

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONTINUED SESSION
NOVEMBER 26, 2013
MINUTES**

Chairman Corbin reconvened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. in the commission boardroom as recessed from the November 18, 2013 continuation meeting. All board members, the Interim County Manager, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

Chairman Corbin summarized the events involved in the search for a new county manager following the retirement of Jack Horton. He said that from 38 applications, four individuals were interviewed, and the final two candidates were then interviewed again. He explained that the board had reached consensus but had not taken a vote. With that, Chairman Corbin said he would entertain a motion to hire Derek Roland as the new County Manager at a base salary of \$100,000 per year, along with a \$500 per month travel allowance in lieu of a county vehicle, credit for time served with the Town of Franklin toward longevity at Macon County, credit for annual leave in an amount representative to that which Mr. Roland would have accrued had he been a Macon County employee for the past 20 months, and the payment of membership dues on his behalf to national and state manager associations. Commissioner Higdon made the motion to hire Mr. Roland, and it was seconded by Commissioner Haven. During discussion, Commissioner Tate reviewed his thought process and how he came to his decision, explaining how Mr. Roland met his qualifications for the job. Commissioner Beale said he was proud to support Mr. Roland. Commissioner Haven said he wanted a person "who would stand for this county," adding that he anticipated Mr. Roland to be "the best county manager we could ever have." Commissioner Higdon said he was a strong advocate of hiring local, and that he was looking for someone with youth and a new approach to government. Chairman Corbin pointed out that Mr. Roland would start

work on December 16th, and the board then voted unanimously to hire Mr. Roland as County Manager under the terms outlined above.

Mr. Roland, who was in attendance, said that this was “the greatest honor I’ve ever received in my life,” adding that “I look forward to working at the direction of this board.” He thanked the board for its unanimous vote and said that he “wholeheartedly” accepted the job.

Chairman Corbin recognized Mr. Roland’s uncle, Mickey Duvall, a former Macon County Commissioner and currently the county manager in Pender County, North Carolina. Chairman Corbin also noted that Mr. Horton would be available to assist Mr. Roland.

Commissioner Beale noted the dates in March for the National Association of Counties (NACo) conference, and asked the board to consider rescheduling its January 14, 2014 regular meeting, as he had to be in Raleigh at 8 a.m. on January 15th. No action was taken.

With no other business, and upon a motion by Commissioner Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Haven, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:29 p.m.

Mike Decker, Interim County Manager
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Kevin Corbin
Board Chairman