

M I N U T E S
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGECOMBE COUNTY
MAY 2, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN WIGGINS AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Leonard Wiggins, Chairman, Mr. Charlie R. Harrell, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Donald Boswell, Ms. Evelyn Powell, Mr. Jonathan Felton, Ms. Viola Harris and Rev. E. Wayne Hines.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Lorenzo Carmon, County Manager, Mr. Mahlon DeLoatch, County Attorney and Ms. Carolyn Hedgepeth, Clerk to the Board.

2. PRAYER.

Provided by Rev. E. Wayne Hines

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.

Rev. Hines moved to approve the minutes of the APRIL 4, 2011 meeting as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

4. PUBLIC HEARING (S):

- (1) Mr. Wiggins called a public hearing to order to receive citizen comments or questions relative to the County's intent to apply to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for a Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development for up to \$750,000 in Building Reuse funds to assist in the renovation of the Nevamar Building in Tarboro to benefit Superior Essex Energy, Inc. and to receive citizen input into the identification of economic needs and desired economic development activities, which will be incorporated into the County's consideration and submission of a Community Development Block Grant application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce.

He called upon Mr. DeLoatch to read the public notice.

Mr. Carmon said that we had not received any comments regarding this project so far and once this public hearing is closed he recommended approval of the resolution authorizing submission of the grant application and related documents.

Mr. Wiggins called for public comments. There being none, the public hearing was adjourned.

Ms. Powell moved to adopt the resolution for the Edgecombe County application of

Community Development Block Grant funding for the Superior Essex Energy Building Reuse CDBG Project for \$750,000 as presented and to authorize the submission of the grant application and related documents to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for a Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development. Rev. Hines seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

5. **BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW.**

MR. BOSWELL MOVED TO RECESS REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING AND CONVENE AS BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW. REV. HINES SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

A. **Mr. Wiggins called the meeting to order.**

He called upon Ms. Cindy Coker, Tax Assessor.

Mrs. Coker presented an amended agenda to include two appeals that had just received in her office. One from Air Systems Components and one with three properties owned by Mr. Theo Pitt.

B. **Scheduled Appointment(s):**

She said that Air Systems Components request was strange because their documents referred to the building costs of \$3,678,623 and assessed value was actually under what they were appealing. She said she had spoken with a representative with Air Systems and explained that they had already appealed in 2009 and the value was reduced to \$3,234,098 but they still wanted to go on record as having submitted their appeal.

Ms. Coker recommended no change in value.

She presented a letter written by Mr. Theo Pitt asking that the assessed value of his properties be lowered based on lower sales values in the area surrounding his properties.

Ms. Coker stated that she had reviewed the properties and found that the comparisons he used were actually foreclosures

She recommended no change in value.

C. **Recommendations**

1. **Danny Allen**

Ms. Coker stated that she had reviewed his 2008 appraisal and recommended a drop in value from \$106,084 to \$90,640.

2. **George Thorne – no change**

3. **C. B. Mclean, Jr. – no change**

4. **Lorna Staton – no change**

5. **Patrick Price – no change**

6. **Charles Mercer – no change**

7. **Sharon Lyall (2 properties) – no change**

Ms. Coke provided an update on the Sara Lee audit stating that she had received an email from their Finance Director and she assured them that there would be some mediation between Edgecombe County, Sara Lee and the State Property Tax Commission.

She explained that all the appellants can appeal to the Property Tax Commission and the process included an opportunity for mediation to take place, which could settle the case before the hearing with the Property Tax Commission depending on the evidence presented.

- D. Mr. Harrell moved to adopt the Resolution and Signature of Certification of Tax Records as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

ADJOURN AS BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW AND RECONVENE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

6. **PUBLIC PETITIONS:**

No petitioners came forward.

7. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. **Budget amendments.**

Ms. Harris moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Ms. Powell seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

B. **Approval of bid award to J & J Builders in the amount of \$49,000 for the renovation of the red pod at the Edgecombe County Detention Center.**

Mr. Carmon presented bids submitted for the renovation of the red pod at the Detention Center. He said that was the second pod being renovated. He said the bids came in very close but he recommended J & J Builders for \$49,000.

Ms. Harris moved to award the bid to J & J Builders for \$49,000. Ms. Powell seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

C. **Approval of bid award to Englewood Carpetland, Inc. in the amount of \$46,376.29 for the replacement of carpet at the Department of Social Services office in Rocky Mount.**

Ms. Powell moved to approve bid award to Englewood Carpetland, Inc for \$46,376.29 as presented. Ms. Harris seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

D. **Approval of a resolution endorsing the Beacon Center Local Management Entities' efforts to participate in the development and submission of an application to be a waiver site with Eastpointe Local Management Entity with a goal of eventual merger of the two entities.**

Mr. Carmon reminded the Board that Ms. Karen Salacki, Director of the Beacon Center LME advised them during the budget presentations of the State's push to further merge Local Management Entities. He said the Beacon Center Board had voted to become a medical waiver site and to move toward merger with Eastpointe Local Management Entity with an effective date of July 1, 2013. He said the Nash, Green and Wilson Boards of Commissioners are being asked to approve the same.

Ms. Harris moved to adopt the resolution endorsing the Beacon Center Local Management Entities efforts to participate in the development and submission of an application to be a Medical Waiver site with Eastpointe Local Management Entity with a goal of eventual merger effective July 1, 2013. Ms. Powell seconded the motion.

Mr. Carmon further explained that the State is still pushing to have a smaller management of mental health in the State. He said the criteria are to have a total of population of 500,000 persons covered in the group and/or 70,000 people Medicaid recipients.

There being no further discussion the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

8. **APPOINTMENTS:**

A. Edgecombe County Board of Adjustment.

Rev. Hines moved to appoint Mr. Charlie Cobb, Ms. Martha Latham and Mr. Clifton Little. Mr. Felton seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

B. City of Rocky Mount Board of Adjustment. DEFERRED

C. Tourism Development Advisory Council.

Rev. Hines moved to reappoint Mr. Joe Dickens. Mr. Felton seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Edgecombe County Pollution Control Financing Authority. DEFERRED

9. **CONTRACTS FOR REVIEW AND/OR APPROVAL.**

Rev. Hines moved to approve the contracts as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

10. **AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.**

Ms. Harris moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

11. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW.** ***RECEIVED***

A. Water Services

B. Veteran's Services

C. Pre-Trial Release Program

12. **MANAGER'S REPORT.** ***RECEIVED***

A. NCACC County Assembly Day

Mr. Carmon asked the Board to let him know if anyone wanted to attend. He also stated that the NCACC Board of Directors had voted to waive the registration fee for County Commissioners this year.

- B. SuddenLink
- C. CDBG Quarterly Progress Report

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

- B. **Award contract for project administration of the CDBG-ER-C-2140 to The Wooten Company for \$54,800.**

Mr. Carmon said the County recently received \$500,000 in funds from the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Community Investment and Assistance for housing activities. He said they had requested proposals for Administrative Services for this project on tow different occasions and only received one proposal from The Wooten Company. He said they had contacted the Division of Community Investment concerning this and they granted approval to proceed with awarding the contract to The Wooten Company.

Ms. Powell moved to approve awarding the contract for project administration to The Wooten Company for \$54,800 as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

- C. **Beacon Center fiscal monitoring report for period ending March 31, 2011.**
RECEIVED

- D. **Petition from several property owners between Springfield Road and the Dunbar Bridge requesting Board of Commissioners' assistance to prohibit deer hunting from a boat or floating device on the Tar River.**

Mr. Carmon said the County had received a petition from thirteen of the thirty-seven owners, or 35%, of the total number of property owners who own 3,257.08 acres of the 4,898.43 acres or 66.5% of the total acres in the petition area, and they own 69.7% or 77,555 feet of the 111,313 feet of the total property frontage along the river.

He said the request was for the Board of Commissioners take action by adopting a resolution asking our local legislative delegation to pass a bill to prohibit hunting from the river in a boat or any floating device. He said there was a similar prohibition on Swift Creek that was adopted in 1983.

He recommended that the Board of Commissioners call for and hold a public hearing on this matter before adopting a resolution. He said all of the property owners would be notified that a public hearing would be held on the matter.

Mr. Boswell moved to call for and hold a public hearing on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Powell seconded the motion.

Following discussion, the motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 13. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.** ***RECEIVED***

Ms. Harris said that NCACC sent out an email asking Board members to call the local delegations reference a bill coming to the floor to reduce the county lottery funds from 40% to 10% for school construction. She encouraged the Board to call and let our delegates know we need those funds for school construction. She also encouraged the general public to call

the local delegates as well. She said that Edgecombe County is subject to lose \$752,861. if this measure is approved.

Mr. Carmon asked the Board to consider scheduling a budget work session. Following discussion the Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at noon.

14. **ATTORNEY'S REPORT.**

15. **CLOSED SESSION ITEM.**

Mr. Felton moved to go into closed session to discuss economic development. Rev. Hines seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

a. **Economic Development**

Rev. Hines moved to go out of closed session. Ms. Harris seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

16. **MR. HARRELL MOVED TO RECESS THE MEETING UNTIL TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011 AT NOON. REV. HINES SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

Mr. Leonard Wiggins, Chairman

Ms. Carolyn S. Hedgepeth, Clerk to the Board