

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM ON JUNE 25, 2009 AT 8:00 A.M.

**PRESENT: CHAIRMAN BRENT WASHBURN
VICE CHAIRMAN MARGARET HELTON
SUSAN CROWE
EDDIE HOLLAND
PAUL MCINTOSH**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Washburn called the meeting to order.

AGENDA

Chairman Washburn read the agenda for the meeting. Vice Chairman Helton made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

BUDGET 2009-2010

County Manager John Condrey told the Board that there are items of concern that will affect the budget for 2009-2010. There is the potential for additional revenue from property taxes at the Duke Energy Cliffside plant and from the Grey Rock bankruptcy sale. No amounts are included in the budget for either of these. He also listed potential revenue losses which the Board discussed.

The potential for the payback of the retiree health insurance is still there. There is a potential reduction in property insurance, worker's compensation, and dental insurance for employees.

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

The Board discussed Special Appropriation requests and came to agreements on each leaving a balance of \$19,443 of the \$385,000 set aside for Special Appropriations. Commissioner McIntosh asked that the Board consider the fact that funding special projects would be taking money that could go to fund balance.

MENTAL HEALTH GRANT

County Manager Condrey told the Board that a balance of \$343,525 remains in the mental health dissolution funds. This can be used for grants for specific projects for behavioral/mental health. The funding recommendation totaled \$132,168 using \$30,000 of dissolution funds and the balance from the Maintenance of Effort funds received every year.

Mr. Condrey also asked that the remaining dissolution funds be designated for crisis services. This will have to be approved by Western Highlands and the appropriate office in Raleigh.

Commissioner Crowe made a motion to approve the recommendation for the mental health projects. She also moved that the remaining dissolution funds be designed for crisis services. The motion was unanimously approved.

BUDGET 2009-2010/BUDGET ORDINANCE/E911 ADDRESSING FUND/ICC CAPITAL RESERVE FUND/REGISTER OF DEEDS AUTOMATION ENHANCEMENT/GRANT FUND/REAPPRAISAL-MAPPING FUND/WATER-SEWER FUND/SCHOOLS CAPITAL RESERVE FUND/COUNTY BUILDING RESERVE FUND/DEBT SERVICE FUND/TRANSIT FUND/SOLID WASTE FUND/TOURISM FUND

Chairman Washburn moved to approve the budget as presented with the adjusted recommended General Fund changed to \$56,896,365. The change was a result of a reduction to the schools' annual capital request and the remaining amount that was not allocated to the Special Appropriations requests. He further moved to approve the budgets of other funds which were:

E-911
Register of Deeds Automation Enhancement
Grants
Reappraisal/Mapping
ICC Capital Reserve
Water and Sewer Capital Reserve
Schools' Capital Reserve
County Building Capital Reserve
Debt Service
Transit
Solid Waste
Tourism

The vote was:

Ayes: Commissioners Washburn, Helton, Crowe, and Holland

Noes: Commissioner McIntosh

(A copy of the Budget Ordinance is typed in the Minute Book.)

Commissioner McIntosh stated that his vote of opposition was due to the fact that he believed money that the county needed to keep in reserve was being spent on special projects.

BUDGETS/SPECIAL DISTRICTS

The Board discussed a one cent tax increase requested by the Cliffside Fire Department

Commissioner Helton made a motion to approve the budgets of the Special Districts which included fire departments and a sanitary district at the same tax rate as the 2008-2009 budget. The Board voted unanimously in favor. (A copy of these budgets is included in the Budget Ordinance.)

VEHICLES/ISOTHERMAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION/YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Mr. Condrey told the Board that the Transit Department will be replacing six vans with new vans received from the state. The six vans will be surplus. Requests had been received from Isothermal Planning and Development Commission and Youth Empowerment for 3 of these vans (two mini vans to IPDC and one van to Youth Empowerment.)

Commissioner McIntosh made a motion to approve the requests as presented. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

RECESS

9:01 A.M. - Recess
9:09 A.M. - Reconvene

CLOSED SESSION/ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE\G.S. 143.318.11(a)(3)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crowe to go into Closed Session for attorney-client (G.S. 143.318.11(a)(3)), and the vote of approval was unanimous.

9:09 A.M. - The Board went into Closed Session
9:34 A.M. - The Board returned to regular session.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting after a motion was made by Commissioner Crowe.

9:34 A.M. - Adjourned.

Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Vice Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Clerk, Board of Commissioners