

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONTINUED SESSION
MAY 28, 2013
MINUTES**

Chairman Corbin reconvened the meeting at 5:33 p.m. in the commission boardroom as recessed from the May 20, 2013 continuation meeting. All board members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk and Finance Director were present. Also present were members of the news media and interested citizens.

Chairman Corbin explained that the primary purpose of the meeting was to hold a work session on the recommended Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget. He opened the floor for any public comment and also asked if there were other items that needed to be addressed. He noted that the board had received a request regarding appointments to the Region A Aging Advisory Council, as well as a budget amendment that had been tabled from the May 20th continuation meeting. Upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Tate, the board voted unanimously to add those two items to the agenda.

REGION A AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL: Commissioner Beale explained the makeup and responsibilities of the Region A Aging Advisory Council, as outlined in a letter from the Southwestern Commission, a copy of which is attached **(Attachment 1)** and is hereby made a part of these minutes. Following discussion, and upon a motion by Commissioner Haven, seconded by Commissioner Tate, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Dorothy Crawford, Ronnie Beale, and Jim Bruckner as members of the council, and Melissa Leatherman, Sue Waldroop and Jane Kimsey as alternates, each for a term of three years that will expire on May 28, 2016.

BUDGET AMENDMENT #175: This amendment would appropriate \$5,556 from the county's fund balance as a transfer to the Airport

Capital Project Fund. An appropriation of \$16,667 for “Runway Rehab Design” is already in the general fund, bringing the total local matching funds for a \$200,000 grant to \$22,223. Commissioner Tate explained that the design funds for a project to widen the runway were increased, prompting a need to increase the local match. He also noted a state Division of Aviation report that cited a direct impact to Macon County of \$2,150,000 from the airport. Commissioner Higdon questioned if the decision to widen the runway was already a given, which prompted a lengthy discussion. Commissioner Tate made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #175 as presented, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Beale. This was followed by more discussion, primarily focused on whether approval of the design work was tantamount to approval of the actual widening of the runway. Commissioner Tate said that the engineer from W.K. Dickson could come to a meeting and answer questions if needed. The motion was then approved by a 3-2 vote, with Commissioners Beale, Corbin and Tate in favor, and Commissioners Haven and Higdon opposing. A copy of the amendment is attached (Attachment 2) and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

Chairman Corbin explained that the board would hold additional budget work sessions on Thursday, May 30th, at which time the board would hear from the volunteer fire departments that were requesting tax increases, followed by a session with school system officials on Tuesday, June 4th. He suggested keeping those meetings to approximately 90 minutes in length. He then provided information on a tax rate survey by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) which shows that Macon County has an “effective” tax rate of 33.58 cents, the lowest in the state, and he offered an explanation of how that rate was calculated. No action was taken.

The board then reviewed the revenue portion of the budget, with the County Manager and Finance Director offering comments and answering questions as needed. No action was taken. The board members agreed to discuss other “public safety” issues, including the sheriff’s office and emergency medical service, at the next session.

With no other business, and upon a motion by Commissioner Haven, seconded by Commissioner Beale, the board voted unanimously at 7:14 p.m. to recess the meeting until Thursday, May 30, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the commission boardroom on the third floor of the Macon County Courthouse, 5 West Main Street, Franklin, NC.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Kevin Corbin
Board Chairman