

June 6, 2011

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 6:00 PM in the County Commissioners' room, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Collins, Johnson and Manning were present. Also present were County Manager David Peoples, Deputy County Manager Rob Bencini, Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett, Finance Officer Gayle Critcher, Deputy Finance Office Frank Milazi and Assistant County Manager/County Attorney Cheryl Young. Commissioners Alexander and McCray were absent.

Chair Johnson opened the meeting. Chair Johnson called for a motion to adjourn the May 19, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Collins made a motion to adjourn the May 19, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order. Commissioner Manning gave the invocation; Commissioner Collins led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS / DELETIONS: Chair Johnson added Item 3A Resolution of Appreciation for Smithson property.

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) Tax Refunds & Releases and Insolvent Accounts
- c) Proclamation for Washington County Relay for Life Week June 19-25, 2011
- d) Resolution of Petition for Addition to State Maintained Secondary Road System
- e) Resolution Opposing Lifting the Ban on Uranium Mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia that Poses and Environmental Threat to the Roanoke River Basin and to the Citizens of Virginia and North Carolina Living in the Basin
- f) Approval of the Criminal Justice Partnership Program Application for Continuation of Implementation Funding

Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Al Joyner addressed the Board regarding stray cats and dogs. Mr. Joyner stated that he sees two dogs tied up in the sun 24/7 and that owners are not supposed to keep a dog tied up all day long according to statute. Chair Johnson asked Sheriff Ross (who was in attendance) if he would speak to Mr. Joyner about this matter after tonight's meeting. Sheriff Ross agreed to speak to Mr. Joyner after the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF ROBERT E. BENCINI, III AND FRANK MILAZI: Chair Johnson spoke to the Board regarding Mr. Peoples leaving and the passing of the torch. Chair Johnson stated that Mr. Peoples has been the only County Manager she has ever worked for. Chair Johnson presented Mr. Peoples with a plaque from the Board. Mr. Peoples expressed his pleasure at working with this Board.

Chair Johnson introduced Mr. Robert E. Bencini, III as the new County Manager.

Commissioner Manning made a motion to appoint Robert E. Bencini, III as the Deputy County Manager effective June 7, 2011. Commissioner Collins seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Peoples introduced Mr. Frank Milazi as the new Finance Officer.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to appoint Frank S. Milazi as the Deputy Finance Officer effective June 7, 2011. Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Bennett read the Resolution of Appreciation for the Smithson's donation of the land for the new Medical Clinic. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the resolution; Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Mr. Peoples spoke to the Board regarding the Governor's Budget of \$19.7 billion passed last Saturday. This budget increases overall spending by \$250 million more than the original Senate version, with most of the increase directed at K-12. The budget appropriates \$100 million in county lottery funds for school construction, allocated on a per pupil basis. The \$72.1 million in ADM funds are not included in the Senate plan, but the new version does rescind the proposed school bus shift to counties and lowers the reduction in community mental health funds. Other items in the budget that were affected:

- Broadband policy eliminated
- Small business income
- Tort claims
- Smart start and More at Four funding cut
- Mental health funding cut
- State aid for DSS administration
- Clean Water Management fund cut
- Limit cuts to agriculture
- Appropriations made to NC one and JMAC
- Restricts DENRs rulemaking authority
- Misdemeanant confinement program changes made
- Cape Fear and Albemarle museums funding restored
- Tryon Palace funding not restored
- Includes funding for bridge from 158 to VA
- Oak Island/Knots Island ferries remain free—no tolls
- \$50M approved for Golden Leaf

The Governor has up to 10 days to take action; she can either approve or veto the budget.

APPROVAL OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY 2011-2012 BUDGET ORDINANCE:

Mr. Peoples spoke to the Board and stated that the Board was presented a budget at the May 9th meeting and a public hearing was held on May 19th. All statutes have been met and the budget has been balanced and does not impede the County's ability to borrow money. Commissioner Manning made a motion to adopt the 2011 – 2012 recommended budget presented May 9, 2011 for \$13,038,239. Commissioner Collins seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Collins thanked the employees and Department Heads that helped to balance the budget without an ad valorem tax increase.

Mr. Peoples noted that the budget will be available for distribution after June 13, 2011.

TAX ADMINISTRATOR FOR CRESWELL: Mr. Chip Main, Tax Assessor was approached by Mayor White of the Town of Creswell to see if the Washington County Tax Office would do the tax collection for their town. The Town of Creswell has approximately 150 bills and the Washington County Tax Office would add them to our tax bill mailing in July. Creswell's Town Council would also need to agree to this.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the Washington County Tax Office to collect taxes for the Town of Creswell. Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PITTARD PERRY & CRONE, INC. AUDIT CONTRACT: Ms. Critcher spoke to the Board regarding the Pittard Perry & Crone, Inc. Audit Contract. Their fee has only increased by \$100. Ms. Critcher stated that we have an excellent relationship with Pittard Perry & Crone, Inc. and she would recommend that the Board approve the contract.

Commissioner Manning made a motion to approve the Pittard Perry & Crone, Inc. audit contract as presented. Commissioners Collins seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION ON ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT:

Ms. Ann Keyes spoke to the Board regarding the Planning Board's recommendation to amend the County's Zoning Ordinance. Ms. Keyes stated that at their meeting held on Thursday, May 19, 2011, the Washington County Planning Board unanimously approved a motion to recommend to the Washington County Board of Commissioners the following zoning ordinance text amendment:

Existing Language:

Article VI: Nonconforming Uses

C. Nonconforming Structures

- 6. Mobile Homes:** Nonconforming mobile homes may be removed and replaced where both the real property on which the mobile home is located and the mobile home are owned by at least one (1) of its occupants provided that such mobile home is removed and replaced within thirty (30) calendar days.

Recommended Language:

- 6. Mobile Homes:** Nonconforming mobile homes may be removed and replaced provided that such mobile home is removed and replaced within thirty (30) calendar days.

Ms. Keyes noted that the amendment was being recommended due to the requests of several residents who have wanted to upgrade their older mobile home to a newer one.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve having a public hearing on the amendment of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance as presented. Commissioner Manning seconded, motion carried unanimously.

There will be a Public Hearing on the amendment to the Washington County Zoning Ordinance at 6:00 pm on July 5, 2011 in the Commissioners' Room, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC.

DISCUSSION OF MEDICAL CLINIC DEDICATION & RIBBON CUTTING

CEREMONY: Mr. Peoples spoke about the program that has been planned so far for the Washington County Medical Clinic dedication and ribbon cutting on June 24th at 2:00 pm. Rev. Bob Moulden of the Plymouth Church of Christ will sing the nation anthem and give the invocation. Confirmed speakers are Dan Gerlach, president of the Golden Leaf Foundation and Gordon Docking, COO of HMC/CAH. Congressman Butterfield and Senator Burr helped secure HRSA grant funding for the construction of this building and calls have been placed to their office to see if they would be available to speak. Mr. Peoples will make brief closing remarks and then there will be a ribbon cutting and tours afterwards. Refreshments will be provided by the hospital.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES: Chair Johnson spoke to the Board regarding the following Board and Committee appointments.

Washington County Board of Social Services:

Carol Phelps is scheduled to expire from the Washington County Board of Social Services on June 30, 2011. At its meeting on May 27, 2011, the Washington County Board of Social Services voted unanimously to recommend to you Mr. Gordon Davenport for appoint to the Board of Social Services to replace Mr. Phelps.

Mr. Davenport has agreed to serve on the Washington County Board of Social Services if appointed.

Fire Commission:

The following names were recommended to serve on the Fire Commission at their meeting on Monday, May 16, 2011. The structure of the Commission was changed to add alternates and ex-officios.

Members:

Ron Ambrose (re-appointment)
Stacey Johnson (new appointment)
Mike Jones (new appointment)

Alternate

Carl Spruill (new appointment)
Joey Thompson (new appointment)
Bill Overton (new appointment)

Dwight Davenport (re-appointment)
Rex Stotesberry (re-appointment)
Fred Tetterton (re-appointment)
Lance Swindell (new appointment)
Tim Griffin (new appointment)

Scott James (new appointment)
Terry Cooper (new appointment)
Thomas Biggs (new appointment)
Henry Phelps (new appointment)
Charles Hassell (new appointment)

Ex-Officio

Ann Keyes (new appointment as ex-officio)
Wayne Lilley (new appointment as ex-officio)

Commissioner

Buster Manning (re-appointment)

Jury Commission:

Tim Holmes is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2011 from the Jury Commission. Mr. Holmes has stated he would like to continue to serve on this Commission if re-appointed.

Commissioner Manning made a motion to approve these appointments as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded, motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Ms. Critcher discussed the following Budget Appropriation Amendment/Adjustments:

- Budget Amendment 10129
- Budget Amendment 10136—Airport reconciliation of line items with actual projects and additional projects
- Budget Amendment 10137—Department Reductions and Revenue Adjustments
- Budget Amendment 10138—Sanitation Fund
- Budget Amendment 10139—Tax Reappraisal
- Budget Amendment 10140—Miscellaneous General Fund Adjustments
- Budget Amendment 10141
- Budget Amendment 10142

Commissioner Manning made a motion to approve Budget Amendments 10129, 10136, 10137, 10138, 10139, 10140, 10141 and 10142. Commissioner Collins seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Critcher also noted that on the financial report for May that the 2nd page has a snapshot of revenues and that all funds are within their budgets. Sales taxes won't be

complete till September and EMS collections will have a lag time also. Sales tax collection report currently shows 68.7%

Ms. Critcher reported that the tax collection summary shows the County is doing better this year than last year at this time at 97.2%

OTHER ITEMS BY CHAIRPERSON, COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY
MANAGER, CLERK, ETC.:

- Commissioner Collins gave the Board a few comments on his attendance at his first RPO meeting. Commissioner Collins stated that RPO has influence that he didn't know existed. The RPO has set up a way for multiple counties to join forces to agree on a package of projects that could get funded by Raleigh. Commissioner Collins would like to have Steve Lambert of the RPO to come speak to the Board.
- Chair Johnson and Mr. Peoples attended the NCACC County Assembly day on May 25, 2011. They did get a chance to talk to Tim Spear and Stan White and a few other General Assembly people including Representative Cook from Beaufort County.
- Chair Johnson also noted that a separate meeting was held in the Commissioners' room on May 9th with our Representatives and the Commissioners and it was a very productive meeting.
- Ms. Bennett reminded the Board that a Board of Commissioners meeting will be held in Mr. Peoples' office at 1:45 pm on June 23rd to approve year-end budget amendments.
- Ms. Bennett also reminded the Board that Mr. Peoples' retirement party is Thursday, June 23rd at 2:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room.
- Commissioner Manning asked about the hospital funding situation. Mr. Peoples reported that the hospital has finished in the black during the last two months--in 6 figures. Some delinquent bills have been fully paid. Others are being paid on a monthly basis to catch up. Mr. Peoples stated that with the new management that they will soon have in place and the new finance plan that they have adopted that they will have all their bills fully paid within the next 8 months.

Commissioner Manning made a motion to recess the meeting. Commissioner Collins seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Tracey A. Johnson
Chair

Julie J. Bennett
Clerk to the Board