

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 7, 1991

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Henderson County Office Building.

Those present were: Chairman J. Michael Edney, Vice-Chairman Vollie G. Good, Commissioner F. Richard Baker, Commissioner Hugh D. Randall, Commissioner William McKay, County Attorney Don H. Elkins, Interim County Manager Jerry D. Myers, Finance Director David E. Nicholson, Clerk to the Board Elizabeth W. Corn, and the news media.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Edney called the meeting to order and welcomed all present to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Baker led in the pledge to the American Flag.

INVOCATION

Rev. Walter Treadway of East Flat Rock First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Minutes of the December 19, 1990 meeting were presented for review. The minutes were approved as corrected.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Chairman Edney made the motion to add one item "I" under New Business, Mr. Frank Coiner. Mr. Coiner needs to discuss a rock wall around some county property. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Dutch Burdette - Mr. Burdette is a resident of Brookland Manor and stated that he is disappointed tonight to see that nothing is on the agenda regarding an update on the Mud Creek Sewer system. He questioned whether the legal work is all done and whether condemnations have started? Mr. Burdette fears that time is running out and the county will lose money to work with on this project. He also questioned if the final plan had been submitted to Raleigh for approval? He stated that these are some of the questions he would like to have answered.

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SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS/DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Edney asked David Nicholson to address this item. He passed out a schedule of presentations and site visits for the next couple of months for Wednesday afternoons. He requested the Board's review and asked if any revisions need to be made at this time. Most of these presentations will be on site and he asked the cooperation of the Board members in arriving a few minutes prior to the planned time, stating a county van would be available to haul the members to the various sites. Our first workshop is scheduled for this Wednesday, January 9, this will be a site visit to the county landfill.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Edney stated that at our last meeting we had two nominations for the vacancy on the Henderson County Board of Adjustment, William Read and David Arledge. Background material has been supplied on each of these men. He asked the Clerk to poll the Board. Mr. Read won 3-2, he will be appointed to the Board of Adjustment as an alternate member.

REPORT - SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Chairman Edney recognized Lela McBride of the League of Women Voters, to address this item. Mrs. McBride stated that she had a four-page report prepared and a one-page summary, she presented the summary of comments and suggestions on the Henderson County Solid Waste Program.

The League of Women Voters of Henderson County believe that Henderson County can meet the requirements of Senate Bill 111, and specifically that Henderson County can recycle 25% of its waste by January 1993! The League plans to evaluate the Solid Waste Program in January 1992 and again in January 1993. They believe with the leadership of the Henderson County Board of Commissioners our community can meet the challenges we face of handling solid waste in our area.

There was discussion.

TEEN CENTER

Chairman Edney recognized Sherri Holbert and Roger Hill to address this item. Doug Moon, from the Recreation Department, came forward and introduced the report. The first quarter of operation of the Teen Center "The Hangar" has just come to a close and he stated that they are here today to give the Commissioners an update on operations of the Teen Center.

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He introduced Todd Mullinax, a student active at the Center. Todd Mullinax addressed the Board giving a recap of special events they have recently had at the Teen Center and told of a few of the planned events for the near future.

There was discussion. Facts that were brought out about the Teen Center are that it can accommodate 400 persons, it is open every Friday and Saturday night and there are a number of "free nights" planned for up-coming Fridays to help boost participation. Since Oct. 13 over 4,000 people have participated in activities at the Teen Center. Security is provided. Approximately 170 attended the New Year's Eve night. The Teen Center is open to 13-19 year olds.

Sherri Holbert addressed the Board telling of some special events planned for January through April 1991 and special classes being offered, such as Teen Aerobics and Self Defense/Karate. She stated that during Spring Break they may open the Center during some different nights to see what kind of response they receive.

Roger Hill then addressed the Board and spoke of finances. When they held the public "OPEN HOUSE" on October 11, 1990, they were short about \$6,000 in raising the money they needed to finish the rehabilitation of the building. He reported that within 4-5 weeks after the "OPEN HOUSE" the Rotary Club donated \$1,000 and an anonymous donor donated \$5,000, they were then able to totally pay off and conclude all the fund raising they needed to be able to open. They opened the Teen Center for use October 13, 1990. The Homebuilders Association donated both cash and labor, totaling over \$25,000. Mr. Hill stated that all bills are current, they have about \$2,200 a month in expenses which includes rent, utilities, security, cleaning, supplies, etc. and so far from admissions they have been able to take in enough money to pay expenses.

Mr. Hill spoke on the "free nights" that will be offered on Friday nights so that no-one in the county, regardless of economic conditions, would be prohibited in participating in the programs at the Teen Center. In response to a question raised about insurance coverage, he stated that they have two forms of insurance. They carry insurance to cover "contents" in the amount of \$35,000, they also have \$1,000,000 of liability insurance. The owner of the building, Lawrence Ward, has fire insurance to cover the structure and property.

RESOLUTION supporting the Future of North Carolina's Community College System Report

Chairman Edney recognized David Sink of Blue Ridge Community College to address this item.

Dr. Sink is here on behalf of the Trustees of Blue Ridge Community College requesting our Board's approval of a Resolution supporting

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the Commission on the Future of North Carolina's Community College System Report. Two years ago the State Community Colleges embarked on a self-study to look at the history of the Community College System in the State, where it is presently and where it is going. The study lasted one year, headed by Mr. Sherwood Smith. 35 recommendations came from the study with ways of strengthening the Community College System in N.C. The System can no longer rest on its reputation but must look at ways that it can strengthen the service and its responsiveness to the industrial training needs and to the citizens of N.C. Over the next five years, the system will need approximately \$250,000,000 in new monies to carry out these recommendations.

Last year a new effort was formed by the State Board of Community Colleges, "North Carolinians for Community Colleges". This group is spear-headed by four of the former governors of North Carolina as well as Governor Martin. Their mission is to raise the awareness level of the citizens of North Carolina about the role that Community Colleges play in economic development. They are requesting the County Commissioners throughout the state to pass a resolution in support of the report that outlined the needs of the Community College System, "Gaining the Competitive Edge." A sample resolution is in the agenda packet.

There was discussion and by consensus it was decided to roll this item to the next meeting to give the Commissioners ample time to review the Resolution and re-write any sections they deem necessary.

ADOPTION ASSISTANCE

Chairman Edney recognized Liston Smith of the Department of Social Services to address this item.

Mr. Smith stated that during the budget process, he chose to reduce the adoption assistance line item from \$15,857 to \$6,500. He did this because the previous two years his department had underspent in this area. This year they have already spent out the budget amount. He stated that this is a "positive" expense in that it represents increased adoptions of special needs children. He is requesting an additional \$11,000 be placed in this line item to complete the budget year, based on the current usage of approximately \$1,293 per month during the past five months. This money is used to provide an incentive to families to adopt special needs children. The money pays psychological, medical, and legal fees. This is a state mandated program.

There was much discussion and calculation.

Commissioner McKay made the motion to authorize a budget amendment to transfer \$9,000 from contingencies to cover this request. All

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voted in favor and the motion carried. At the current rate of expenditure the \$9,000 should cover the rest of this fiscal year.

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Chairman Edney stated that Commissioner Good has requested that the Board consider changing the scheduled mid-month meeting from the third Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. to the third Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. To accomplish this, the Board would need to amend the rules of procedure and post the notices in accord with statutory requirements.

Commissioner Good stated that some people who work would like to attend both meetings but cannot attend the day-time session.

Chairman Edney stated that it is his opinion that it is best left as is, one day-time and one evening session to accommodate those who work different schedules.

Commissioner McKay feels that we have a good balance that is working well and feels that we would be discriminating against some people if we have all evening meetings. He stated that some people do not drive at night and therefore cannot attend the evening meeting.

Commissioner Baker voiced another reason for having one day-time meeting. Sometimes the meetings run rather long and there are more hours in a day-time meeting than an evening meeting, unless you stay very late. He stated one good reason for two evening meetings would be the scheduling, there would be at least two weeks between meetings. The way the meetings are presently scheduled we sometimes have meetings 9-10 days apart. He agreed with the fact that alot of people do not go out at night and they could not attend the evening meeting but could attend the day-time meeting. Commissioner Baker stated that the original intend of the day-time meeting was that it was a workshop situation, so you could work all day and take a break at noon.

Commissioner Good made the motion to change the meeting date from the third Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. to the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. A vote was taken and the motion failed 4-1.

STATE-WIDE JOINT MEETING WITH SCHOOL BOARD OFFICIALS

Chairman Edney informed the Board of a meeting on January 23 to be held in Raleigh, a state-wide joint meeting of County Commissioners, School Board members, County Managers, and School Superintendents. Chairman Edney stated that he would not be able to attend but any other member is welcome to attend.

Mr. Myers stated that he feels the subject matter that will be discussed concerns the state budget and the impact on the school

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budget and therefore the impact on county budgets. The meeting is sponsored by the N.C. Association of County Commissioners with the Department of Public Instruction and School Board Association. The information is of state-wide significance and by consensus it was decided we should send two representatives.

ROAD PETITIONS

Chairman Edney informed the Board of two road petitions received, one for Essex Court and the other for Essex Path, both for addition to the State Maintenance System. Both have been reviewed by the Planning Department and their recommendation is attached.

Commissioner McKay made the motion to accept these two petitions and forward them to the N.C. Department of Transportation for their consideration. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

NOMINATIONS

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the Land-Of-Sky Regional Council Advisory Council on Aging, this is for a low-income older individual. There were no nominations so the item was rolled to the next meeting.

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 2 vacancies on the Nursing Home/Domiciliary Home Advisory Committee. There were no nominations so the item was rolled to the next meeting.

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the Henderson County Board of Health. Commissioner McKay nominated Vollie Good. Commissioner McKay made the motion to suspend the rules and appoint Commissioner Good to fill this vacancy. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the Henderson County Film Industry Committee. Chairman Edney nominated Vollie Good. Chairman Edney made the motion to suspend the rules and appoint Commissioner Good to fill this vacancy. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the PIC- Job Training Partnership Act Committee. Commissioner Baker nominated Chairman Edney. Commissioner Baker made the motion to suspend the rules and appoint Chairman Edney to fill this vacancy. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the Land-Of-Sky Regional Council (primary member). Commissioner McKay nominated Vollie Good. Commissioner Randall made the motion to suspend the rules and appoint Commissioner Good to fill this vacancy. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

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Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the Green River Management Board. Chairman Edney nominated Vollie Good. Chairman Edney made the motion to suspend the rules and appoint Commissioner Good to fill this vacancy. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Chairman Edney reminded the Board of 1 vacancy on the Recreation Committee. Commissioner Good nominated Commissioner Baker. Commissioner Randall made the motion to suspend the rules and appoint Commissioner Baker to fill this vacancy. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

MR. FRANK COINER

Chairman Edney recognized Mr. Coiner to address the Board with his request.

Mr. Coiner comes tonight representing a small Hendersonville Church of which he is a communicant, All Saints American Episcopal Church on McDowell Road. One of their projects is to construct some adjacent cemetery for use of the Church and in doing so they hope to be able to construct a wall which will confine the area in conjunction with the Canonical law which is applicable to the Church.

The County has a small tract of land, a lot on which there is no building but there was a building on it at one time. That lot is presently surrounded by a low rock wall on two sides and possibly three. Mr. Coiner has been down to the rock wall, has picked at it and has inspected it fairly well. He feels that this wall would serve the purposes of the Church quite well. He is requesting that the County give the wall to All Saints Church and permit them to tear it down, at their expense, and move the wall to Church property and re-create it there. They do not intend to make any commercial use of the wall, they do not intend to turn it over to any professional brick layers or rock masons. It would be used for the Church's purposes alone. They plan to use Church labor to disassemble the wall and reconstruct it.

After some discussion, the wall was located on Pine Street between First and Second Ave. It is a low wall, some 2-3 feet high with pillars. Our County Attorney felt that it could be declared Surplus Property and donated to the Church.

Commissioner Baker made the motion to declare the wall Surplus Property and donate it to the All Saints American Episcopal Church with the right to enter upon the County property and remove the wall at no cost to Henderson County. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Commissioner Baker made the motion for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel items. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Good made the motion for the Board to go out of Executive Session. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Reclassification/DSS

There was much discussion in Executive Session of a personnel request by Liston Smith for reclassification of two county employees. This is the final phase of Liston's reorganization in his department.

Commissioner McKay made the motion to approve a classification update for two DSS personnel, as requested by Liston Smith. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

1990 Tax Bills


Mr. Myers presented a memorandum to the Board informing them of a problem in the tax office. The 1990 Tax Bills have been mailed to over 99% of all property owners; however, because of a series of problems arising out of our computerized tax record system, personnel changes, revaluation, and tax mapping, there may be as many as 300-400 parcels which were not billed. In an attempt to rectify this situation and provide tax bills to 100% of our tax payers, we have authorized the County Assessor to assign two of his more experienced personnel to clear up this problem and on a temporary basis obtain the services of two part-time employees to handle some of the more routine matters within his office.

We are requesting assistance from the media in advising property owners who have not received a tax bill to please contact the County Assessor who can assist in correcting the problem. Once the bills are generated we will provide a reasonable period of time for payment.

Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Edney at 11:05 p.m. until Wednesday, January 9 at 12:30 p.m.

ATTEST:


Elizabeth W. Corn, Clerk


J. Michael Edney, Chairman

DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS AND SITE VISITS

JANUARY 9, 1991
12:30pm Landfill

JANUARY 16, 1991
1:00pm Agricultural Extension Service
2:00pm Courthouse update

JANUARY 23, 1991
1:00pm Planning
2:00pm Health
3:30pm Animal Shelter

JANUARY 30, 1991
1:00pm Emergency Medical Service
Civil Preparedness
2:30pm Sheriff
Jail
4:00pm Register of Deeds

FEBRUARY 6, 1991
1:00pm Inspections
2:00pm Youth Development

FEBRUARY 13, 1991
1:00pm Sewer
2:00pm Department of Social Services

FEBRUARY 20, 1991
1:00pm Public Library
3:30pm Finance
Data Processing

FEBRUARY 27, 1991
1:00pm Parks & Recreation
3:30pm Board of Elections

MARCH 6, 1991
1:00pm Assessor
Land Records
2:30pm Tax Collector
3:30pm Central Maintenance Facilities