

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 02, 2010

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Henry H. Dunlap Building Classroom, 80 East Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 9:00 AM on August 02, 2010.

Present: Sally Kost, Chair; George Lucier, Vice Chair; Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck

Staff Members Present: Charlie Horne, County Manager; Jep Rose, County Attorney; Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager; Vicki McConnell, Finance Officer; Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the Board; and Elizabeth Plata, Deputy Clerk to the Board

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Thompson delivered the invocation after which the Chair invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kost welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

The Chair asked that the July 19, 2010 Work Session minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered for approval at the August 02, 2010 Board of Commissioners’ meeting.

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda with the noted request as follows:

1. **Minutes:** Approval of Board Minutes for Regular Meetings held July 19, 2010 and June 21, 2010 and ~~Work Session Minutes for meeting held July 19, 2010~~

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) for the minutes for Regular Meeting held July 19, 2010 and June 21, 2010 were approved.

The Work Session Minutes were removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered for approval at the August 16, 2010 Board of Commissioners’ meeting.

2. **Annual Settlement and Order of Collection:** Approval of Annual Settlement and Order of Collection, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

3. **Water System Backflow and Cross Connection Control Ordinance:** Approval of a request to adopt the water system Backflow and Cross Connection Control Ordinance, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

4. **Design Task Order for the Chatham County-City of Durham Water System Interconnection Upgrade:** Approval of the McGill Associates design Task Order for the Chatham County-City of Durham Water System Interconnection Upgrade and authorize the County Manager to sign the agreement, agreement attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

5. **Department of Social Services Contracts:** Approval of Department of Social Services Contracts as follows:

1. Carol J. Holcomb, Attorney-at-Law
2. Chatham Transit Network

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The contracts are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

6. **Retire and Award Service Weapon:** Approval of a request to surplus and to award the service weapon to Sergeant Joseph Edwards on the event of his retirement from the Chatham County Sheriff's Office

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

7. **Retire and Award Service Weapon:** Approval of a request to surplus and to award the service weapon to Deputy Elizabeth Eubanks on the event of her retirement from the Chatham County Sheriff's Office

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

8. **Human Relations Commission Reappointment:** Approval of reappointment of Roy Barnes to the Human Relations Commission by Commissioner Vanderbeck

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

9. **Orange Chatham Person (OPC) Board Reappointment:** Approval of reappointment of Richard Edwards to the OPC Board by Commissioner Lucier

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

10. **Waiver from Section 9 of Compact Communities Ordinance:** Request by Karen M. Kemerait, Attorney-at-Law, Styers & Kemerait, on behalf of Newland Communities and the John R. McAdams Company for a waiver, including the mitigation plan, from Section 9 of the Compact Communities Ordinance, pursuant to Section 15 of the Compact Communities Ordinance

The waiver request is approved per the **Order #2010-39 of the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County Granting a Waiver Permitting Newland Communities to Maintain Certain Existing Retaining Walls in Phase 5, Section 1 of the Briar Chapel Compact Community** approved by the County Attorney and the mitigation plan approved by the Environmental Resources Director, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

11. **Renewal of the Emergency Medical Franchise:** Approval of a request for Emergency Medical Franchise to all of the EMS, Rescue Squads and Fire Departments

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

There was no one present who wished to make public comments.

CHATHAM TRANSIT NETWORK

Public Hearing:

Rural Operating Assistance Program: Public hearing to receive public comments on the FY 2010-2011 Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) Funding Agreement as required by the North Carolina Department of Transportation and approval of recommendations for the allocation of FY 2010-2011 ROAP funds as presented

Vicki McConnell, Finance Officer, introduced the new Chatham Transit Executive Director, Amber Wagner.

Ms. Wagner thanked the Board for holding the public hearing. She explained the specifics of the required public hearing as follows:

County governments are the only eligible applicants for these funds. It is the responsibility of the County Commissioners to allocate and distribute the funds to the appropriate local agencies as allowed within the program guidelines. The period of performance is July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. These funds are allocated to each county by formula.

The NCDOT/PDT formula has allocated a total of \$200,366 to Chatham County. It is broken down in the following manner:

1. \$95,024 for Rural General Public (RGP) transportation. This includes both regular funds and supplemental. Supplemental funds shall be used to initiate new or expanded service. RGP funds can only be sub-allocated by the county to the Section 5311 Community Transportation Program which is the Chatham Transit Network (CTN). These funds require a 10% local match that has been granted by a Chatham County Charitable Fund grant.
2. Employment Transportation Assistance Program (EMPL) has been allocated \$24,433 in both regular and supplemental funds. These funds can be sub-allocated to Chatham Transit Network and/or the Department of Social Services. The funds have historically been allocated to Chatham Transit and are utilized to transport Chatham residents to their jobs.
3. The Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program (EDTAP) allocation for the county including supplemental funds this year is \$80,909. These funds may be sub-allocated to Human Service agencies and Transportation Systems with priority given to the Section 5311 Community Transportation Program. In an effort to reach all organizations that may have a need CTN sent letters to 16 agencies and published an article in the Chatham News describing the program and calling for sub-grant allocations. As a result the following recommendation is made for the allocation of EDTAP funds:

Chatham County Council on Aging	\$50,000
Chatham Transit Network	30,909
Total	<u>\$80,909</u>

The allocation to Chatham Transit Network will be sub-allocated as follows:

Chatham Trades	\$8,500
CCCC	3,000

Group Homes	2,500
Sister2Sister Transportation Services	8,500

The grant will bring \$200,366 to Chatham County for transportation with no impact to budget.

Commissioner Lucier welcomed Ms. Wagner and asked if Chatham Transit received more money this year and the reason for it.

Ms. Wagner stated that Chatham Transit had received a little more in the supplemental side; that depending on factors, the amount that the General Assembly allocates for funding this line item, as well as their flexibility through the General Assembly, is determined by carry-over funds from the previous year; that if there has been no capital expenditures or if there is left-over capital in the State budget for rural transportation, then it can be reprogrammed back in.

Commissioner Lucier asked about a difference in figures between the Chatham Transit allocation for the Elderly and Disabled (\$30,909) and the sub-allocation to Chatham Transit Network which totaled \$22,500. Ms. Wagner stated that she would check into the figures.

Commissioner Thompson asked about the monies allocated to the four different agencies if they were monies they actually asked for and if they were funded one hundred percent of their request of there was some kind of formula used to divide the money.

Ms. Wagner stated that there was a notice in *The Chatham News* describing the program and the ability for agencies to apply for the funding; that the recommendation from Chatham Transit is based on a small committee formed to make recommendations; and that she believes those are the amount requested.

The Chair opened the floor for public comments.

There was no one present who wished to make public comments.

The Chair closed the floor for public comments.

Commissioner Lucier moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to approve the Certified Statement FY2011 Rural Operating Assistance Program with the provision that the figures for the allocation in the amount of \$30,909 to Chatham Transit Network be checked, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked that Ms. Wagner mention the details of the upcoming Siler City circular.

Ms. Wagner stated that they were in the process of finalizing and placing their bus stop signs in Siler City; that it is a fixed route with two vehicles which will originate near the Town Hall that will circulate through the community; that it is open to the general public; that there will be a \$1.00 fare each way; that it will be operating from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM; and that they will be hosting some stakeholders to ride it before it is kicked-off, hopefully in mid August; they are very excited about the opportunity; and the date will be determined. She also thanked Melissa Guilbeau and staff for their assistance with this project.

COURTHOUSE UPDATE

David Hughes, Public Works Director, explained that they have issued a Notice to Proceed to Monteith, who should be mobilizing on the site any day; that the notice is dated today so the work could begin today; that the work will entail bracing the walls, reconstructing the top of the walls, installing the temporary roof, and some selective demolition of the interior. He stated that it will be a three to four month process.

Chair Kost stated that at the last meeting, Commissioner Cross had raised the issue that Moncure Plywood had made a generous offer of plywood for boarding up the building at a per cost basis. She asked if anything materialized with the offer.

Mr. Hughes stated that the contractor is comparing the prices; that the spec is for OSB which is typically cheaper than plywood; that even at the cost price, he would be surprised at the plywood costing less.

Chair Kost stated that even if they are unable to take advantage of the offer, she would like for the County Manager to draft a letter from the Board of Commissioners thanking them for their offer.

Commissioner Cross asked if the architects and the contractor are in touch with Mr. Hughes and the plant and if it is just a matter of price. Mr. Hughes responded that they were and it was just a matter of price.

Commissioner Lucier asked about closing the circle to traffic until Highway #87 is fully open to traffic with regard to the new library.

Mr. Hughes stated that he didn't think they would have to initiate many closures; that the main closure will be when they set the roof trusses; that the trusses will be made off-site; and that the majority of the work can be done with the circle open.

Commissioner Lucier asked about the August 20th opening date of the Highway #87 route.

Mr. Hughes replied that it has gotten a little more complicated with the sidewalk; that the contractor does not want to open the road until he has to because he can do it quicker and cheaper with the road closed as he doesn't have to have people directing traffic; that he would be very surprised if the contractor does not keep the road closed until August 20th; and that the road work will be done but that the sidewalk will not be.

Chair Kost asked if the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder and the bid amount. Mr. Hughes replied that the lowest bidder was Monteith and the base bid amount is \$242,000 (total price was \$269,800 but that was the base bid plus an alternate that was taken).

Commissioner Lucier asked if the amount would be covered by insurance. Mr. Hughes stated that it was.

Chair Kost stated that Luck Stone has volunteered to replace the portrait of the Earl of Chatham and that they need to work with them to make it happen.

The County Manager stated that he has a meeting with them this week.

Commissioner Cross stated that since everyone he knows has said they think that former Commissioner Patrick Barnes look amazingly alike, he would like everyone to encourage Mr. Barnes to participate in the courthouse ceremony by donning a costume playing the part of the Earl.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PRIORITIES

Employees of the Month: Presentation of July and August Employees of the Month

July Employee of the Month:

Carolyn Miller, Human Resources Director, stated that the Employee of the Month program was instituted in FY 2009 to honor Chatham County employees for exemplary service to citizens and their fellow employees. She explained that the July 2010 Employees of the Month are Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager and Vicki McConnell, Finance Officer who have worked for Chatham County for 50 years. An excerpt from their nomination form follows:

Recently, two major bond rating firms upgraded Chatham County two positions to AA+/Aa2. A higher bond rating will result in lower interest rates for capital projects, which means a savings for taxpayers.

This is a significant accomplishment, considering the downturn in the economy. According to Moody's an Aa2 rating means that county is an "Excellent Financial Security." Only counties with sound financial planning and high-quality management are able to achieve such a high rating. Standard & Poor's (S&P) upgraded Chatham County two positions to AA+. Only an AAA rating is higher, which larger counties such as Wake and Durham have attained.

Moody's also upgraded the county two slots from A1 to Aa2, just two positions away from its highest rating of Aaa. Of the surrounding counties, Alamance and Orange share the same rating but have considerably larger tax bases. However, no additional counties in the 50,000-75,000 population group have attained this rating.

This upgrade would not have been possible without the long-term commitment and qualified financial oversight that Renee and Vicki provide. These ladies deserve credit and recognition for this outstanding achievement.

Chair Kost stated that jumping one step in the bond rating was a big deal, but jumping two steps is huge; that they think they do a good job with taxpayers money, but when a rating agency says you are really doing a good job, it means a lot to this community and the taxpayers as it saves them money; that part of the reason they are so successful, the entire capital modeling project that is done; that these two employees started this about 4-5 years ago with the Board but earmarked money; that this means that when the economy took a downward fall, they were actually able to start some capital projects when they were able to save even more money; that they were able to save about seven million dollars over what was anticipated; and that a lot of the savings are because of what they have done. She congratulated both employees.

Ms. McConnell thanked everyone and stated that it is a team effort among the County Manager, the Assistant County Manager, and Commissioners.

Ms. Paschal echoed Ms. McConnell's comments and stated that it starts with the leadership of the Board and the County Manager; that the Board and County Manager have been very supportive of their efforts; that it is supported on a day-to-day basis by the departments and employees; and that they appreciate the recognition but accept it on behalf of the team.

Commissioner Lucier stated that in this down-turn, most bond ratings are going the other direction; that for us to have jumped two steps, it is truly remarkable; that he thinks Chatham County has the highest or is tied for the highest bond rating for any county our size in the State of North Carolina; and that they realize a great deal of the credit goes to Ms. McConnell and Ms. Paschal.

August Employee of the Month:

Ms. Miller stated that the August Employee of the month is Sonya Gilliland who has worked for Chatham County for nearly ten years. An excerpt from their nomination form follows:

In the absence of a department director, Sonya has shown great leadership and has kept the department running smoothly since the end of April. No matter what problems arise, Sonya handles everything calmly and professionally. She has been exceptionally responsive to my training/orientation needs while also handling other employees' duties when they are away.

Her actions over the past month are an example of what leadership, teamwork, actions above and beyond the call of duty, and commitment truly mean.

Chair Kost congratulated Ms. Gilliland and stated that if things had not gone smoothly the last couple of months, the Board would know about it as solid waste is one of those highly visible services that the County provides because so many of the County's citizens use those services; that they know things went pretty smoothly when they were between directors; that the new director is present and Ms. Gilliland is helping him get acclimated to his new job and oriented to the community.

Ms. Gilliland stated that the Waste Management Department is a great department; that everyone in the department works hard every day to make sure everything is done. She welcomed Dan LaMontagne and Teresa Chapman to their new positions within the department.

Mr. LaMontagne stated that Ms. Gilliland had been a tremendous help and has held the department together. He stated that she was a wealth of information and that the recognition is well-deserved.

TAX DEPARTMENT

Frances Wilson, Chatham County Tax Collector, thanked the Board for their support during the past year. She stated that they lost Carolyn Clark, Deputy Collector to retirement in January and shortly afterward, lost another employee due to health reasons; that she is surprised that they have increased their collections over last year with everything going on; that they have a very young staff now which has made a great impact on their work; and that she is surrounded by a good office staff who supports her every day. She introduced her staff as follows: Margaret Goldston – Tax Paralegal; Mike Kennedy – Deputy Tax Collector; Julie Inman – Revenue Technician; and Bethanie Ellzey – Revenue Technician.

She stated that they budgeted for current taxes for real and personal property, \$46 million, collected \$47 million, and billed out \$48 million. She stated that they also budgeted \$750,000 for delinquent taxes and collected over a million dollars; that the effort goes to her staff and that of the listing department as they cleaned up some accounts; that despite the economic conditions, she thinks her staff has done really well this year; and that a new tax year will be started tomorrow as the new tax bills are going in the mail.

Chair Kost stated that the annual statement was approved on the Consent Agenda; that the real and personal property percentage of collection was 97.84%; that the number that really increased was the collection rate on registered vehicles at 92.26% which was a significant increase. Ms. Wilson stated that the State-wide average collection on motor vehicles is around 86%.

Ms. McConnell stated that collections were another reason the bond rating was good.

FirstHealth EMS Agreement: Approval of EMS Agreement between Chatham County and FirstHealth of the Carolinas, Inc. to provide emergency medical services at the paramedic level

The County Manager stated that at the July 19, 2010 Board of Commissioners' meeting, the FirstHealth EMS Agreement was deferred until the August 02, 2010; that the Board asked that they look at percentages; that there was a three-year proposed contract with a 3% yearly adjustment; that there was also a surcharge of \$20,000 should fuel exceed \$4.50 per gallon; that that was deleted in the new agreement and is acceptable to FirstHealth; that they changed the schedule for notifying if changing the remuneration schedule from 180 to 210 days in the proposal; that they have indexed any kind of increase or CPI not to exceed 3%; and FirstHealth is agreeable. He stated that one other change would be the date of the agreement.

Commissioner Lucier stated that the material in the agenda packet was confusing; that they had the 2007-2010 contract, and it wasn't clear regarding the date of the amendment; that it is his understanding that they are using the 2007-2010 contract and amending it with what is indicated here. The County Manager indicated that was correct.

Chair Kost stated that she felt it was a positive change to index it and not assume it was going to be an automatic 3% and that she appreciated them removing the fuel excise cost.

Commissioner Lucier stated that this addresses the concerns that he expressed at the last meeting regarding the inflation factor.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked what the membership service was.

Jim Hasbrouck, Director of FirstHealth Chatham EMS, stated that subscription services was an idea that was floated about ten to fifteen years ago where people would pay an amount of money annually and whenever they would use an ambulance, EMS would only bill the insurance companies and then they would not receive any other kind of bills; that they have fallen out-of-favor although some places still use them; that it was something that Wake County did when they still covered from the Apex area into the eastern part of the County; that they were thinking that the possibility of needing to do that to address something that the citizens in some parts of the County had and they wanted to try and go that way; and that he continues to research it.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that regarding Attachment #1, August 01, 2008, all these people have 24/7, 168 hours of which Siler City is one of them, and then the bottom line says Siler City, 40 hours per week in addition to the other Siler City, 168 hours per week.

Mr. Hasbrouck stated that when he became director, he moved some vehicles around to address some call volume needs; that he took a single vehicle medic truck and put it in Siler City; that after it had been there a while, they saw where it was being utilized quite a bit and Tony Tucker requested that they put a 40-hour person there, Monday through Friday, to make it a two-person ambulance; that it is used extensively; and that as they it would eventually become a permanent 24-hour, two person ambulance.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that Mr. Hasbrouck answered his questions and that he also agreed that the amendments to this agreement are acceptable.

Chair Kost stated that the Board had asked for some information on response time that they had provided; that it was around twelve minutes; that there were some differences between if it is recorded by us or by FirstHealth; that that is not her issue; that her issue if we have strategically looked at where we have stationed ambulances to make sure that we have them in the most strategic places. She also asked if we would need to look at adding services as the County grows to have better coverage or decrease the response time.

Tony Tucker, Chatham County Emergency Operations Director, responded that they continuously look at it; that they look at call volume locations, maximum numbers, and annually; that the call rate volume now is good and does not have to be expanded; that if growth and the economically picks back up, they will have to look at expanding the services.

Chair Kost stated that she is aware that FirstHealth rents space from the County; that they also have space in the Moncure Fire Department and a station at North Chatham across from Ferrington Village. She asked where additional space is located in the County.

Mr. Hasbrouck responded in Siler City in the original County EMS building, in Goldston Rescue Squad, and a single paramedic truck at the Harper's Crossroads Substation #15.

Chair Kost asked if the Silk Hope Community would be serviced from Siler City. Mr. Hasbrouck replied yes and that they have first responders as well.

Chair Kost asked who would serve Chapel Ridge and Parks of Meadowview in the future when growth expands. Mr. Tucker stated that it was split, the southern part would be out of Pittsboro and the northern part out of North Chatham. She asked if the contract would need to be amended if future service was increased. Mr. Hasbrouck responded yes.

Commissioner Thompson asked if there was a response time they would want to achieve that is based on a State standard that would be the best response time for a county this size in its rural nature. Mr. Tucker replied that the response time was closer to a little over two minutes; that there are several factors as to why the numbers differ in the original document; that a lot of times our equipment, if it is paged as an emergency call, picks up the call but then is notified by the fire department that it is not as bad as originally thought, and it is cut back to routine traffic; that the response time is better than it appears due to these and other factors.

Chair Kost stated that even more important than response time is patient outcome; that they have asked for the information but unable to receive it due to regulations regarding confidentiality but that she hopes that is something that is always being looked at as the outcome is the ultimate issue.

Mr. Hasbrouck stated that the state office is creating a system by which he will be able to start going in and looking at outcomes; that they will be able to determine a percentage of people going to the emergency room, were admitted, discharged, etc.; and that it is a slow process which he will monitor.

Donna Strong stated that the State Office of Emergency Medical Services is hearing what the Board and citizens across the State are asking; that the State has upgraded the ability to collect data as well as started to enforce agencies to report the data; that all of their reports are entered electronically; that the data uploads every night at midnight; that there are approximately 140 points of data collected on each transport; and that over the next year she feels that more information will be assembled by the State and made available to the citizens of the State.

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Lucier, to approve the EMS Agreement between FirstHealth of the Carolinas, Inc. and Chatham County with the revised remuneration schedule and corrected date, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD PRIORITIES

Resolution Pertaining to Borrowing of Funds for Judicial Center: Approval of a request to adopt a Resolution Pertaining to the Borrowing of Funds from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development for the Construction of the Judicial Center and presentation of the letter of commitment

This item was postponed and deferred to the Work Session as the presenter was not present.

