

January 6, 2014

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, January 6, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the Commissioners Room, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Johnson, Manning, McCray, Phelps and Sexton were present. Also present were County Manager Jerry W. Rhodes, Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett, Finance Officer Frank Milazi and County Attorney Curtis Potter.

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

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

- a) Approval of Minutes
- b) Tax Refunds & Releases and Insolvent Accounts

Commissioner Johnson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM: Lloyd Jones, Jr., Roper, West Mill Pond/ Gourd Neck Road stated that on December 11, 2013 he attended a listening session that was held at The Vernon James Center. During the discussion, it was mentioned that the County could lose our Cooperative Extension office. Mr. Jones said that cutbacks are not the way to go. A Tier 1 county could become a tier ½ County. Without Cooperative Extension, our County could go backwards. Mr. Jones would like the Board to do a resolution in support of our Cooperative Extension office.

Rebecca Liverman said there were 7 sessions held across the State. Our Region's meeting was held in Washington County and it was the highest attended. Ms. Liverman stated that Cooperative Extension is just sitting back and waiting to see what is going to happen.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY PROPOSED BANS ON THE TAKING OF COYOTES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY: Mr. Rhodes spoke to the Board regarding the abovementioned resolution. We were contacted by Hyde County to support this resolution. NC Wildlife has a law in place that prohibits the hunting and killing of the red wolves. Since coyotes look similar to red wolves, the red wolves are being killed. The Federal Government has spent a lot of money introducing the red wolf into this area and wants to see them protected.

Commissioner Phelps said he was contacted by other constituents to support this resolution.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Resolution Opposing Any Proposed Bans on the Taking of Coyotes in Washington County. Commissioner Phelps seconded, motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB LAND USE STUDY (JLUS): This was tabled at the last meeting. Beaufort County has approved participating in this study and will be appointing someone to the JLUS group. Chair Johnson asked that the word ‘unreasonable’ in paragraph 2 of the proposed resolution be deleted. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Phelps said he wasn’t on the Board when the OLF came through and feels uncomfortable with this. Commissioner Sexton said he feels that Washington County needs to have someone sitting at that the table. This way Washington County will know what is going on. Mr. Rhodes feels Ms. Keyes would be a great person to be on that committee. Commissioner Sexton said that when the OLF was first started, Washington County didn’t have a County Manager so the Commissioners felt left out because they didn’t know what was going on.

Mayor Sanders said that this feels like the same thing as with the OLF. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Resolution: Seymour Johnson AFB Land Use Study. Hearing no second, Commissioner Sexton withdrew his motion. Commissioner Sexton made a motion to table this subject again until the next meeting. Commissioner McCray seconded. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Manning asked Mr. Rhodes to gather more information and ask if the County would be allowed to attend the meetings and not participate. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PITT COMMUNITY COLLEGE (PCC) AND BEAUFORT COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BCCC) DISCUSSION ON USE OF AIRPORT: Due to Chair Johnson’s position as a paid employee of Beaufort County Community College, and in order to prevent and avoid any perceived conflicts of interest from impacting the business or reputation of this Board. Chair Johnson recused herself from voting upon or participating in this matter, and asked Vice-Chair Phelps to preside over its deliberation and any related actions to be considered or taken.

Both colleges are looking at the Plymouth Municipal Airport for use with their Basic Law Enforcement Training courses.

