

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 6 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced CareNet's request for funding was to be on the agenda but the Community Funding Pool could not meet until September 15th so it will be on the September 28th agenda. He also announced an open house for the Animal Control Facility will be held on October 9th at 2 p.m., announced the opening of the Macon County Fair which is dedicated to the memory of Wayne Proffitt this year, announced Ken McCaskill's retirement reception on September 25th, announced there is a state meeting in Burnsville on September 30th concerning electing Counties Work First Programs of which Macon County is one of seven remaining counties in the program, announced the Town of Highlands will host a joint meeting of the Towns and County on October 22nd at the Highlands Country Club, and presented a certificate of appreciation from the Pine Grove School Restoration Committee.

INVOCATION: Rev. Jim Dusek, Interim Pastor from First Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS - Chairman Beale convened the public hearing on amendment of the Subdivision Ordinance as posted. Permitting, Planning and Development (PP&D) Director Jack Morgan explained the Planning Board had recommended the amendment which will exempt family subdivision from the requirements of the Ordinance and the General Assembly approved legislation allowing this exemption to be incorporated into the County ordinance. No one wished to speak and the hearing was adjourned. Back in regular session Commissioner McClellan made a motion to amend the Subdivision Ordinance to make the following changes: Add under §159.07: "8. *A family subdivision as defined in §159.08 of this ordinance.*" and add: "*§159.08 Family Subdivision: The division of land into two or more parcels or lots for the purpose of conveying the resulting parcels or lots to a grantee or grantees who are in any degree of lineal kinship to the grantor or to a grantee or grantees who are within four degrees of collateral kinship to the grantor. The exemption provided by the ordinance shall only apply if the deed of conveyance notes that it is a family subdivision as defined in this section. Degrees of kinship shall be computed in accordance with G.S. §104A-1.*" The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No one wished to speak during public session.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Chairman Beale stated Item 8A, Update on Child Support Enforcement Administration, would be postponed until a later meeting and grading contractors licensing would be added as Item 8A. Commissioner Davis asked that an update on health insurance be added as Item 9A under old business and the Deputy Clerk requested three items be added to the surplus property list on Item 11D. Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda as amended.

GRADING CONTRACTORS LICENSE/CONTINUING EDUCATION: PP&D Director Jack Morgan reported the County has in place a program requiring Grading Contractors to obtain a license from Macon County and one of the requirements for maintaining that license is to attend continuing education classes which Macon County is required to offer at least twice a year. Mr. Morgan explained their department is planning a continuing education class in October and reminded the Board they paid for county contractors to take a class offered by NC State University last spring. He requested the Board to consider waiver of the \$60 county fee for the class for currently licensed Macon County Contractors in order for them to obtain their required CEU's without cost to them. He explained this would not cost the County any additional money as the County Erosion Control Offices will be the course instructors. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to authorize county staff to hold continuing education classes in October for grading contractors (re)licensing and to waive the \$60 fee for Macon County licensed contractors with non-county contractors and unlicensed contractors paying the \$60 fee.

FLU VACCINE UPDATE: Health Director Jim Bruckner introduced Dr. Jimmy Villiard, Preparedness Coordinator for the Health Department. Dr. Villiard informed the Board CDC continues to send updates on the H1N1 flu vaccine which is different from the regular flu vaccine. He added clinics for the regular flu vaccine have been scheduled around the County but due to lack of information concerning when the H1N1 vaccine will be received, how much, etc. they have not scheduled any clinics for that vaccine. No action was necessary and the Health Department will keep the Board updated.

HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE: Staff reported they had been in touch with the NCACC insurance pool and other vendors who are willing to make presentations to the Board. It was agreed a meeting should be scheduled for health insurance discussion only. Several dates were discussed and staff will get some available dates.

HIGHLANDS LIBRARY: Robert E. Smith, President of the Hudson Library, gave an update on the library and informed the Board that the Bascom Art Gallery has moved to a new location and there are plans to renovate that vacated space for use by the Library. He explained the proposed costs of the renovations are \$150,000 and the Hudson Library can provide \$18,750 in donations and \$25,000 in grants toward the renovations. He stated based on meetings with county officials that the county would be willing to provide the balance of \$106,250 with county maintenance staff coordinating and overseeing the renovations. Mr. Smith introduced Hudson Library Board Member Lee

Byers, County Librarian Karen Wallace and Hudson Librarian Mary Lou Worley. Plans for future expansion were presented and briefly discussed. Also discussed was a new lease agreement on the facility with action being postponed until the next meeting pending review by the library board's attorney. After further discussion concerning the renovation project Commissioner McClellan made a motion to proceed with the renovations as presented, to appropriate \$106,250 from fund balance to cover the cost with county staff providing labor contingent upon approval of a lease agreement and receipt of matching funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored. It was noted all project funds including donations and grant funds would be handled through the county.

