

*Scotland County Board of Commissioners regular meeting
March 10, 2008, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg*

MINUTES
Scotland County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting, March 10, 2008
Scotland County Complex, 1405 West Boulevard, Laurinburg NC

At 7 p.m. Chairman J. D. Willis called the regular meeting to order. Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Willis, Vice Chair Betty Blue Gholston and Commissioners John Alford, Leon Butler, Guy McCook, Joyce McDow and Clarence McPhatter. Staff in attendance: County Manager Kevin Patterson, County Attorney Edward Johnston and Clerk to the Board Ann W. Kurtzman. Commissioner Butler delivered the opening prayer.

The Scotland Band performed the *National Anthem* as part of Music in Our Schools Month. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Forum

Mr. Jack Pearson: Mr. Pearson expressed concern over the proposed route of I 73, which might endanger a stocked pond located at Quicktown and Ghio roads that his father developed 52 years ago. Mr. Pearson said that he was told by the State the pond would be bypassed but the dam would be destroyed. Mr. Pearson said destruction of the dam would destroy the pond, too. Mr. Pearson asked the Board if there was anything it could do to support protection of the pond.

Chairman Willis said State programs are out of the County's jurisdiction. He asked County Manager Patterson and County Engineer Jim Blackwell to contact DOT Engineer Kevin Hedrick to find out the status of the project so the Commissioners could respond to Mr. Pearson's request either with a letter or a resolution.

Item 1. Public Hearing: Planning and Zoning

Planning and Zoning Chairman Henry McLeod presented rezoning application 446-08 submitted by Dana Mahar to rezone approximately 2.0 acres in accordance with Scotland County Zoning Ordinance, Article IV from RA (Residential Agriculture) to HC (Highway Commercial). The property is located 4900 Andrew Jackson Highway. Mr. McLeod said the Planning and Zoning Board recommends that the request be approved.

Chairman Willis opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak for or against the application. No one came forward, and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve rezoning application 446-08 in accordance with the Section 38 Standards of the Scotland County Zoning Ordinance. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 2: Ordinance: Voluntary Agricultural Districts

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Mr. Brian Hagler, Vice Chairman, Soil and Water Conservation Board, asked the Commissioners to consider approval of Voluntary Agricultural Districts Ordinance, which had been presented to the Board for review at its January 29 Planning Retreat.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Voluntary Agricultural Districts Ordinance. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Hagler said the Soil and Water Conservation Board would now publicize the ordinance as a way to get farmers to participate.

Item 3.Cooperative Extension Livestock Update

Livestock Agent Randy Wood provided an update on programming efforts conducted in the County. Mr. Wood said an educational program was held for new and aspiring beef cattle farmers as a way to help someone new to the field to look at cattle as an overall business. Mr. Wood said that livestock sales in Scotland County exceeded \$51 million in 2007. Mr. Wood said an intermediate level program for beef cattle farmers will follow.

Item 4.Consent Agenda:

- a) **Approval of minutes of the Board of Commissioners January 29, 2008 Planning Retreat and February 4, 2008 regular meeting.**
- b) **Approve Tax Department request to release funds in the amount of \$65.18 and in the amount of \$10,749.96 and to make refunds in the amount of \$291.05 and in the amount of \$319.42.**
- c) **Approve surplus of 1998 Chevrolet Blazer VIN# 1GNDDT13W2WK216967.**
- d) **Approve appointment of Tim Martin as Deputy Clerk effective March 11, 2008.**
- e) **Appoint Joint Resolution Celebrating 100 Years of County Unity in Recognition of our Association's Centennial.**

Joint Resolution Celebrating 100 Years of County Unity in Recognition of Our Association's Centennial

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is an advocacy and service organization made up of all one-hundred (100) North Carolina counties; and

WHEREAS, the active participation and engagement of all 100 counties have directed, strengthened and enhanced our Association; and

WHEREAS, the dedication and talents of individual county commissioners and county staff have led our Association's success in advocacy, county-centered services and educational programs; and

WHEREAS, an informal agreement to form our Association was made by a handful of county commissioners who, at the behest of Craven County Commissioner C.E. Foy, met in New Bern in 1908, to discuss county issues of common interest; and

WHEREAS, the first session of our unofficial Association was held at the Atlantic Hotel in Morehead City on August 19, 1908, where C.E. Foy was elected as president; and

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WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly passed an act on March 8, 1909 establishing our Association on behalf of counties;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and each Board of County Commissioners jointly recognize and celebrate “100 Years of County Unity” in tribute to our Association’s Centennial.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Association communicate its copy of this joint resolution to each Board of County Commissioners.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Scotland County Board of County Commissioners communicate its copy of this joint resolution to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

This the 10th day of March 2008.

f) Approve Resolution Awarding Investigator Paul M. Lemmond with His Service Revolver.

Resolution Awarding Investigator Paul M. Lemmond with His Service Revolver

WHEREAS, Investigator Paul M. Lemmond will retire from the Scotland County Sheriff’s Office April 1, 2008, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Scotland wishes to recognize Investigator Paul M. Lemmond for his dedication and service to the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioner of the County of Scotland, in accordance with NC General Statute 20-187.2, does hereby award Investigator Paul M. Lemmond his service pistol (Smith & Wesson MP40-C, Serial #MPV6417) in exchange for consideration of \$1.00.

Approved this 10th day of March 2008.

g) Approve Resolution Requesting the Continued Implementation of a Comprehensive System for the Criminal Justice Partnership Program.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

WHEREAS, budget negotiations will take place in the General Assembly, which include a continuation review of the Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) within the Department of Correction; and

WHEREAS, a continuation review puts the Criminal Justice Partnership Programs in jeopardy of continued funding, which would impact 85 funded programs operated statewide covering 96 counties; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Partnership Program includes Day Reporting Centers, which function as a restrictive intermediate punishment sanction providing increased structure to the offender’s daily activity; Satellite Substance Abuse Programs, which function as a one-stop location for substance abuse treatment services; and Resource Centers, which function as a one-stop location for a variety of services similar to day reporting center; and

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WHEREAS, according to statewide statistics, those who completed CJPP were 52.7 percent less likely than other intermediate offenders to have their probation revoked over the evaluation period, those who completed CJPP were 54.9 percent less likely than other intermediate offenders to be revoked to prison in FY 2006-2007; those who completed CJPP were 62.5 percent less likely than other intermediate offenders to have a violation in FY 2006-2007 compared to the previous three year, and those offenders on supervision in FY 2006-2007 who completed CJPP were 62 percent less likely than other intermediate offenders to have their probation revoked; and

WHEREAS, without CJPP programs, which cost approximately \$15 per day per offender, there would be a substantial increase in the prison population and the 6,356 offenders served in FY 2006-2007 would not have received the various treatments, education and skills training from any other source other than CJPP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Scotland County Board of Commissioners asks the General Assembly to continue decision-making as its has in the past 12 years, since the inception of CJPP, that allows North Carolina to implement a comprehensive system of criminal justice designed to reduce recidivism, reduce the number of probation revocations, reduce alcoholism and other drug dependencies among offenders and reduce the cost of incarceration.

Adopted this 10th day of March, 2008

h) Budget Amendments:

- 1) **Elections: Approve receipt of an HHS grant in the amount of \$6,675, and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars involved.**
- 2) **Parks and Recreation: Approve increase in revenues and expenditures for the Splash Pad at \$3,000 and Recreation at \$7,000.**
- 3) **Parks and Recreation: Approve the appropriation of \$45,000 in expenditures and revenues for production of the Scotland County Bike Map. No County dollars involved.**
- 4) **DSS: Approve receipt of additional funding in the amount of \$54,000 and authorize the Finance Officer to make the necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money. No County dollars involved.**
- 5) **Revaluation: Approve transfer of \$31,750 from Reval Reserve to Reval Contractor Services.**
- 6) **Health Department: Approve receipt of additional funds in the amount of \$3,788 and authorize Finance Officer to make necessary arrangements to receive and expend the money.**

Motion was made by Commissioner McDow and duly seconded by Commissioner Alford to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Item 5. Update from the County Manager

County Manager Kevin Patterson presented the following report:

Shell Building Project Ordinance – An amendment in the project ordinance for the shell building is requested. The original ordinance called for CDBG financing in the amount of \$400,000. The final

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approved amount was \$433,470. Additional funding in the general fund is appropriated to match these funds.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to amend the Project Ordinance for the shell building to reflect \$433,470 in funding. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Criminal Justice Program – Notice was received from the hospital that effective May 1, 2008 it will cease providing substance abuse services for the program that serves Scotland and Hoke counties. A Request for Proposals has been advertised in surrounding counties. Proposals will be opened April 8.

Special Forces Training – A Special Forces representative was scheduled to make a presentation to the Board. In the last month Special Forces representatives offered to meet individually with Board members to discuss issues. John Cooley attended one of these meetings. A formal presentation will be made if the Board has additional questions.

Shell Building Ribbon Cutting – The ribbon cutting is scheduled for March 26 at 3:30 p.m.

Capital Projects Priority – The Commissioners have a chart listing the capital projects discussed at the January 29 Planning Retreat. The Commissioners are asked to prioritize the projects so that a Plan of Action spanning from three to five years can be developed.

Chairman Willis asked about the condition of the roofs on various buildings. County Manager Patterson said a new roof for the back two-thirds of the Annex on Cronly Street is critical. Mr. Patterson said an estimate for a roof with a 20-year life expectancy in the amount of \$102,900 has been received.

Motion was made by Commissioner McDow and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to move forward with getting a new roof for the back two-thirds of the Annex on Cronly Street. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Gifts Policy – a draft policy regarding gifts to Commissioners acting in their capacity as representatives for Scotland County is attached.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCook and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to approve the Scotland County Commissioners Gift Policy. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

County Manager Patterson presented the Commissioners with revenue and expenditure projections for the last half of the fiscal year.

County Manager Patterson alerted the Commissioners that the Sheriff at the April meeting will request an additional \$50,000 to cover the cost of Jail food for the last two months of the fiscal year. Mr. Patterson attributed the request to a higher than expected inmate population.

Mr. Patterson said WestPoint Homes will become the main distribution center for its products, and the operation will be handled through a third party. Mr. Patterson said it is expected that employment at WestPoint will increase from 150 to 200 permanent full-time jobs by the end of 2008.

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Mr. Patterson said Omni Corporation, which produces paper products for commercial use, will move from Richmond County to the Laurel Hill Paper Company. Mr. Patterson said Omni currently employs 60 people.

Item 6. Appointments to Boards and Committees

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to appoint Don Norton and Ron Riggins to three-year terms on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to reappoint Betty Blue Gholston as the Commissioner representative and David Bjorlin to three-year terms on the Criminal Justice Partnership Board. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to reappoint Annie Cureton, Mary Neill Morris and Roylin Hammond to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

The Commissioners by consensus agreed to table the April 7 meeting a Commissioner appointment to the Mental Health Board.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Vice Chair Gholston to appoint Lonnie McPhatter to the Aging Advisory Council. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Other Information/Comments from the Chairman and Commissioners

Commissioner Leon Butler said it is important for Scotland County to make itself known to BRAC and that the County must be a “squeaky wheel” in order to do that. Commissioner Butler said he wanted to invite Executive Director Paul Dordal to meet in joint session with the governing boards of the County, City, municipalities, Maxton and LMAC.

Motion was made by Commissioner Butler and duly seconded by Commissioner McCook authorizing Commissioner Butler to take the lead in organizing the joint meeting with Paul Dordal. Vote: Motion unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alford and duly seconded by Commissioner Butler to adjourn. Vote: Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Ann W. Kurtzman
Clerk to the Board

J.D. Willis
Chairman