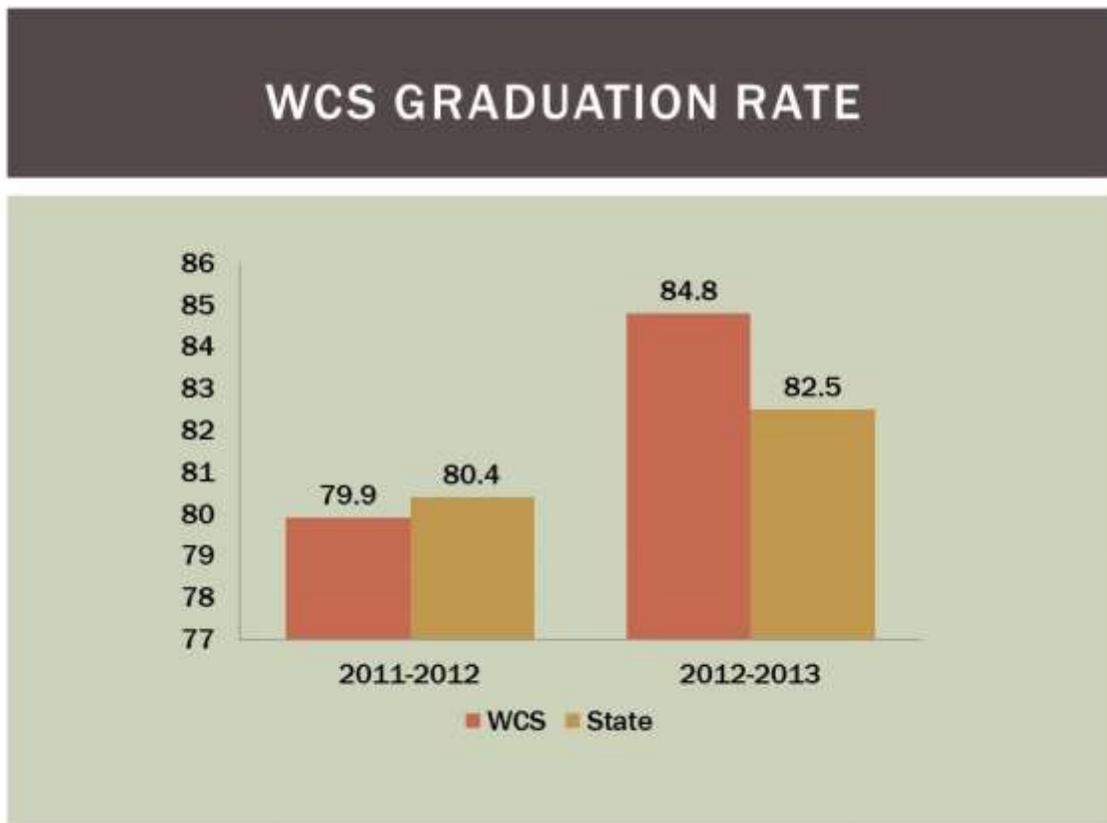
Ben Morris of BCCC and Doug Bennett of PCC spoke to the Board. Commissioner Phelps asked if there are any conflicts with Federal guidelines. Mr. Rhodes said there is no conflict. Knapp Brabble, Airport Director said the FAA does not condone nor prohibit this type of activity at airports. Commissioner Manning asked if the colleges maintain liability insurance. Both respectively said yes, ~\$2,000,000. Mr. Potter, County Attorney said that this can be done with a written document between the County and the colleges. PCC would need to use the airport 4 times a year (Monday – Friday) and BCCC would need it 2 times a year (Saturday – Sunday). Mr. Rhodes said this does not interfere with the airstrip at all unless a plane needed the tie-down area or needed fueling. Mr. Morris and Mr. Bennett both stated they would clear their cones and let the plane have the area. All the cars have communications at all time. Mr. Morris and Mr. Bennett also both stated that there was no charge at the Kinston Airport or the Beaufort Airport when they used them. Mr. Brabble said that the Chowan Airport would be available for use for this type of instruction. Mr. Bennett said that they were not looking at the Chowan Airport due to the distance from Greenville. Mr. Bennett said they usually have 20-30 students

that start the course, but only about 15 make it to the driving portion. BCCC has about 12 that make it to the driving portion. Dr. Tansey, President of BCCC, said that BCCC is searching out grants to build their own driving pad. Mr. Bennett said they would be bringing some revenue into the county with the students buying drinks, food and gas. Commissioner Manning asked Mr. Brabble his opinion on this. Mr. Brabble stated he was against it. He feels it would tear up the asphalt with the turns that the cars make.

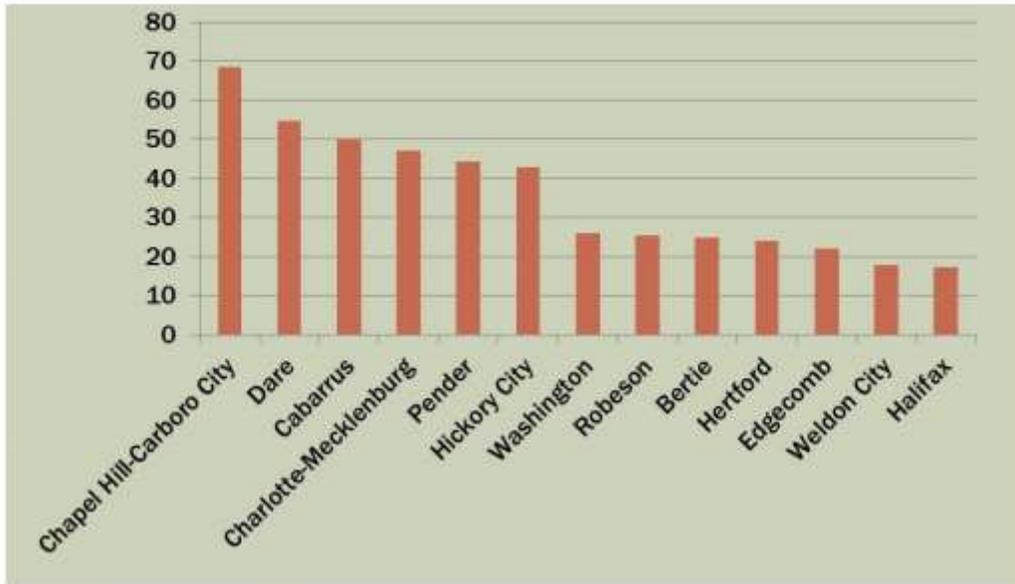
Commissioner Manning made a motion to let BCCC and PCC use the Plymouth Municipal Airport for their BLET courses, respectively, on a trial basis for one year. Commissioner Sexton seconded, motion passed unanimously.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION INCOME AND EXPENSES:

Commissioner Johnson stated a joint meeting will be held on January 13, 2014 between the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education so this presentation is for information only from the Washington County School Board. Dr. Davis went over a few of the vugraphs and Mr. Noell went over the remainder. Commissioner Manning asked what the cost is per student—David Noell said between \$5,000 - \$6,000. Commissioner Phelps commended Dr. Davis since the County's numbers are increasing and thanked him for what he does for the County's students.



PERFORMANCE COMPARISON



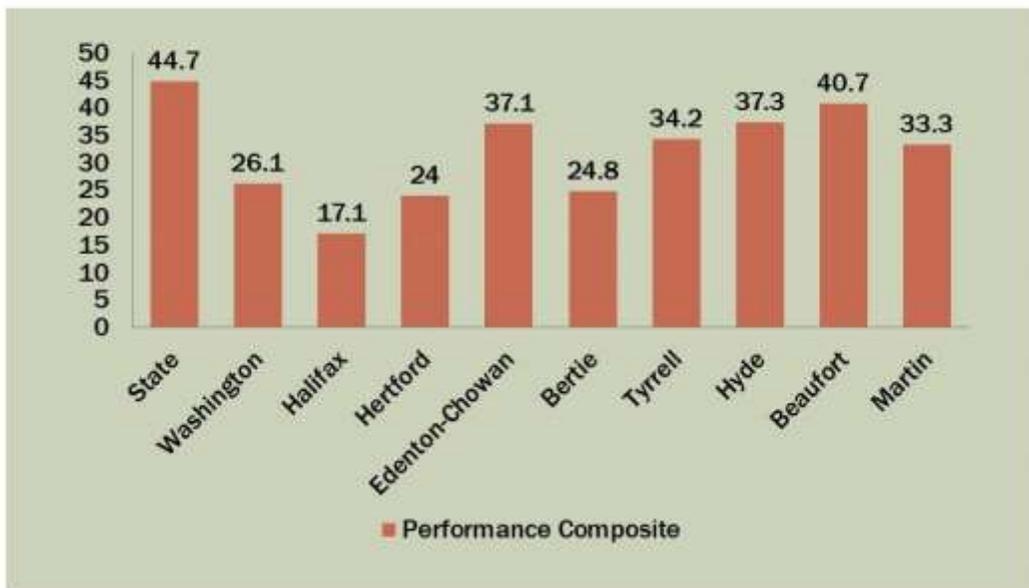
PERFORMANCE & GROWTH COMPARISON

		Performance	Growth
1	Chapel Hill-Carrboro City	68.5	82%
10	Dare	54.7	100%
20	Cabarrus	50.3	92%
30	Charlotte-Mecklenburg	47.2	81%
40	Pender	44.4	87%
50	Hickory City	42.8	67%
106	Washington	26.1	100%
108	Robeson	25.3	59%
110	Bertie	24.8	63%
111	Anson	24.4	80%
113	Edgecombe	21.9	62%
114	Weldon City	17.9	75%
115	Halifax	17.1	90%

GROWTH & PERFORMANCE COMPARISON

	Growth	Performance
Dare	100%	54.7
Washington	100%	26.1
Cabarrus	92%	50.3
Halifax	90%	17.1
Pender	87%	44.4
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City	82%	68.5
Charlotte—Mecklenburg	81%	47.2
Anson	80%	24.4
Weldon City	75%	17.9
Hickory City	67%	42.8
Bertie	63%	24.8
Edgecombe	62%	21.9
Robeson	59%	25.3

PERFORMANCE COMPOSITE COMPARISON



INCOME & EXPENSE FOR WCBOE

State Fund

Budgeted Revenue	\$12,205,570.00
Expenses YTD 12-31-13	<u>\$ 5,797,915.50</u>
Remaining Revenue	\$ 6,407,654.45
Percent Spent YTD	47.5%