HIGHLANDS SOCCER FIELD: Change order #3 on the Highlands School Soccer Field project in the amount of \$23,803.50 for 350 yards additional rock to be blasted and removed. It was noted the money was within the project contingency. Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the change order as presented.

RESOLUTION – APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM FUNDING/NCDOT EQUITY FORMULA: Chairman Beale stated at a recent meeting with the Secretary of Transportation disbursement of highway funds in Western North Carolina were discussed and based on these discussions the Southwestern Commission Regional Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee has recommended adoption of the attached resolution. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to adopt a resolution requesting the North Carolina General Assembly to exclude the Appalachian Development Highway System Funding from the NCDOT Equity Formula. (Attachment #1)

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items on the consent agenda: **Minutes** – The minutes from the August 24th meeting. **Budget revisions** – revision #25, appropriating \$14,418 for Animal Control continuing contracts from FY 08/09; revision #26, appropriating \$200 increase in Health Department/Disease control; revision #27, appropriating \$2,500 increase in Health Department/Child Health; and revision #28, budgeting \$3,600 additional allocation in DSS. **EDC/Main Street Program** – approved a recommendation from the Economic Development Commission to allocate \$500 to the Main Street Program to help defer cost of a one day program for a small business consultant to aid merchants of Macon County. **Surplus property** – Approved the following list of property from Emergency Management as surplus and authorized for disposal: Dictaphone recorder, 4 defibrillators, two cases of blue raincoats, scrap from a 70 foot communications tower, HP Plotter and a map table. Also included in the motion is the attached list of vehicles. (Attachment #2)

APPOINTMENTS: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following list of appointments: **Area Agency on Aging** – Appointed Sue Waldroop as Alternate to fill the unexpired term of Allen Allman who chose not to serve. Term will expire June 30, 2012.

Child Fatality Prevention Team - Reappointed Robbie Holland representing Law Enforcement; Warren Cabe, Emergency Services Provider; Virginia Canfield, parent of child who died prior to 18th birthday; and Alisha Ashe, Director Kids Place. Terms will expire July 31, 2012. **Criminal Justice Partnership:** Reappointed County Commissioner (McClellan), County Manager or designee (Teresa McDowell), District Attorney or Designee (Jason Arnold), School Superintendent or designee, Criminal Defense Attorney (Rob Hensley), Sheriff or Designee, Community Service Coordinator (Brenda Dillard), Probation Officer (Alise Sutton), Public Health/Substance Abuse (Mike Neidig), Chief of Police (Terry Bradley), Member of business community (Bob Scott), Victim of Crime (Dinah Mashburn), Public Service (Paul Biery), Members at Large (Tara Doster & Drew Norton), Superior and District Court Judge, Lindsey Gentry, Juvenile Court Counselor with terms to expire August 31, 2012. **Economic Development Commission** – Accepted the recommendation to reappoint: Dr. Connie Haire, Hank Ross (Town of Highlands Rep), Joe Collins (Town of Franklin Rep), Steve Chenoweth (Highlands Chamber Rep) and Donnie Bishop (Franklin Chamber Rep). Also accepted recommendation of the EDC that Dr. Haire’s term will expire January 31, 2012 and the terms of Mr. Ross, Mr. Collins, Mr. Chenoweth and Mr. Bishop will expire January 31, 2011. **Recreation:** Appointed Jeff Weller (Highlands) to replace Allan Bryson and reappointed Vince West (Nantahala) with terms to expire July 15, 2012. **Rest/Nursing Home and Adult Care Advisory Committee:** Reappointed Gene Hawkins, Dorothy Crawford and Merritt Fouts with terms to expire August 31, 2012. **TDC – Franklin/Nantahala Area:** Reappointed Mike Grubermann (accommodations with less than 10 units) and Mike Decker (Town). Terms will expire September 15, 2012. **TDC – Highlands Area:** Reappointed Gary Drake (at large), Jerry Moore (Highlands Chamber Board) and Hank Ross (Town) with terms to expire September 15, 2012.

CLOSED SESSION: Commissioner McClellan made a motion to go into closed session for attorney/client privilege on a legal matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. An update on a legal issue was received with no action being taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion of Commissioner Davis the meeting was adjourned.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman

