The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 3, 2020, in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room, Lenoir County Courthouse, 130 S. Queen Street, Kinston, NC.

Members present: Chairman Linda Rouse Sutton, Vice-Chairman Roland Best, Commissioners, June Cummings, Mac Daughety, Preston Harris, and Eric Rouse.

Members Absent: Commissioner Craig Hill.

Also present were: Michael S. James, County Manager, Joey R. Bryan, Assistant County Manager, Lashanda Hall, Deputy Clerk to the Board, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, members of the general public and news media.

Call To Order

Chairman Sutton called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Harris offered the Invocation, and Ms. Sutton led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Sutton read the following statement from the NC Ethics Law “It is my duty to remind members of the Board that it is your responsibility to avoid all conflicts of interest and potential conflicts of interest as defined in the North Carolina Ethics Law. As public servants, it is your duty to continually monitor, evaluate, and manage your personal, financial, and professional affairs in such a way as to ensure the absence of conflicts or potential conflicts. Does any member know of any conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest, with respect to any manner coming before the Board?”

Public Information

Ms. Sutton acknowledged the names, department, and years of service of county employees.

Ms. Jessica Shimer, CTE Coordinator and Ms. Amy Jones, High School CTE Director for Lenoir County Public Schools shared information regarding the CTE program and how it works. Ms. Jones stated, over the years CTE has evolved with vocational education to encompass a wide range of program areas. We often hear Lenoir County needs the trades in schools and she is happy to announce that they have them. Although it might look a bit different than from many years ago. The skilled workforce development program is needed in Lenoir County and they are working hard to ensure that they have it. Ms. Jones shared several of their program areas: agriculture education, arts and audio visual, apparel, foods and nutrition, parenting early childhood development, a robust marketing program, business education, automotive systems, health science, project lead the way, engineering, biomedical systems, finance, and information technology. They also have the STEM program. Through their programs, students can earn credentials such as career management. Ms. Jones thanked the Board for their time. Mr. Harris read the Proclamation for members of the Board and viewing public.
Ms. Sutton thanked Ms. Jones and Ms. Shimer for the update. Mr. Joey Bryan, Assistant County Manager, shared information regarding the 2020 Census. The Complete Count Committee had their first meeting last month. Many agencies were represented, DSS, Health, Transit, KCHC, LCC, Lenoir-Greene Partnership for Children, LCPS, City of Kinston, Green Lamp, Association of Congregations, NAACP, Kinston Teens, Democratic Women’s Association, Cooperative Extension Parents as Teachers, and the Neuse Regional Library, are just some of the many organizations involved in the 2020 Census Campaign. Each organization web pages and social media pages are targeting the census areas. Brochures and posters should be available in about two weeks from the NC Federal Census Bureau. The College has agreed to put some census information on their marquee. Also, we will be in contact with the Visitors Center to see if they can possibly advertise on their marquee as well. Mr. Bryan stated he has had conversation with Ms. Greene to have some advertisement on some of the transit vehicles at a minimal cost. Another meeting will be held in a few weeks. He will be meeting with IT to see if there are any available machines to allow them to partner with partnership for children and have multiple set-up locations since the census information can be completed on line. The website will open March 24th you can fill out the forms via mail, telephone, or online via website. April 1st is census day, and if it is not done by the end of April workers will be going door to door to try and assist those who does not have it completed.

Public Comments

Ms. Sutton recognized Ms. Frances Jones with Lenoir-Greene Lamp who is currently working on her degree and one of her requirements is to attend a Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Mr. Robert Jackson, Chaplain for the Lenoir County Detention Center shared information about youths, gang violence and drugs.

Mr. Griffin asked for the correction to be noted in Item No. 1 January 21, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes. Mr. Hill recused himself from voting on the Chamber Lease, instead of the UNC Lenoir Health Care Board. Upon a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Best, correction to Number 9 under new business minutes approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Harris and a second by Mr. Best, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Under Item No, 10 Ms. Sutton asked to add Ms. June Cummings to Eastpointe Mental Health Board to replace Ms. Emily Moore. Upon a motion by Mr. Best and a second by Mr. Harris the Board approved Ms. Cumming to Eastpointe Mental Health Board.

Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Mr. Daughety, the regular agenda was unanimously approved.

Additions/Deletions or Adoptions to the Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of January 21, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes. King/Bryan

2. Proclamation: Career and Technical Education Month. Board
3. Resolution Approving Bid to Down East Electric LLC to Install Standby Generator for Lenoir County EMS Station 6.  


5. Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of a Blanket Purchase Order to AAA Scale Company for Maintenance of Scales: $12,766.02.  


7. Budget Ordinance Amendment: UNC SOG Opioid Grant: Increase: $10,000.00.  


9. Resolution Authorizing Lenoir County Health Department to Execute an Increase in Purchase Order to Nutrition Plus: $39,000.  

New Business  
None  

Appointments  
None at this time, therefore, no action is required.  

Other Items  
Item No. 11 were items from Mike James, County Manager. Mr. James stated he will be attending the North Carolina City/County Management Conference in Winston Salem Wednesday-Friday this week. The work session should be brief as he will be recapping some conversations from the last time.  

Upon a motion by Mr. Best and a second by Ms. Cummings the Board moved to recess the meeting at 9:45 a.m.  

Upon a motion by Ms. Cummings and a second by Mr. Best the Board re-convened at 10:11 a.m.  

Budget Work Session  
The following was topic of discussion:
Strategic Plan  Mr. Mike James, County Manager
Financial Update & Projections  Ms. Sandy Barss, Finance Officer
Capital Improvement Plan  Mr. Joey Bryan, Assistant County Manager

Ms. Cummings requested information on the Planning Board and its responsibilities.

Upon a motion by Mr. Rouse and a second by Mr. Daughety, the Board adjourned.

Adjourned at 10:47 am

Respectfully submitted,  Reviewed by,

Vickie F. King  Joey R. Bryan
Clerk to the Board  Assistant County Manager