

MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 05, 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 9:00 AM on September 05, 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 Paschal; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; and Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

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Chairman Morgan invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance after which he delivered the invocation.

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The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 9:05 AM.

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AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

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

Chairman Morgan asked that a session be added to the Agenda to appoint a voting delegate to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners’ meeting in Winston-Salem.

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda with the noted request:

1. **Minutes:** Consideration of a request for approval of Board Minutes for regular meeting held August 21, 2006, work session held August 21, 2006, and regular meeting (continued) August 22, 2006

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

2. **Road Names:** Consideration of a request from citizens to approve the naming of private roads in Chatham County as follows:

- A. Clyde Webster Drive
- B. Palmer Lane

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

3. **Grant Acceptance for Health Department:** Consideration of a request to accept funds in the amount of \$500 from the Division of Public Health (DPH) awarded to the Chatham County Health Department

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

4. **Contract for Tax Office:** Consideration of a request to approve contract to provide data processing, printing, and mail preparation services to the Tax Office, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

5. **Volunteer Resolution:** Consideration of a request to approve **Resolution #2006-47 Honoring Chatham County's Outstanding Volunteers of 2006**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

6. **Resolution to Exempt the County for Particular Contracts:** Consideration of a request to adopt **Resolution #2006-48 to Exempt the County for Particular Contracts from the Provisions of GS 143-64.31**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

7. **Implementation of a Cable PEG Fee:** Consideration of a request to approve the implementation of a cable PEG fee

Consideration of a request to adopt **Resolution #2006-49 Adopting a PEG Fee for Time Warner Cable Customers**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

Consideration of a request to adopt **Resolution #2006-50 Adopting a PEG Fee for Charter Cable Customers**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Bob Knight, 406 Chimney Rock Lane, Sanford, NC, stated that he was in attendance at the Board of Commissioners' meeting to give the Commissioners a chance to put to rest the gossip that they or the incoming board plan to replace Attorney Bob Gunn as attorney for the County; that the public has heard the gossip that a certain individual is being considered for this position; that he has public information which he planned to distribute why this person should never have a position with the County; that after reading this information, the Board will see that he could not serve one person, much less the population of the whole County; that it will also show the Board his disregard for the law when it comes to himself; that he can not stand alone; that he has to be surrounded by others or a TV crew to put across his views; that he rarely, if ever, says anything positive about those who are in present positions; and that he realizes that the present Board can not speak for the incoming Board, but that he would like for the present Board to go on record as voting "no" on this individual as a replacement for Mr. Gunn. He urged the Board to read the information and go on record as opposing him for County Attorney.

VOTING DELEGATE:

Chairman Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Emerson, to appoint Commissioner Cross as the voting delegate to the 99th Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) to be held in Forsyth County, Winston-Salem, NC from September 7-10, 2006. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MATTERS

Resolution Authorizing the Negotiation of an Installment Purchase Contract: Consideration of a request to adopt a **Resolution Authorizing the Negotiation of an Installment Purchase Contract, Directing the Publication of Notice with Respect Thereto and Providing for Certain Other Related Matters Thereto**

The County Manager explained that the resolution helps set up the process and establish the public hearing date of September 18, 2006 for the certificates of participation financing the County's capital projects (schools, water system, etc.).

Commissioner Emerson moved, seconded by Commissioner Outz, to adopt **Resolution #2006-51 Authorizing the Negotiation of an Installment Purchase Contract, Directing the Publication of Notice with Respect Thereto and Providing for Certain Other Related Matters Thereto**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager had no reports.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

NCACC Annual Conference:

Commissioner Cross stated that he met with the Director of the NCACC, the Director of the League of Municipalities, Director of Triangle J Council of Governments on Friday to discuss keeping revenue options as the top priority for the Association; that their committee will start reviewing input in the fall; that the Legislative Conference will be held on January 11-12, 2007; that the Board needs to have a letter prepared on the 1% by Friday week; and that the County Manager will prepare a letter for the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, that the Board of Commissioners send a letter prepared by the County Manager requesting that the NCACC continue using revenue options as one of their top priorities. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

Harnett County Water Transmission Line:

Commissioner Cross stated that if the Harnett County Water Transmission Line is approved, it will travel down Christian Chapel Road; that the Western Wake sewer partnership and their treated water discharge to the Cape Fear is also to travel down Christian Chapel Road; and that he feels that the County's engineers need to take a look at the placement of these lines.

Moncure Corinth Road:

Commissioner Cross stated that the Moncure Corinth Road which travels through the industrial area is in serious need of repair; that he learned that the RPO did have some un-obligated funds; that he had asked them last month if the road could be redone since there are adequate trucks using the road and paying taxes on it to make it a priority; that the RPO is deciding how to spend the money; that the CSX has a railroad crossing in the area which is to be repaired; that a section of it is to be replaced with concrete with tracks; and that the road will have a detour the remainder of this week and next week until it is repaired and/or replaced.

Sports Arena:

Commissioner Cross stated that he had received a call regarding the Sports Arena noise.

Commissioner Outz stated that he thought that the Sports Arena was more of a Health Department issue regarding sewage, but that he thought it had been settled.

Noise Meters:

Commissioner Outz stated that he had heard that the noise meters at the Sheriff's Office had been auctioned off.

Chairman Morgan stated that it was his understanding that the old meters had been sold; that the new ones are operating efficiently; and that the noise should be taken care of with the adoption of the Noise Ordinance on September 18, 2006.

Voting by Districts/Referendum Concern:

Commissioner Emerson stated that he had struggled with the voting by districts/referendum issue and whether or not it should be brought up; that he thinks that it needs to be addressed; that he is not looking for a quarrel with anyone; that at the last public hearing where the issue of voting by districts/referendum was addressed, Commissioner Barnes made a statement that he had discussed the matter with Mr. Don Wright, State Attorney for the Board of Elections; that it was his (Commissioner Emerson's) understanding that Mr. Wright expressed the opinion that whereas what was being done was not illegal but that it was unethical; that Commissioner Barnes gave Mr. Wright's telephone number and stated that if anyone wished to talk with him (Mr. Wright) to call him; that he (Commissioner Emerson) did so; that he (Commissioner Emerson) talked with a gentleman who identified himself as Mr. Wright; that he (Commissioner Emerson) asked a specific question, "Did you consider the matter unethical or illegal?"; that Mr. Wright denied that he made that statement; that he (Commissioner Emerson) had tried to logically think the matter through; that he (Commissioner Emerson) doesn't think that Commissioner Barnes would deliberately tell an untruth; that if he did think that, he would have met with Commissioner Barnes privately, looked him in the eye, and said that; that he does think, however, that there was some misunderstanding or miscommunication; that he feels that perhaps Mr. Wright misunderstood the question; that there have been times in his life that he has made mistakes in communication in that he has wanted to hear something so badly that he heard what he wanted to hear; that everyone can continue with "he says and she says" and the situation will not get any better; that he doesn't advise doing that; that he thinks that it is important, since that it was stated in a public hearing, that his statement that there was some disagreement and confusion as to what was said by Mr. Wright be included in the public record.

Chairman Morgan said that he too called Mr. Wright; that he asked him directly about the comments he had heard had been made; and that Mr. Wright emphatically denied making the comments.

Commissioner Barnes stated that in his conversation with Mr. Wright, they discussed what was going on, and that the words he used to him were that it was "highly unethical".

Commissioner Emerson stated, "Let's move on!"

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman called for a five-minute break before the scheduled work session and adjourned the meeting at 9:28 AM.

Bunkey Morgan, Chairman

ATTEST:

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