

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 12, 2010 – 6 P.M.
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 6 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, with the exception of Commissioner McClellan who was out of town, were present. Also present were the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, Interim County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Davis stated that an unfortunate incident happened over the weekend explaining that a detached garage behind his house caught fire. He added that the Franklin, Cullasaja, West Macon, Clarks Chapel and Mountain Valley Fire Departments responded and the professional execution of their duty prevented his house and office from burning also. He expressed his thanks to everyone involved and commended them for the incredible job they do.

INVOCATION: Chairman Beale announced former commissioner Neville Bryson recently passed away and a moment of silence in his honor was held prior to Commissioner Kupperts giving the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge to the flag was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT: **Sandy Preston** stated funding for her position as Tax Clerk/Receptionist was not recommended nor included in the FY 2010/11 Macon County Budget and her last day of work was June 30th. She added that she had worked for the county over 18 years, her husband was disabled and two-thirds of their family income had been taken away. Ms. Preston requested that her livelihood not be sacrificed. **Tom Ritter** informed the Board that a group had suggested a veteran's retreat/campout for veterans and their families at the Veterans Memorial Park and wanted to bring the idea to the Board. Chairman Beale suggested Mr. Ritter and the group start with the local veterans' groups for their input, interest, etc.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Kupperts the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda with the following changes: added as item #8A discussion on Nantahala Lake at the request of Commissioner Kupperts, added as item #8B discussion on Holly Springs Community Center at the request of Commissioner Simpson, added Cullasaja and Iotla Schools property as item #10B, added the Whitley Lease as item #10A, deleted item #11B(2) K-4 Resolution, added a budget revision to item #11B(1) and added a closed session for attorney/client privilege.

NANTAHALA LAKE: Commissioner Kupperts reported there is no designated swimming area for public swimming at Nantahala Lake and that teenagers in the area were using Queens Creek Lake until the N.C. Wildlife Commission started ticketing them because swimming is prohibited in the lake. He added that they are now swimming at the

spillway at the dam which is a safety issue. Commissioner Kuppers explained he wanted the Board to be aware of the situation and that he would like to meet with Wildlife officials to see why swimming is prohibited at Queens Lake and if that could be changed. The general consensus of the Board was for Commissioner Kuppers to pursue this and keep the Board updated.

WHITLEY LEASE: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to adopt a resolution declaring property surplus and approving a one year lease of the same to Whitley Products, Inc. per **attachment #1**.

HOLLY SPRINGS COMMUNITY CENTER: Commissioner Simpson stated he had met with residents of Holly Springs who have requested assistance of the county maintenance staff and financial support of possibly \$10,000 for upgrades to the community center including remodeling of the kitchen and bathrooms. The County Attorney was requested to determine if the County could legally make such a contribution and Commissioner Simpson and the County Manager were requested to meet with the community club representatives to review the project.

IOTLA SCHOOL: Pursuant to G.S. § 115C-518 the Board of Education offered .065 acres to the Board of Commissioners. The County Attorney explained the Board is aware of a property exchange with a neighboring property at the new K-4 elementary site to gain added entrance space at the school and the .065 acres will be the property the Board of Education proposes to trade. (See **attachment #2** for complete legal description of property.) Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to reject the offer from the Board of Education.

CULLASAJA SCHOOL: Pursuant to G.S. § 115C-518 the Board of Education offered to Macon County the Cullasaja School building and surrounding six acres of property. (See **attachment #2** for complete legal description of property.) Upon motion by Commissioner Kuppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to reject the offer.

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers, the following items on the consent agenda were approved: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes of the June 28th meeting. **Budget revisions** – Approved budget revision #215, appropriating fire district revenues for FY 09/10; revision #216, budgeting additional JCPC allocation and match in FY 09/10; revision #2, appropriating \$94,318 in Hudson Library project; revision #3, reappropriating \$5,000 in Finance for computer software installation incomplete at end of fiscal year; revision #4, reappropriating \$143,747 from loan proceeds for capital equipment and revision #5, budgeting Solid Waste Trust Fund Grant and twenty percent match. (Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached.) **NCACC voting delegate:** Designated Chairman Beale as the voting delegate to the 2010 NCACC annual conference.

APPOINTMENTS – ORCHARD VIEW APARTMENTS: Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Stan Jeffress as Macon County’s representative on the board of directors of a new nonprofit corporation being formed to receive ownership of the Orchard View Apartments. Term of appointment will expire July 1, 2013.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board went into closed session for attorney/client privilege. During closed session the County Attorney and County Manager briefed the board on a legal issue and possible litigation. No action was necessary and the Board returned to regular session.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson the meeting was adjourned.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman