

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING, MAY 26, 1999

The Board of Commissioners ("the Board") of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in special session in the District Courtroom, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 7:00 P.M. on May 26, 1999.

Present: Chair Rick Givens; Vice Chair Uva Holland;
 Commissioners Margaret Pollard, Gary Phillips,
 and Carl Outz; County Manager, Charlie Horne;
 County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; Assistant
 County Manager, Renee Dickson; Finance Officer,
 Vicki McConnell;

The meeting was called to order by the County Manager at 7:05 PM.

- Chairman Givens entered the meeting at 7:15pm.
- Charlie Horne and Renee Dickson presented highlights of the FY 1999-2000 Recommended Budget.

HUMAN SERVICES

Health Department

- Wayne Sherman, Health Department Director, outlined the mission and expansion items of the seven divisions of the Chatham County Health Department as follows:

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|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Administration | 5) Animal Control |
| 2) CAP-DA | 6) Environmental Health |
| 3) Health Education | 7) Dental |
| 4) General Health Services | |

Department of Social Services

Robert Hall, Social Services Director, and Margie Ellison, Social Work Supervisor III, presented the highlights of the FY 1999-2000 Department of Social Services budget.

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Miriam Infinger, Family Violence and Rape Crisis Executive Director, stated that she was here to appeal the allocation from the County; that there are new services that will be provided by FVRC; that new space will be utilized in order to improve services; that the new facility would allow for interviews to be held with battered wives/children; and that money will be used for utilities expenses in the new building. She further stated that this increase is a small increase in their budget; and asked that the Board reconsider the allocation level from the County.

Karl Katchergis, asked that the Board please support Chatham County Schools and the Body Shop; that the Body Shop has not used full allotment from the County in the last several years; and that it is a state recognized program that fills an important need in the school system.

Cynthia Lodestro, stated that she was a parent of two children at Perry Harrison and that she had a couple of questions regarding the budget process; that there was a significant difference between the amount the school requested and the recommended budget by the County, and that she was curious why the formulated budget and the requested budget did not coincide. She further stated that with total requested funding, there will be better services and education for the children in the County; and asked that the Board please fund the full requested school budget and vote to pass the proposed impact fees.

Moses Carey, stated that he was speaking on behalf of the Moncure Health Center; that he commends the Board for their support of the Moncure Health Center over the last 29 years; that its presence has made a gigantic impact and has been a good investment for the County; and that it saves taxpayer money because it keeps people well. He further stated that he was in attendance to speak to the contract that Piedmont Health Services has with Social Services to provide Medicaid eligibility services in the Moncure area; that he would like the County to pick up the cost to provide these services for a full five days; and asked that the Board please take a look at that situation in order to allow for at least four days worth of coverage at the Moncure Health Center through Piedmont Health Services.

Tommy Glosson, stated that he felt comfortable talking with the Board members; that he was curious why the solid waste fee has increased to \$55, raising the solid waste total fee to \$100; that surrounding counties pay less, and it puts an unnecessary burden on homeowners. He further stated that he has a problem with many programs in the Health Department that receive funding but are not mandated; and that the County needs to regulate agriculture in the same way the Health Board does. He also stated that someone is having to pay for the Land Use Plan, and if it is adopted, the Planning Department is going to need more staff; and that the subdivision regulations are adequate as they are and should not need further revision.

Margie Ellison, Social Work Supervisor, asked the Board to please consider an additional adoption foster-care worker in the Department of Social Services.

Elizabeth Cassedy, stated that she was a 19 year employee with the County; that kids that grow up in foster care do not do as well as those that are adopted; and asked that the Board fund the additional requested worker.

Steve Sharp, stated that he supports the impact fee for education; that the Board should fund the full requested school budget; and asked the Board to please consider a bond referendum.

Barbara Englund, stated that she was an ESL teacher in the Chatham County School system; that English is extremely difficult to learn; that to get to academic level English takes 5-7 years; and asked that the Board please consider funding the ESL program. She further stated that she serves 4 schools and students do not have adequate instruction; that there are few certified teachers in the County; and that many more are needed to serve the current population.

Claire (Last name unknown), stated that she was a native of the western part of the state, that she has watched as her native county struggled with some of these problems; that she is the parent of

child who will be at Perry Harrison; that she needs help in understanding budget process and how it addresses the issues; and asked that the Board please look at the future of education when making decisions.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

Amendment to Watershed Regulations: Consideration of a request by Evelyn and Ernest Clemons for an amendment to the Chatham County Water Supply Watershed Regulations to allow additional permitted uses to be added to the Jordan Lake Watershed IV Critical Area attachment #A (The addition is for retail stores and personal service shops specifically for the sale, servicing, and utilization of computers, e-mailing, public Internet access, and computer consulting for individuals and small businesses.)

Commissioner Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz to approve **An Ordinance to Amend the Chatham County Watershed Protection Ordinance**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Outz moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland, to accept the Planning Board recommendation that the five findings be made and the request be approved with the following conditions:

- 1) Access to the property is allowed from SR #1008 and SR #1717 as permitted by the Department of Transportation.
- 2) A vegetative screen of 50% opaqueness shall be provided outside the DOT rights-of-way and sight distances along the north and east boundaries.
- 3) Lights shall be designed and located to prevent upward glare and glare onto roads and adjacent properties. Poles for lights shall not be taller than 30 feet.
- 4) If a building permit is not issued with 24 months of approval by the Board of County Commissioners, the conditional use permit shall be null and void and the conditional use district shall revert back to the original district prior to approval.
- 5) The uses permitted shall be those allowed in the text amendment and those requested which are allowed.
- 6) The sign area shall be limited to 32 square feet with a maximum height of five feet.

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

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland to approve members of the Juvenile Justice Partnership Committee with the exception of Gloria Williams. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

ARTS COUNCIL

Commissioner Phillips moved, second by Commissioner Pollard, to allocate \$1,008 to the Chatham County Arts Council to make up an anticipated shortfall in funding. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

Court System and Department of Social Services Interaction:

Chairman Givens asked that the County Manager write to Chief District Court Judge Joe Buckner and ask for his description on how the court system and the Department of Social Services interacts on behalf of children.

License Plates:

Commissioner Pollard suggested that the new flags be made into license plates and to use the proceeds to fund new and existing non-profit organizations.

New Chatham County Flag Purchase:

Commissioner Pollard moved, seconded by Commissioner Holland to purchase one dozen flags with the new flag design. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Budget Expansion Requests:

Chairman Givens asked that the material regarding budget expansion requests that were not recommended for funding be provided to Commissioners.

Work Session Dates:

Budget work session dates and times were discussed, and the schedule approved, by consensus, as follows:

Wednesday, June 9, 1999	2:00pm- 5:00pm
Thursday, June 10, 1999	1:00pm- 5:00pm
Monday, June 21, 1999	2:00pm- 5:00pm
Tuesday, June 22, 1999	9:00am-12:00pm

All work sessions are to be held in the Dunlap Classroom in the Henry H. Dunlap Building.

By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 9:31pm.

Rick Givens, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners