

MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGEcombe COUNTY
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 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, Rev. E. Wayne Hines, Mrs. Viola Harris, Mr. William Wooten and Mrs. Evelyn Powell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

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

2. PRAYER.

Rev. Hines provided the prayer.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2017 meeting as presented. Rev. Hines 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 approval of the County entering into an installment financing contract to provide funds for capital improvements for County facilities, costs and acquisition of land and to refinance an installment financing contract.

Mr. Peters read the public notice.

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

Mr. Wooten moved to approve the preliminary resolution authorizing the negotiation of an installment financing contract for land purchase and building renovations. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Evans stated that we are in the process of getting quotes from banks on loan terms, which are due by September 8th. Those proposals will also be reviewed by the Budget Committee and a selection will need to be made by the Board before going before the Local Government Commission. Mr. Evans asked the Board to consider calling for a special meeting to be held on September 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Wooten moved to call for a special meeting on September 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

2. Mr. Wiggins called a public hearing to order to receive citizen comments and input relative to the identification of activities for the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program.

Mr. Peters read the public notice.

Mr. Evans stated that the State has received \$198 million in CDBG-Disaster Recovery funding for Hurricane Matthew recovery. The plan is that 80% is to go to the 4 hardest hit counties (Edgecombe, Wayne, Roberson and Cumberland). That \$158.4 million will be distributed to those counties based on the number of homes substantially damaged. Our share will be 18% or \$28.5 million. Use of the funds must be according to the plan the State submitted to the US Department of HUD. The majority of the funding is to be used for housing related activities. Mr. Evans stated that counties are to take the lead in implementing these CDBG-DR funds, and submit a final plan for how these funds will be used by September 15th. As with other CDBG programs, this requires that citizens be given the opportunity to participate in the planning and decision-making process. A public meeting was held on August 30th. He stated that in tonight's public hearing, he will go

through a presentation that gives more detail on the CDBG-DR program. Mr. Evans stated that being that public input is so vital to this process, he asked that the Board call for another public hearing to be held at a special meeting on September 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Evans presented the following:

- **The purpose of this meeting**
 - Describe the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program.
 - Get input on how this money should be spent.
- **What is Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)?**
 - Federal Program run by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - Given as a “block” of funding for a wide range of programs.
 - Programs primarily targeted to low and moderate income families (50% and 80% of the area median income)
- **Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery.**
 - State received \$198 million
 - 80% to go to hardest hit areas (Edgecombe, Wayne, Robeson and Cumberland)
 - Edgecombe County’s share is \$28.5 million.
 - Mostly for housing related activities.

Citizens were provided paper work to provide feedback and ideas on the use of the funds.

- **CDBG-DR Housing Related programs**
 - Single Family Rehab - 40 expected to be served - \$3,000,000
 - Single Family Reconstruction – 75 expected to be served - \$7,095,000
 - Mobile Home Repair – 40 expected to be served - \$600,000
 - Mobile Home Replacement 0 25 expected to be served - \$1,500,000
 - Acquisition for New Construction – 100 expected to be served - \$1,625,000
 - Temporary Rental Assistance – 20 expected to be served - \$200,000
 - Home Repair Reimbursement – 40 expected to be served - \$1,000,000
 - Flood Insurance Assistance – 150 expected to be served - \$300,000
 - Small Rental Repair – 40 expected to be served - \$1,200,000
 - Multifamily Rental Housing – 50 expected to be served - \$2,500,000
 - Supportive Housing- 50 expected to be served - \$1,500,000
- **CDBG-DR Economic Development**
 - Revolving Loan Fund – 20 expected to be served - \$1,425,000
- **CDBG-DR Infrastructure.**
 - Community Recovery Program – 4 expected to be served - \$2,280,000
- **Next Steps with CDBG-DR**
 - More public hearings – need your input on how best to use these funds.
 - Second public hearing on September 5th at Commissioners meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Possible third on September 14th at 7 p.m.
 - Delivering application to State on September 15th.
- **Keep Your Receipts.**

Mr. Wiggins called for public comments.

Ms. Yolanda Thigpen, 404 Neville Street, Princeville, stated that she had already submitted her financial input in to the County Manager. She stated that she hoped that the citizens would be kept informed as you move forward with submitting the application as well as the approval process and the implementation process.

Mr. Wiggins stated that the Board should be concerned about the creation of affordable housing for flood victims and others, which is much needed for the County. He stated that personally that should be a high priority for the County.

Mr. Evans stated that the North Carolina Emergency Management representatives as well as the Governor’s office gave all of the counties the responsibility of administering the process, but they have been very clear that the counties engage the municipalities within the counties who were affected. Mr. Evans stated that several Team Meetings have been, which included representatives from Town of Tarboro, Town of Princeville, Town of Pinetops, City of Rocky Mount and other organizations, who have participated in this process.

There being no further public comments, the public hearing was adjourned.

Mrs. Harris moved to call for a public hearing at the special meeting on September 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT:**

Representatives for a Coalition on Opioid Abuse presented information on their collaborative effort regarding opioid abuse.

Mr. Evans stated that opioid abuse has been a growing concern all across the country and it is such a big challenge that it is not something that just the Health Department can work to solve or just the Sheriff's Department or just any agency. It is going to take working together in a collaborative effort. Mr. Evans asked the team to come forth.

