

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 17, 2012

Item No. 3

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 in the Board of Commissioners Main Meeting Room in the Lenoir County Courthouse at 130 S. Queen St., Kinston, NC.

Members present: Chairman George Graham, Vice-Chairman Reuben Davis and Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Mac Daughety, Linda Rouse Sutton, Tommy Pharo, and Eric Rouse

Also present were: Michael Jarman, Lenoir County Manager, Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager, Martha Martin, Finance Officer, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, April L. Banks, Clerk to the Board, and members of the general public and news media.

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. Ms. Brown offered the invocation and Mr. Graham led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Mr. Rick Landis, an attorney with Rose, Rand, and Wallace addressed the Board concerning a request from his client Mr. Fred E. Hunneke to relocate the Tull/Metts Family Cemetery located on Mr. Hunneke's property. Mr. Hunneke owns the property formally known as the Coca Cola Plant. He is in the process of developing the property into three (3) parcels of commercial property. On February 24, 1949 the Tull/Metts Cemetery was relocated to the property. There is one (1) tombstone enclosed in a sixteen (16) square foot area. Outside of the enclosure, there is a plaque marking two (2) unknown graves. In 1949, Harvey C. Hines Company was completing some site construction work for the plant they were building. He went before the Board on January 12, 1949 to gain approval to relocate the graves found two (2) feet below the surface. Mr. Hunneke hired ECS Carolinas to do ground scanning of the site. One (1) anomaly was found five (5) to six (6) feet below the surface. The anomaly might be a possible grave. Susan Marshall-Metts was determined to be the next of kin of the deceased. Mr. Landis and Mr. Hunneke met with Ms. Marshall-Metts to inform her of the request they would be making to relocate the cemetery. She also gave her approval. North Carolina General Statute §65-106 allows for the disinterment, re-interment of abandoned graves by landowners after securing permission of the governing body in which such abandoned cemetery is located. All known graves will be relocated and reinterred in the Tull Family Cemetery, 5279 Highway 70 West, Kinston, North Carolina 28504. All unknown graves will be relocated to Westview Cemetery, Hillcrest Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28504. An ad will run in the Free Press for four (4) consecutive weeks. The relocation cannot occur until thirty (30) days after the first advertisement is ran. Dr. Lonnie Blizzard, Historian and former President of Lenoir Community College, stated he visited the site to view the plaque and gathered information on the families online. Mr. Graham stated the Veteran's Nursing Home and also several Economic Development projects have had cemeteries relocated due to construction. The relocation has to be done in a respectful manner. Ms. Sutton commended Mr. Landis, Mr. Hunneke, and Dr. Blizzard on the research done to locate the family and determine who had been buried at the cemetery. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, the Board gave their approval to relocate the Tull/Metts Cemetery.

Presentation of the Lenoir County, North Carolina Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011 by Mr. C. Dean Horne, CPA of Pittard, Perry & Crone. Mr. Horne stated the section entitled "Management Discussion and Analysis" comes from Mr. Jarman and Ms. Martin, Finance Officer. If you read only one section of this report, this is the section you should read because it summarizes the audit in layman's terms. Mr. Horne stated page nineteen (19) provides a summary of the Budget Operations last year for the General Fund. The General Fund is for basic operations. The funds come from tax revenues and most expenditures are through the Fund. Column one (1) is the original budget, column two (2) is the final budget, and column three (3) is the actual revenues and expenditures. The final

column identifies the variances. Lenoir County is under on revenues compared to the final budget stating \$55,207,263 and the actual at \$53,185,250. Expenditures are also under with the final budget stating \$62,489,072 and the actual being \$55,321,437. Revenues versus expenditures and transfers increased the Fund Balance by approximately \$2,726,549. A legally budgeted Capital Reserve Fund is consolidated into the General Fund for reporting purposes. This is the first year of a new guideline mandating the consolidation. Other counties may report differently and may not have earmarked funds for specific purposes. By the end of the fiscal year, the total unassigned fund balance in the General Fund was \$9,818,692 or 17.7% of General Fund expenditures as compared to \$9,831,240 or 18.2% in the prior year. Mr. Rouse inquired as to a discrepancy, he believed, between Property Taxes in 2010 and 2011. He stated on page eleven (11) in the Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2012 the last sentence states there is a gain attributable to increases in the tax base from new industry growth, but on page eight (8) the totals are \$29,759,572 for 2011 and \$30,469,626 for 2010 which seems to be a decrease. Mr. Horne replied the information comes from Exhibit 2 and is the full accrual. For budgetary purposes, uncollected taxes are not shown in revenue. When a full accrual is done, uncollected taxes are rolled into revenue to create the totals. Mr. Graham advised Mr. Rouse on page eleven (11), the Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2012 also explains the gain in the second paragraph. Mr. Horne encouraged the Board to read through the Financial Statements and if anyone has questions, he could return at a later date to address the questions. Mr. Graham stated the Board will begin working on the budget for Fiscal Year 12-13 in the upcoming months and they may call on him for questions. Mr. Horne stated he typically presents the Financial Statement at the first Board meeting in January, but due to changes the State took longer than anticipated to review the audit. Mr. Davis stated he thinks it is good news that the State revenue has exceeded expectations.

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIRMAN/COMMISSIONERS

No comments were made.

ITEMS FROM COUNTY MANAGER

Mr. Jarman presented the Lenoir County Inspections Permit/Inspection Report for December 2011 and County Financial Performance Summary 2011-12 through December 31, 2011. He also presented the Budget Calendar: FY 12-13. At the February 6, 2012 Board Meeting, they will meet in the Board Room then recess and reconvene in the Administrative Building Conference Room for the first Budget Work Session. In the session, he will share basic information and review the Financial and Budget Philosophies.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, the Board approved the following Consent Agenda:

- 3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: January 3, 2011 Banks/Jarman
- 4. Budget Ordinance Amendment: Finance/Sheriff's Department: \$494. Increase Martin

RESOLUTIONS /BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Item No. 5 was a Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Year 2012 Vehicle Valuation Service: \$4,176.24. The expenditure is an annual expense incurred by the County to update the vehicle pricing system used to determine vehicle value. The updates are needed to allow for an additional year of vehicles and the correction of values for motor vehicles which are one (1) year older as of January 1, 2012. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 5 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 6 was a Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a Grant in the Amount of \$231,843 from Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and Authorizing Tammy Kelly, County Extension Director to be Program

Manager. Ms. Kelly distributed copies of the Lenoir County Forest and Farm Protection Plan to the Board. Lenoir County Cooperative Extension submitted a grant application in trying to obtain funding for "Increasing Healthy Food Access for the Poor through Local Business Opportunities". Lenoir County citizens are faced with addressing the issues associated with obesity and chronic disease prevention, especially among poor and needy families. It is difficult for families in low-income communities to maintain a well-balanced, nutritious diet. The program will provide coupons and "food boxes". Mr. Graham asked if new employees would be needed for the program. Ms. Kelly stated the Market Manager will help along with the Heart Healthy Lenoir staff. Ms. Brown inquired if the program will be part of the Heart Healthy program. Ms. Kelly confirmed they will work together. The evaluation and research was done by that group for the new program. Mr. Graham congratulated Ms. Kelly on obtaining the grant. Ms. Kelly stated the 2012 State Advisory Council Meeting will be in Kinston this year from February 21-23 at the Hampton Inn. Representatives from Cooperative Extensions across North Carolina will be present. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 7 was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: General Fund: Process Funds: \$25,000. Increase. The amendment is to appropriate \$25,000 from the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to cover the cost of constructing a new asphalt driveway for the Sandy Bottom Volunteer Fire Department. The NCDOT approved a Secondary Roads Agreement to assist in the construction of a new asphalt driveway. The money will be pass through funds with the entire amount going to Sandy Bottom. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 8A was a Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a \$500,000 NC PARTF (Parks & Recreation Trust Fund) Grant for the Woodmen Community Center Project and Authorizing Expenditure of \$500,000 Committed Local Funds as the Match for this Grant. On September 8, 2009, the Board approved funding in the amount of \$500,000 for the Woodmen Community Center. The \$500,000 will be used as a match for a \$500,000 Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Grant. The Woodmen of the World have committed to constructing a 58,000 square foot facility and water park. The total project cost is approximately \$13.2 million. To receive the PARTF Grant, the County must first spend its local match. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 8A was approved with Mr. Rouse dissenting.

Item No. 8B was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Capital Improvements Fund: Community Development: \$1,000,000.: Increase. This amendment is to appropriate funds for the Woodmen of the World Center. On September 8, 2009, the Board committed \$500,000 in local funds for the Woodmen Community Center and on January 18, 2011, the Board approved a resolution allowing Bill Ellis, Parks & Recreation Director, to make application for \$500,000 from the NCPARTF. The grant has been approved in the amount of \$500,000 for the Woodmen Center's water park, but requires a \$500,000 match. Upon a motion by Ms. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 8B was approved with Mr. Rouse dissenting.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution Authorizing Lenoir County to Enter Into an Agreement with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for the Construction of a Public Boating Access and Landing on Junk Yard Buy Out Properties Located on Highway 11/55 South on the Parcel of Land Known as Woody's Junk Yard. Currently, Lenoir County does not have a state maintained boat ramp. The facility will allow for free public boating access including vehicle and trailer parking 365 days a year. The Wildlife Commission will construct the boat landing, parking area and dock at no cost to the County. They will maintain the concrete ramp, dock, and parking area making necessary repairs to major infrastructure. The County will continue to operate the old wildlife ramp on US 70, which allows boating access up the river during low water periods. The new ramp will allow boating access down the river. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ellis also presented an add-on Resolution Authorizing Lenoir County to Enter Into a Lease Agreement with the City of Kinston in Order to Allow the City to Construct and Operate Spray Irrigation Facilities Capable of Applying Treated Wastewater on the Rivermont Battlefield Area and the Lenoir County

Soccer Complex. The City received an \$85,000 Clean Water Trust Fund Grant for the engineering and design of a pipeline to carry treated wastewater from the Kinston Regional Reclamation Treatment Facility to the Rivermont Battlefield and the Lenoir County Soccer Complex. The engineering included Survey and Erosion Control Permits for the construction of the Battlefield Parkway and Soccer Complex. The irrigation pipeline will not be constructed unless the City receives an additional \$2,000,000 trust fund grant for the construction of the pipeline. In order to continue with the construction of the Soccer Complex, an agreement is needed with the City of Kinston and Lenoir County due to the County owning the land. Mr. Daughety asked about the process of spraying the soccer field with wastewater. Mr. Ellis stated the procedure is used all over the state as irrigation. The water is chemically treated prior to irrigation. Mr. Jarman clarified the operation is contingent on obtaining the funds and permits. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, the add-on resolution was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Approving Purchase of a Maintenance Agreement: \$5,010. Major Chris Hill, Chief of Administration in the Sheriff's Department stated this would be a purchase order with Grayco Detention Equipment for maintenance of the jail doors and locks. Over the past three (3) years, the sliding jail doors were converted to swinging doors that use electronic locks. The door locking system must be serviced from time to time to keep them lubricated and adjusted. Grayco Detention Equipment has offered to service all of the locking mechanisms in the jail twice per year for \$9,820. The jail has over 56 doors with these electronic locks. Since the fiscal year has already commenced, Grayco will perform the service for \$5,010. It is essential that the locks be serviced to keep them in good working order and to prolong the life of the locks. A few of the locks are now in need of repair and pose a security risk in the jail. Mr. Rouse asked if the locks will be the same in the new jail. Major Hill responded some will be numatics and some will be turn-key electronic. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11 was a Resolution Approving Purchase of the L3 In-Car Camera System and Five (5) Cameras: \$53,919. Since 1996 the Sheriff's Office has been using digital in-car cameras to record events that occur outside and inside of the Sheriff's Office patrol cruiser. The cameras are valuable tools that collect documentary evidence in the form of visual and audio data. Last year the Sheriff's Office received a letter from a law firm stating the company they were using had filed for bankruptcy and was closing. As a result the Sheriff's Office was left with no one to service its cameras, workstation, and server used to store the data and also without a parts supplier. The Sheriff's Office has investigated several in-car camera systems and has settled on a product sold by L-3 Mobile Vision, Inc. All of the data is temporarily stored on the in-car camera system. Once the car reaches the courthouse parking lot, the L-3 data storage system will communicate with the in-car camera allowing for a wireless transfer of the data to a dedicated server. L-3 Mobile Vision is the 5th largest military contractor and does several billion dollars' worth of sales per year. Each in-car camera is quoted at \$5,405 or \$27,025 for five (5) cameras. The infrastructure which includes the server, workstation, backup system, UPS, training and build-out, wireless access points, and shipping and handling is quoted at \$26,894 for a total of \$53,919. This project was included in the Sheriff's Office 2011-2012 fiscal budget. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12A was a Resolution to Approve a Contract with L.R. Kimball Company for Consulting, Grant Writing, and Technical Services: E-911 Consolidation with Jones County. Over the past year, Lenoir and Jones County officials have been discussing the feasibility of merging the Jones County E-911 center with Lenoir County's E-911 center. The merger would also involve an upgrade of both Counties' radio systems and construction of a new primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Center in Lenoir County and a redundant center in Jones County. Both Counties agreed any consolidation was contingent upon the availability of grant funding for the entire project from the State E-911 Fund. L.R. Kimball Company was selected as the firm most qualified to complete in a timely manner the consulting duties required to move this project forward. The total cost for the consultant is \$70,420 (with that being split between Jones and Lenoir Counties). Lenoir County's portion is \$35,210. Mr. Rouse inquired as to what the selection process was. Mr. Dail stated they spoke with two (2) companies. The selected company specializes in proposals. Both

companies had competitive pricing within \$1,000 of the other. L.R. Kimball has done more work in North Carolina so they may know the system better. They are more than a grant writer. They assist in design and construction. Mr. Daughety expressed this will be a great regional project and saves the taxpayers' money. Mr. Dail stated calls would be dispatched through Lenoir County to the responding agency. Lenoir County would not be the sole responding agency. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second from Ms. Sutton, Item No. 12A was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12B was a Budget Ordinance Amendment: Emergency Telephone System Fund Emergency Telephone System: \$35,210. Increase. This amendment is to appropriate funds from Emergency Telephone System Fund Balance to cover one-half of the cost of a consulting firm's fee for a study of the Jones County E-911 Center being handled by Lenoir County. The other one-half of the cost will be paid by Jones County out of their E-911 Fund Balance. Lenoir County's portion is coming from the E-911 Fund Balance that was designated for a one time use within Fiscal Years 2010-11 and 2011-12 for safety issues not normally approved for E-911 expenditures. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 12B was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13 was a Resolution Approving the Continuing Execution of Contracts for Preventative Maintenance of Lenoir County Transit (LCT) Vehicles Utilizing Funds (\$124,000, no match required) from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. On May 4, 2009, a resolution was approved by the Board approving the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Application for FY 2009-2011. The provided funds allow Transit to apply for grants for Preventative Maintenance for vehicles. The resolution included eighteen (18) vehicles. NCDOT also approved preventative maintenance to include washing of vehicles, and interior cleaning, along with preventative maintenance for wheelchair lifts. This will be for a two (2) year period with an option for up to five (5) years. On April 25, 2010, thirty seven (37) Requests for Proposals were sent to vendors in Lenoir and other counties. Seven (7) proposals were returned for three (3) types of preventative maintenance. On August 24, 2010, NCDOT approved the following vendors: Sparkle Right for vehicle washing, Auto Generator and Starter for vehicle preventative maintenance, and Grant's Service for wheelchair lift maintenance. Upon a motion by Mr. Brown and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 13 was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Item No. 14 was a Public Hearing on the proposed Lenoir County Community Transportation Program Application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation no later than January 27, 2012. Upon a motion by Mr. Graham and a second by Mr. Davis, the public hearing opened at 5:29 p.m. Mr. Bill Allison, Assistant Transit Director, stated the Community Transportation Program provides assistance to coordinate existing transportation programs operating in Lenoir County as well as provides transportation options and services for the communities within this service area. These services are currently provided using Demand, Response, Subscription, and Deviated Fixed Routes. The total estimated amount requested for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013:

| <u>Project</u> | <u>Total Amount</u> | <u>Local Share</u> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Administrative | \$262,423 | \$39,364 (15%) |
| Capital (Vehicles & Other) | \$87,000 | \$8,700 (10%) |
| Operating (Small fixed-route, regional and consolidated urban-rural systems only) | \$0 | \$0 (50%) or more |

