

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING IN THE AUDITORIUM ON MAY 12, 2008 AT 11:30 A.M.

**PRESENT: CHAIRMAN CHIVOUS BRADLEY
VICE CHAIRMAN PAUL MCINTOSH
MARGARET HELTON
CHARLES HILL
BRENT WASHBURN**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bradley called the meeting of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners to order. Chairman of the Rutherford County Board of Education Gail Parton called this Board to order.

MINUTES

Dr. John Kinlaw, Superintendent of Schools, presented the annual budget request from the schools. It included salary and benefit increases of 8% for county-paid teachers. He said this is in line with expected action by the state legislature. The operations budget included a 10% increase for energy, as well as, increases in water and travel costs. An increase in teacher's supplement of \$100 reflected the school board's strategic plan.

Dr. Kinlaw, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent Linwood Crawford; and Finance Officer Rudi Ligon discussed projections for increases in fuel and utility costs and answered questions from the Commissioners.

County Manager John Condrey give a quick overview of the county's budget position, pointing out a 3% increase included for the schools. The Board of Commissioners will have only a minimal amount available for expansion in the 2008-2009 budget.

Vice Chairman McIntosh raised the possibility of not funding the \$100 teacher supplement. Dr. John Mark Bennett emphasized the Board of Education's commitment to the supplement, which he explained is in year 4 of a 5-year plan, and which he described as making a statement to the teachers that they are valued.

Recent discussions have centered on technology needs for the schools. While it would be possible to accelerate the investment in the schools' technology plan, to do so would take away from available funds for new construction. Chairman Bradley mentioned the local option sales tax as a possible source of funds.

Chairman Bradley assured the Board of Education that their funding proposals would be taken under consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

The joint meeting was adjourned by the respective chairmen.

Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Vice Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Clerk, Board of Commissioners