Ms. Anita Perez introduced team members from the different agencies. She listed some of their accomplishments such as: provided Naloxone kits to the Volunteer Fire Departments and the Pinetops Police Department and the Sheriff's Department, which is a medication that will reverse an overdose reaction; pill drop boxes for unwanted or unused medications; handouts have been distributed throughout the County that provides information on opioid; gathering statistical data on opioid usage;

Other team members provided additional information.

6. **PUBLIC PETITIONS.**

No petitioners came forward.

7. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. **Approval of budget amendments.**

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. **Approval of agreement with Pay Tel Communications, Inc. for the Sheriff's Department.**

Mr. Evans stated that the County currently has an unexpired contract with Pay Tel Communications to provide phone communication services for inmates in the detention center. Pay Tel has presented to Sheriff Atkinson the opportunity to improve the services offered and to increase the commission received by the County. Currently, Pay Tel offers phone cards for inmates to purchase. When the inmate is released, the balance is returned by way of a check from the County payable to the inmate. The County currently receive a 40% commission spent on phone calls. Mr. Evans stated that the new system will be done through electronically maintained accounts. An inmate or his/her family member may add money to an account, which then can be accessed through an access code, PIN and voice recognition. Any remaining balance is paid to the inmate by way of a pre-loaded debit card. With this new system the commission will go to 50%. Mr. Evans stated that the new system will not cost anything to the County, will be an easier and more secure system to use and the additional revenues to help off-set the cost of operating the detention center.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the amended contract with Pay Tel Communications as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. **Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the Edgecombe County Board of Education and the Edgecombe County Health Department for the School Health Program.**

Mr. Evans proposed that the Health Department continues to provide school health services for Edgecombe County Schools. Annually, the agreement is reviewed and presented for approval. The County will continue to provide eight school nurses who will administer the services described in the agreement. This is funded partially by a grant, and the remainder by the school system.

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

D. **Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Updated Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for Edgecombe County for the North Carolina Small Cities CDBG Program.**

Mr. Evans stated that federally funded Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) requires that steps be taken to help further fair housing rights. This requires

the County to periodically perform what is called an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. From the analysis, activities are planned to overcome any barriers to fair housing identified and to inform citizens of their fair housing rights.

Mrs. Harris moved to adopt the resolution as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Approval of Change Order No. 1 with Ralph Hodge Construction Company for Sewer to Speed and Vicinity Project.

Mr. Evans presented for the Board's consideration amendment #1 to the contract with Ralph Hodge Construction Company for the construction of the sewer collection system in and around the Town of Speed. The change order will result in an increase of \$50,121.93, increasing the total contract price to \$4,044,637.68. This does not change the substantial completion date, which is July 4, 2018.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the change order as presented. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F. Approval of Contract Between the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services NC Forest Service and Edgecombe County.

Mr. Evans presented to the Board for their consideration the agreement with the NC Forest Service. This renew the County's annual cooperative relationship with the Forest Service to provide forest protection, development, reforestation, management and improvement. This agreement requires a 40% cost share, or \$91,072 appropriation from the County, which is included in this year's budget.

Mr. Boswell moved approve the agreement and to authorize the Chairman and Finance Director to execute. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

G. Approval of Community Benefit and Health Initiatives Grant award for Cooperative Extension.

Mr. Evans stated that the Cooperative Extension Office has been awarded a grant by the Vidant Health Foundation in the amount of \$6,000. This grant will be used to support their Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). EFNEP is a community-based, hands-on educational program that impacts economic, obesity, and food insecurity challenges.

Mrs. Harris moved to accept the grant by adopting the project ordinance and budget amendment as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

8. APPOINTMENTS.

A. Recreation Grant Review Committee.

Mr. Wooten moved to appoint Commissioner Felton, Tina Parker, Jeremy Bellamy and Ms. Yolanda Thigpen. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Felton moved to reappoint Mr. Charles Cobb. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. ABC Board.

Rev. Hines moved to reappoint Mr. Charlie Harrell and Mr. Gleno Horne. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

9. PLANNING BOARD REPORT.

Ms. Cynthia Jenkins, Planning Director, provided the finance report.

A. Action items:

1. Rezoning request from David N. Phillips.

The Planning Board voted to forward the rezoning request to the Board of Commissioners.

Rev. Hines moved to call for a public hearing to be held at the October 2, 2017 meeting to consider this request. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

2. No other business.

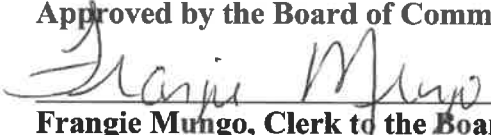
3. Draft minutes.

4. Next meeting scheduled for September 18, 2017.

9. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.
Rev. Hines moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.
10. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW.***Received***
A. Water Services.
B. Financial Summary Report.
C. Tourism Development Authority.
D. DSS Annual Report.
11. MANAGER'S REPORT.***Received***
A. Economic/Workforce Indicators.
B. Golden LEAF grant program.
C. Suddenlink update.
D. Update on County property located at 3007 N. Main Street, Tarboro.
E. Official notice on closing of general Foam Plastics.
F. Public Notice on CSX application.
G. Donation campaign for Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort.
H. First Responder Appreciation on September 11, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.
I. Update on State Board of Elections.
12. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.
13. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.
14. CLOSED SESSION.
Mr. Felton moved to go into closed session to discuss economic development and personnel. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Boswell moved to go out of closed session and resume the regular meeting. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.
15. MR. BOSWELL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017. REV. HINES SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved by the Board of Commissioners on October 2, 2017.


Frangie Mungo, Clerk to the Board