order will result in an increase of \$9,750, increasing the total contract price to \$64,300.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the contract amendment as presented and to authorize the Chairman to execute the same. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

I. Approval of ordinance amendment to allow for Solid Waste permits.

Mr. Evans stated that at the Board's direction, we are moving forward with our plan to implement permitting for use at solid waste convenience sites. This will require an amendment to our code of ordinances. Mr. Evans presented, in the agenda packages, language proposed for the Board's consideration. He stated that William Johnson, Assistant County Manager, will review these changes for them as well as proposed guidelines for this effort. He stated that after the presentation he recommended that the Board call for a public hearing to be held at the October meeting for public review of this proposed ordinance amendment.

Mr. Johnson stated that first section is a proposed change is to change the classification of Solid Waste Receptacles to Solid Waste Convenient Sites and goes on the mention that only Edgecombe County citizens can dump in our convenient sites. He stated that its further states, what is being proposed tonight, that they must produce a valid permit and the County will develop a written operating policy for the convenient sites that will be approved by the Board. Mr. Johnson reviewed the proposed amendments.

Mr. Wiggins stated that the smaller communities should be made aware of this so they can have the option other than just the use of private contractors for garbage pick-up.

After discussion Mrs. Harris moved to call for a public hearing at the October meeting. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

J. Approval of Health Department fee change.

Mr. Evans stated that staff at the Health Department regularly reviews fees to ensure they cover the costs associated with providing services, and to make sure they are consistent with current reimbursement rates. A change is proposed for the HPV vaccine from \$136 to \$229 due to a change in the Medicaid reimbursement rate. He stated that the proposed fee increase comes with a favorable recommendation from the Human Services Board.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the fee change as recommended by the Human Services Board. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

7. **APPOINTMENTS.**

A. **Turning Point Workforce Development Board.**

Mrs. Harris moved to appoint Mr. Sherrod Sumner and to reappoint Mr. Jerry Harper as a private sector representative. Mr. Webb seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. **Human Services Board.**

Mr. Wooten moved to reappoint Larry Woodley, George Eason, Viola Harris, Marsha Cooper, Bill Leland and Jennifer Taylor. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

8. **AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.**

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

9. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW. ***Received*****

A. Water Services.

B. Financial Summary report.

C. Hurricane recovery update.

10. **MANAGER'S REPORT. ***Received*****

A. Workforce Development Indicators.

B. Draft ordinance revision for remote participations in meetings.

Mr. Evans stated that Board had discussions about the possibility of Board members being able to call in and participate telephonically. He stated that the Board does not have that provision currently. He stated that Mr. Peters has done some research and drafted recommended language for an ordinance change for the Board's review and discussion. Mr. Evans stated that the Board will need to call for a public hearing.

After discussion on additional language needed and possible legal issues Mr. Wiggins suggested further discussion on this matter should take place when all Board members are present and then, if it is the will of the Board, call for a public hearing on it.

C. Update on transition to Medicaid Managed Care.

D. Update on request to Tarboro, re: The National Guard Armory.

Mr. Evans stated that the Board asked him to request from the Town of Tarboro to turn over their ownership interest of the National Guard Armory. He stated that he attended their last council meeting and they approved the request.

E. Special Olympics Committee update.

Mr. Johnson stated that a few months ago a citizen came before the Board requesting assistance with Special Olympics in the County. On August 15th a group of interested citizens, County and Town of Tarboro staff met with Bryan Harrell, Rocky Mount's Senior Center Coordinator as well as Nash County's Special Olympics Coordinator. Last year a small group of citizens Edgecombe County and some school staff held a Special Olympics event. This event was not

officially under the umbrella of the Special Olympics organization, but this group would like to see that come into fruition. One of the hurdles needed to accomplish this is the need for a designated coordinator. He stated that they will be meeting again on September 12th.

F. Mr. Evans provided an update on Hurricane Dorian.

11. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

Mrs. Harris reported on the NCACC Conference stating that it was very successful and the following is a list of items she received information on:

- Census 2020
- Cyber security
- How to agree and disagree (Board members)
- How to borrow money from LGC

12. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.

None.

13. CLOSED SESSION.

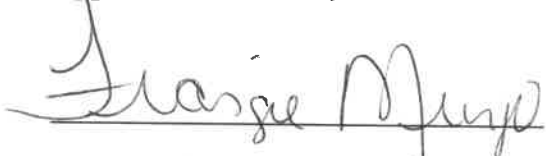
Mr. Wooten moved to go into closed session to discuss economic development and a personnel matter. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

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

The Board had a discussion on the audit findings and letter received from LCG regarding the audit findings.

14. MRS. HARRIS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL OCTOBER 7, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M. MR. WEBB SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved October 7, 2019.



Frankie Mungo, Clerk to the Board