MANAGER' S REPORTS

Luck Stone:

The Luck Stone officials began the discussion this week regarding replacing the portrait of the Earl of Chatham that was destroyed in the courthouse fire. They have changed leadership at Luck Stone and the conversation will be continuing.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

NCACC Legislative Goals:

Commissioner Cross distributed a handout from the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners on Legislative Goals with the new goals submission deadline which was approved by the Board of Directors in June. He stated that he hoped that the Board of Commissioners would add their goals to meet the deadline.

Chair Kost stated that one of their goals is the legislative process from the ground up where they are getting suggestions and recommendations, from the advisory boards as well as departments; that it gives only a short time to do that; that she thinks it is important as the

advisory boards run across obstacles from the state with which the Board needs to deal; that the deadline is the 15th so it could be discussed at the August 16th Board of Commissioners' meeting but it may not be finalized until the September 7th meeting.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if the Clerk could send the information out to the respective chairs of the boards and for them to incorporate it into their agendas to distribute to their membership to give the Board of Commissioners feedback as soon as possible.

Chair Kost asked that the County Manager also do the same with County Departments. The County Manager stated that that process had begun with the budget.

Chair Kost stated that there may be goals which are more Chatham focused and would be our own legislative goals versus state-wide goals. Commissioner Cross stated that this was just for all counties.

Developing Sustainability Agendas Meeting:

Commissioner Lucier stated that he attended an interesting meeting that was convened by the Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of Department of Environment and Natural Resources among others; that he was asked to attend the meeting as a representative of the Association of County Commissioners; that the purpose of the meeting was what can be done in terms of developing sustainability agendas as it relates to economic development, land use planning, affordable housing, transportation, etc.; that everyone was very enthusiastic about the intent to move forward; that now it is finding the mechanism of how to best do that; that they talked about forming something that might be analogous to the Bio-Tech Center which is a private-public partnership; that the group is putting together a significant grant request to the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and they were part of the discussions; that the grant deadline is today; and that the meeting went very well and he feels that there will be something coming out of it.

Pittsboro Comprehensive Transportation Plan:

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he attended the kick-off meeting with Melissa Guilbeau of the Pittsboro Comprehensive Transportation Plan with their consultants; that it was in the Pittsboro Town Hall; that they are on the steering committee representing the County; that they said this committee would not be meeting until October but he thinks Ms. Guilbeau will be involved and be able to give updates throughout the process until those meetings begin; that it is very fast-tracked; that they hope to get maps out and completed by the end of December and within a week or so of that, have a complete report to go with it; that he thinks the main issues are possibly the interchange on the east side of town and also a 15-501 bypass.

751 Assemblage:

Chair Kost stated that she attended the Durham County meeting dealing with the 751 Assemblage; that this is a project that encompasses approximately 167 acres with a maximum of 1,300 residential units and up to 750,000 square feet of non-residential units; that it is located on Highway 751 near Colvard Farms which is roughly one-half mile from the Chatham County line; that she attended on behalf of the Board and spoke directly to the transportation issues because a recent study contracted by the Durham/Chapel Hill/Carrboro MPO stated that many of those roads, even with low density development, will be a rating of "F" by the year 2035 or before; that there was no decision reached; that the outstanding issue now is that in Durham there is the ability to have a protest petition which means it requires a super majority, four out of five commissioners; that now it is a three to two vote on the board to approve the project; that the developer did a dedicated right-of-way to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) not knowing it would invalidate the protest petition and accepted it; that when NCDOT found out that they were brought into a local decision, rescinded the right-of-way, and Durham was trying to figure out whether NCDOT and the Attorney General's Office could do such; that it is back on their agenda for August 9th; that she will be unable to attend; and that if any other Board member wants to attend, it might be good to have a Chatham presence there.

Commissioner Lucier stated that they could also ask a staff member to attend. He stated that Fred Royal had attended once before and made a presentation at the public hearing and is familiar with the issues.

Chair Kost stated that the Board had passed a resolution regarding the resurveying of the lake; that this was dealing more with the rezoning issue than the resurveying issue; that it is a continuation of the public hearing but she does not know if they will allow additional public comments.

Commissioner Cross asked if most people were against it. Chair Kost stated that it was pretty evenly split. She stated that the people who spoke in favor of the project were doing it from the issue of jobs and job opportunities and those against it voiced environmental concerns, transportation and sprawl issues.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 AM.

Sally Kost, Chair

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners