

**MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
MAY 15, 2006**

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 2:00 PM on May 15, 2006.

Present: Chairman Bunkey Morgan; Vice Chair, Tommy Emerson; Commissioners Patrick Barnes, Mike Cross, and Carl Outz; County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Robert L. Gunn; Assistant County Manager, Renee Dickson; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 2:04 PM.

The County Manager reviewed the work session agenda.

Work Session

1. Presentation on American Tobacco Trail by Tom Norman, NCDOT
2. Budget Discussions

AMERICAN TOBACCO TRAIL

Tom Norman, Transportation Program Director for NCDOT, Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, explained the American Tobacco Trail regional trail project between, Wake, Chatham, and Durham Counties including the benefits of the granite screenings/asphalt trail. He stated that Durham is to get all of the \$1.6 million; that DOT is incurring the planning, engineering, and construction costs for Chatham County up to \$2+ million dollars; and that Chatham County will incur no cost for the trail except for operation and management of the trail.

After considerable discussion, Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to accept the presentation and endorse the joint-use version (10’ paved [pedestrian use], 8’ screenings [equine use]) of the trail. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

A copy of Mr. Norman’s presentation is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

SOUTHERN SUPREME WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Tim Carpenter, Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates engineer, stated that bids were received on May 9, 2006 on the Southern Supreme water system improvements; that seven bids were received ranging from a low of \$310,596.00 to a high of \$530,872.50; that the low bid of \$310,596.00 was submitted by Sanford Contractors of Sanford, NC; that this bid amount is within the allotted budget for the project; that Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates has completed several projects with Sanford Contractors, Inc. and have found them to be a very reputable contractor capable of completing projects in a timely manner with excellent workmanship; that Sanford Contractors, Inc. has also completed projects in Chatham County including the water main extension to serve the 3M Corporation as well as the 12” water main along Big Woods Road to the Preserve Subdivision; that Chatham County is currently waiting to receive environmental

release of conditions on the project from the NC Department of Commerce – Commerce Finance Center; that it is the recommendation of Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates, PA that Chatham County award the water system improvements project to serve Southern Supreme to Sanford Contractors for their low bid amount of \$310,596.00 contingent upon receiving the necessary environmental release of conditions and funds from the NC Department of Commerce.

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the contract to serve Southern Supreme to Sanford Contractors for their low bid in the amount of \$310,596.00 contingent upon receiving the necessary environmental release of conditions and funds from the NC Department of Commerce and that the Chairman of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners be allowed to sign the contract. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The contract, bid summary, and bid tabulations are attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Chatham County Water System Operating Policies Manual and Chatham County Water System Specifications Manual:

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Chatham County Water System Operating Policies Manual and the Chatham County Water System Specifications, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried four (4) to one (1) with Chairman Morgan opposing.

Chairman Morgan stated that he felt that it was important to read the manual before it was approved.

BUDGET

Schools:

The County Manager reviewed the Board of Education's request for schools stating that it was 26% above the Manager's recommendation which equaled 5.2 cents on the tax rate, if approved.

A discussion ensued regarding various components of the school's request, but no action was taken.

The Board of Commissioners asked that the Board of Education prioritize their current expense expansion request.

BREAK

- The Chairman called for a ten-minute break.

WORK SESSION DATES

Budget Public Hearing:

A second public hearing will be held on the 2006-2007 Manager's Recommended Budget on May 16, 2006 at 7:00 PM, in the Siler City Courtroom.

Budget Work Session:

The next budget work session will be held on Monday, May 22, 2006 at 9:00 AM in the Henry H. Dunlap Building Classroom.

Budget Work Session:

The budget work session will continue after the regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners' meeting on June 5, 2006.

UTILITY CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Finance Officer reviewed utility projects. The Board made no decision on the capital projects.

Chairman Morgan stated that he would like to see the Board separate the various projects for further review.

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to adopt the proposed Chatham County Water System – Fees and Charges, Exhibit A, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Commissioner Emerson moved to adopt the Water Fund budget.

After considerable discussion, Commissioner Emerson withdrew his motion.

Water Availability Fees were discussed and will be voted on at a later date.

Average Daily Membership Funds:

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to apply for Average Daily Membership (ADM) funds. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The application is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

RECESS

Chairman Morgan recessed the work session at 4:59 PM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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