Federal Fund

Budgeted Revenue	\$ 3,558,444.00
Expenses YTD 12-31-13	<u>\$ 1,502,776.98</u>
Remaining Revenue	\$ 2,055,667.02
Percent Spent YTD	42.2%

Local Fund

Budgeted Revenue	\$ 1,773,762.00
Expenses YTD 12-31-13	<u>\$ 811,964.08</u>
Remaining Revenue	\$ 961,797.92
Percent Spent YTD	45.8%

INCOME & EXPENSE FOR WCBOE

Capital Outlay Fund

Budgeted Revenue	\$590,000.00
Expenses YTD 12-31-13	<u>\$201,489.84</u>
Remaining Revenue	\$388,510.16
Percent Spent	34.2%

Child Nutrition Fund

Budgeted Revenue	\$1,400,271.00
Expenses YTD 12-31-13	<u>\$ 530,141.21</u>
Remaining Revenue	\$ 870,129.79
Percent Spent	37.9%

Special Fund

Budgeted Revenue	\$ 863,454.00
Expenses YTD 12-31-13	<u>\$ 304,551.30</u>
Remaining Revenue	\$ 558,993.70
Percent Spent	35.3%

NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT: Washington County (Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Potter and Mr. Clary) and Tyrrell County (Mr. Clegg and Mr. Gadd) have met various times regarding the abovementioned agreement. Washington County has been operating this service since September 2012. This agreement formalizes the arrangement already in place. Mr. Potter stated that it is a performance based contract--the more money it makes the better. All the expenditures are accounted for and tracked separately. Mr. Rhodes stated that the County has tried to mirror the current EMS contract as best we could. Washington County has been paying the expenses but Tyrrell County will reimburse Washington County once the agreement is signed.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Non-Emergency Medical Transport Agreement between Washington and Tyrrell County. Commissioner Phelps seconded, motion carried unanimously.

There is also a resolution attached authorizing Mr. Rhodes and staff to execute documents relating to this agreement as needed. Chair Johnson requested the addition of 'advice of Finance Officer' added to the resolution.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Non-Emergency Medical Transport Agreement between Washington and Tyrrell County (with the change noted by Chair Johnson). Commissioner McCray seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rhodes also mentioned he will be interviewing for the EMS Director this week.

BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

Albemarle Commission's Area Agency on Aging

Laura Alvarico, Albemarle Commission sent a letter stating that the Albemarle Commission would like to re-appoint Gail Spiewak to the Area Agency on Aging, but the County also needs to provide an additional representative.

Ms. Spiewak has stated she would be willing to serve if reappointed.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to re-appoint Gail Spiewak. Commissioner Phelps seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Chair Johnson was asked by the Salvation Army for a volunteer to be on their Advisory Board. If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact the Clerk to the Board. The Salvation Advisory Board meets once a month in Washington. Chair Johnson asked Ms. Bennett to put this request on the County's Facebook page.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Milazi distributed a report of revenues as of 12/31/13 and expenditures as of 12/31/13. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Rhodes stated he will be having a Department Head meeting on Wednesday and putting measures in place to slow down spending. Commissioner Phelps asked what measures he was referring to. Mr. Rhodes stated that he would request that any maintenance items be delayed that can be delayed and he will put more controls on credit card use.

Mr. Milazi said the County received the approval for the library grant money so the County can move ahead with that project.

Mr. Milazi told the Board that he moved money in the CD to a Money Market account because it had a higher interest rate.

OTHER ITEMS BY CHAIR, COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY MANAGER, CLERK OR ATTORNEY:

Mr. Potter said Ms. Keyes has helped the residents of Martin Luther Road in getting the road repaired and some crushed rock was put down today on the road.

Mr. Potter said things are moving along with the solid waste inquiries. He is trying to get additional information to see if the County can join another service provider.

Mr. Rhodes reported that the Division of Medical Assistance for DSS sent out cards that were incorrect for the children—the mix-up was statewide and it was done by computer.

Mr. Rhodes also stated that Representative Tine held an Economic Development Forum at the Vernon James Center before Christmas along with Commerce Secretary Decker and her staff. Secretary Decker requested that Mr. Rhodes submit a report to her with Washington County's needs for water/sewer at the Commerce Center. Also, Mr. Rhodes spoke with David Peoples who now works with the Department of Commerce in the Rural Division. The County is in the process of putting together an application to send to the Department of Commerce for funding.

Commissioner Phelps noted that the Parks and Recreation Board meeting will be January 14, 2014 in the Commissioners' Room. Commissioner Phelps also feels the Commissioners needs to get together to start work on strategically planning the future of the County.

At 7:00 pm, with no further business to discuss, Commissioner Manning made a motion to recess the meeting. Commissioner Sexton seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Tracey A. Johnson
Chair

Julie J. Bennett, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board