Total Funding Requests are \$349,423 and Total Local Share is \$48,064. There were no comments made by the public. Mr. Graham declared the public hearing closed at 5:33 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS /BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Item No. 14A was a Resolution Approving the Community Transportation Grant Application for FY 2012-2013: \$262,423 Administrative: \$87,000 Capital. The Lenoir County Transportation Department began its operation in October 1994 with six (6) vehicles. The department provides “Coordinated Human Services” and “Rural General Public Transportation” to the citizens of Lenoir County through subscription and demand routes. LCT currently serves several agencies participating in the consolidated system. They are the Department of Social Services, Council on Aging, Lenoir County Health Department, Lenoir County Mental Health Program (EastPointe), and Vocational Rehabilitation. The administrative funding is provided by NCDOT/Public Transportation Division (PTD) and includes salaries for a Transportation Coordinator’s position, Administrative Assistant’s position, and a Grant Writer/Safety Officer at 100%. Also included is a Part-Time Secretary position at 25%. The capital portion of the grant application for FY 2011-2012 includes funding for replacing two (2) Center Aisle Vehicles with Lift.

Mr. Griffin asked if the local match will still come from ticket sales. Mr. Allison stated the department may still be able to use those funds as the local match. Ridership increased from 75,000 to 100,000 in the past year. Mr. Rouse asked if Transit was breaking even with the current fares they are charging the riders. Mr. Allison responded they are very close. Approximately one-third comes from grant money, one-third from non-emergency medical transportation, and one-third from ticket sales. Over the next two (2) months, the service will be evaluated to determine how to maintain the service without County assistance. Ticket sales are reviewed on a monthly basis, but any change in pricing would have to come before the Board. Mr. Davis asked if dialysis patients are charged a fare. Mr. Allison stated they are charged at a different rate. Service begins at 4:30 a.m. with two (2) vans. The general public service starts at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. with exception to a night time loop between Lenoir Community College, Wal-Mart, and Sanderson Farms. Mr. Daughety stated Transit does a phenomenal job. Mr. Davis asked if discontinuance of service is an option if there are not enough riders. Mr. Allison stated some of the riders are coming off public assistance and may not have transportation to get back and forth between work and their home. Mr. Jarman stated Mr. Allison has worked very hard. More adjustments may have to be made in order to keep the Department operating on the positive side. Eagle Cab discontinued their service on December 31, 2011 and there are possibly two (2) new taxi companies in Lenoir County. Federal standards have to be met in order to transport non-emergency medical patients, so taxis are not an option for those citizens. Ms. Sally Durst, Grant Writer/Safety Officer, was introduced to the Board. Mr. Allison stated Ms. Durst is a huge asset. She handles the Training Program and is now learning the budget process. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Ms. Brown, Item No. 14A was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Item No. 15 was a Resolution Appointing Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. Mr. Griffin advised the Board of the difference between the Hospital Board and others. The hospital nominates two (2) people. If the primary applicant is favorable to the Board, then the applicant is appointed. If they are not in favor of the primary, they have the choice of appointing the alternate applicant. Upon a motion by Mr. Pharo and a second by Ms. Sutton, the following applicant for the Lenoir County Board of Health and the primary selections for the Lenoir Memorial Hospital Board of Directors were appointed.

| <u>BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION</u> | <u>APPLICANT/ CURRENT MEMBER</u> | <u>TERM EXPIRATION</u> |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Lenoir County Board of Health 2 nd Appearance | Anthony Dwight Hall | November 2014 |
| Lenoir Memorial Hospital Board of Directors 2 nd Appearance | Ralph Lee Cox, MD – primary David Bruce Baird, MD – alternate Laddie M. Crisp, Jr., MD – primary John K. John, MD – alternate | January 2015 |

CURRENT VACANCIES

Lenoir County Economic Development Board – At-Large Member
Lenoir County Health Board – (1) Veterinarian, (1) Optometrist, (2) Public Members
Lenoir County Planning Board – Districts One (1)
CJPP – Three (3) Vacancies
Kinston Board of Adjustment – Two (2) ETJ Members; (1) Primary – (1) Alternate

OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director, informed the Board of STEM East being nationally recognized. In the near future he will share information regarding the Highway 70 Corridor project, which will affect transportation along the corridor.

Mr. Daughety stated to consider gas tax when the Legislature reconvenes. North Carolina has a higher gas tax than most other states. In North Carolina, counties do not fund roads although in Georgia, individual counties are responsible for funding roads. If the continuation is not passed, the burden will fall on counties to fund roads. Taxpayers will see property taxes increase. Mr. Daughety suggested sending a resolution to the Legislature supporting the continuation of our gas tax rates. As long as the roads are funded via the gas tax, all citizens sharing the road pay taxes. If the roads are funded by property taxes, some individuals will ride free on the roads. Mr. Graham stated he thinks it would be in order at the next meeting to send correspondence to the appropriate people in Raleigh informing them of the Board not being in favor of counties funding roads.

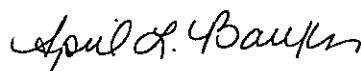
Ms. Sutton stated she had the opportunity to sit with Department of Transportation Secretary Gene Conti and his staff. They were very complimentary once they knew she was from Lenoir County. Secretary Conti spoke highly of working with Mr. Pope, Mr. Jarman, and Mr. Daughety. Ms. Sutton complimented the Department Managers for their budgeting and she appreciates their work.

Mr. Graham stated Mr. Pharo and Ms. Brown will be attending the upcoming National Association of Counties' Legislative Conference being held in Washington, D.C.; March 3-7, 2012. The Regular Meeting on March 5, 2012 will still be held at the scheduled time.

Mr. Rouse inquired of the letter from the Governor's Office concerning tax. Gov. Perdue's letter stated she is in favor of temporarily restoring three-quarters of the one-cent sales tax the General Assembly eliminated and for dedicating those funds to NC schools. NC has fallen to 49th in the nation in per-pupil funding. Mr. Pharo asked about the Lottery funds that are supposedly go to the schools. Mr. Jarman stated it was \$1.2 million and is now down to \$600,000 allocated to debt service on school bonds. Funds are taken from other departments to make up the difference and not increase taxes. Mr. Pharo stated the money needs to be spent on education and to take the burden off the taxpayers.

Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Mr. Graham the Board adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



April L. Banks
Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman
County Manager

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED EMERGENCY MEETING
LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

January 26, 2012

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in special session at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2012 in the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room at 130 S. Queen St., Kinston, NC.

Members present: Chairman George Graham, Vice-Chairman Reuben Davis and Commissioners, Tommy Pharo, Eric Rouse, and Linda Sutton

Also present were: Michael Jarman, Lenoir County Manager, Tommy Hollowell, Assistant County Manager, Martha Martin, Finance Officer, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, April L. Banks, Interim Clerk to the Board, and members of the general public and news media.

Members absent: Commissioners Mac Daughety and Jackie Brown

Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

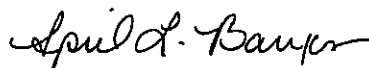
Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Pharo, the Board unanimously approved to excuse the absence of Ms. Brown and Mr. Daughety at today's meeting.

Joey Bryan, Lenoir County Transit Director, stated at the previous Regular Board Meeting on January 17, 2012 the Board approved a Resolution for the Community Transportation Program Grant Application for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013: \$262,423 Administrative, \$87,000 Capital. The State has recently changed some of its requirements for the application. One requirement is that a resolution in their format has to be approved. The content is similar, but there are more details regarding the Chapters and Articles applying to the application process. Mr. Rouse and Mr. Pharo asked Mr. Bryan to clarify the source of matching funds that will be needed. Mr. Bryan stated the County matching funds will come from the existing budget and ticket sales. If the grant application is approved, the funds will be utilized in FY 2012-2013. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Davis, the Community Transportation Program Resolution Section 5311 FY 2013 Resolution was unanimously approved.

Mr. Graham stated he received news of current Transit Assistant Director, Bill Allison's resignation. Mr. Bryan stated Mr. Allison's resignation will be effective February 10, 2012 for personal reasons. The vacancy has been posted internally for current Lenoir County Employees. Sometime next week, the posting will be open for the general public to apply. Mr. Graham inquired as to the pay grade of the position. Mr. Bryan stated he is not sure, but believes the salary to be in the range of \$32,500-\$52,500 per year. Human Resources has all of the specific information. Mr. Graham stated he believes it is good to promote from within.

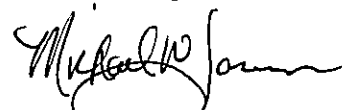
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



April L. Banks
Interim Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By



Michael W. Jarman
County Manager