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3-23-15

MINUTES

cc: BOC
Steve
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Russ

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the proposed Henderson County Health Sciences Center Site, for a ground breaking ceremony to kick off the project.

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Thompson, Vice-Chairman Charlie Messer, Commissioner Michael Edney, Commissioner Grady Hawkins, Commissioner William Lapsley, County Manager Steve Wyatt, Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley, Attorney Russell Burrell and Clerk to the Board Teresa Wilson.

Other County Staff present: Director of Business and County Development John Mitchell, Management Assistant Megan Powell, Sheriff Charles McDonald, Code Enforcement Director Toby Linville, Senior Planner Autumn Radcliff, Environmental Programs Coordinator Rachel Hodge, Central Services and Construction Manager David Berry and Engineer Marcus Jones.

WELCOME

Chairman Tommy Thompson welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for attending in spite of the weather. He recognized many people in attendance who were an intricate part in the process.

The event took place at the corner of Sixth Avenue West and Oak Street, across from the YMCA in Hendersonville. The launch is a partnership between Henderson County, the City of Hendersonville, Pardee UNC Health Care, Blue Ridge Community College and Wingate University.

The finished Health Sciences Center will be located on the Pardee UNC Health Care Campus. The 90,000+ square foot building will house programs for three of the five partners. Blue Ridge Community College and Wingate University will locate their existing programs in allied health care, pharmacy and physician's assistant courses on the second and third floors, co-locating their students within those two floors. Pardee UNC Health Care will locate their cancer program and surgical offices on the ground floor. This state-of-the-art facility is expected to be ready for students' arrival and cancer patient treatments by the fall of 2016

REMARKS

Henderson County Chairman Thompson stated this project will rank Henderson County as a place of importance in Western North Carolina. Four years ago we saw a vision, and the vision is continuing.

City of Hendersonville Mayor Pro Tem Ron Stephens spoke on behalf of the council and Mayor Volk. He stated it was an honor and a great day. This is the type of thing that happens with a make-up of five groups fully cooperating together.

Dr. Jerry McGee, President of Wingate University stated during the first meeting with Henderson County, ideas were embraced similar to theirs. This is a great investment in the future.

Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees Chairman John McCormick, Jr. stated in a historic move for Blue Ridge Community College with relocation of its Associate Degree in Nursing, Surgical Technology, Nurse Aide and Phlebotomy certification programs moving to the Health Sciences Building in 2016.

Chair of the Pardee Hospital UNC Health Care Board Walter Carpenter feels this is a golden opportunity for Henderson County. Both leadership and forethought have made this monumental day possible for something that is non-existent anywhere else.

DATE APPROVED:

March 19, 2015

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GROUNDBREAKING

Commissioners Thompson, Messer, Edney, Lapsley and Hawkins, County Manager Steve Wyatt, Director of Business and County Development John Mitchell, City of Hendersonville Mayor Pro Tem Ron Stephens, Wingate University President Dr. Jerry McGee, BRCC Board of Trustee Chair John McCormick, Jr., and Chair of the Pardee Hospital Board Walter Carpenter participated in the ground breaking ceremony.

CLOSING

Light refreshments were served.

No action was taken by the Board of Commissioners.

Attest:

Teresa L. Wilson, Clerk to the Board

Thomas H. Thompson, Chairman