

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 22, 2010 – 2:00 P.M.
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Finance Director, Interim County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced the open house for the new Senior Services Center will be April 16 at 2 p.m.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Koppers gave the invocation.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: **Dewey Gunnin** expressed appreciation to the Board for the job they do and voiced concerns about the county attorney situation stating he thought the salary was too much. He asked that the Board remember this when they hire someone else and that this is taxpayers' money. Commissioner Davis responded that he and Commissioner Simpson were the only two members of the current Board that were on the Board at the time the former attorney was hired and there were things that they were not aware of. **Shirley Chez** announced there is a road side clean up on April 24th from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. and urged participation.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda with the following changes: item #8B, NCDOT, was delayed until the April meeting; item #11G, Health Department billing guide, was moved from the consent agenda and added as item #10d under new business and funding for a Highlands School project was added as item #10e.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: **Transit** – Chairman Beale recessed the regular meeting and convened the public hearing on a Community Transportation Grant in the amount of \$227,517 as noticed. Transit Director Kim Angel explained the grant application. No one wished to speak and the hearing was closed. Chairman Beale then convened the public hearing on a Federal Transportation Administration Section 5310 Application in the amount of \$145,408 as noticed. Ms. Angel explained the grant application. No one wished to speak and the hearing was closed and the meeting returned to regular session.

TRANSIT GRANT RESOLUTIONS: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the attached resolution authorizing submission of the Community Transportation Grant application for \$227,517. **(Attachment #1)** Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the attached resolution authorizing submission of the Federal Transportation Administration Section 5310 grant application for \$145,408. **(Attachment #2)**

USFS - No one was presented on behalf of the USFS so the item was removed from the agenda.

SCHOOL PROPERTY, ARCHITECT CONTRACTS AND INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: Chairman Beale recessed the regular meeting to convene a public hearing to discuss the acquisition of real property for use by the Macon County Board of Education (Iotla and Nantahala Schools) as noticed. The County Attorney explained the purpose of the hearing. No one wished to speak. The hearing was adjourned and the Board returned to regular session. **Transfer of properties** – Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to accept ownership of the Nantahala and Iotla School properties for the purpose of issuing debt for school projects. **Architectural agreements** – Commissioner McClellan made a motion to adopt a resolution to waive the bidding requirements for architectural requirements on the North Macon K-4 School project and the Nantahala School renovation project (per attachment #3) and to accept assignment of related contracts. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. **Interlocal agreement** – Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to approve an interlocal agreement with the Macon County Board of Education pertaining to Nantahala and Iotla Schools per attachment #4.

PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELL RESOLUTION: After discussion, Commissioner Simpson made a motion to adopt a resolution of support for House Bill 1346, changing the private drinking water well instruction to allow well drillers licensed in North Carolina to “self-certify” grout installations per attachment #5 with copies being forwarded to all 99 counties and the western legislative delegation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClellan and all favored.

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL CHANGE ORDER: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to approve a change order on the Highlands School Project in the amount of \$3,751.97 contingent upon approval by the Board of Education at their meeting later today. A summary of the changes is attached. (Attachment #6)

VETERANS MEMORIAL: Neal Reindeau and Kenneth Carpenter were present representing the Veterans Memorial Committee and to request funding of \$5,500 for rock work on the exterior wall of the memorial. Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Board unanimously voted to fund the \$5,500 from Contingency.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT BILLING GUIDE: Health Director Jim Bruckner presented a 2010-2011 Billing and Collections Policies and Fee Plan for the Macon County Public Health Center stating the Health Board had approved the guide and requested approval from the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Koppers expressed concerns about the fee for repairs to wells being the same price as siting a new well. After considerable discussion Commissioner Koppers made a motion to approve the

guide as presented with the exception of the Repair of Well Permit Fees per **attachment #7**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored.

HIGHLANDS SOFTBALL FIELD FUNDING REQUEST: Commissioner McClellan gave an update on a drainage problem at the Highlands Softball Field. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to fund up to \$12,000 for the project.

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously approved the following items on the consent agenda: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes from the March 1st meeting. **Budget revisions** – Approved budget revision #124, appropriating \$1,321,675 in the Franklin High School Renovations Capital Project; revision #125, appropriating \$451 insurance settlement for the Sheriff’s Department; revision #126, appropriating \$1,002 insurance settlement for Solid Waste; revision #127, appropriating \$1,043 Shop with a Cop and DARE donations; revision #128, decreasing the Health Department budget by \$7,050 for “Baby Think it Over” class unable to be offered by Health Education; revision #129, appropriating \$1,480 additional state BCCCP health funds; revision #130, appropriating \$1,587 additional state funding for “Smokefree” law; revision #131, appropriating \$1,000 Duke Power sponsor fee for EDC banquet; and revision #132, making adjustments to Transit budget for additional revenue and to allocate ARRA funds. (Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached.) **Tax releases** - Approved tax releases in the amount of \$1,582.72. (Note: a computer print-out of releases is on file in the Tax Office and the County Manager’s Office) **Tax refund** – Pursuant to GS #105-312(f) approved a refund in the amount of \$14.22 to Joseph R. Parker because taxes were paid in Clay County on the camper. **Tax appraisal resolution** – Adopted a resolution correcting the time for general reappraisals of real property in Macon County per **attachment #8**. **Highlands July 4th Fireworks** – Authorized a fireworks display in the Town of Highlands for July 3, 2010 or in the case of inclement weather the alternative date of September 4, 2010.

APPOINTMENTS – Board of Equalization and Review – Commissioner McClellan made a motion to appoint Doug Campbell to fill the position vacated by Steve Pierson on the Board of Equalization and Review contingent upon Mr. Campbell accepting the appointment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored. **Franklin/Nantahala Area TDC:** Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Judy Chapmen, representative at large, on the Franklin/Nantahala Area TDC to fill the unexpired term of Kristy Dodge who resigned. Term will expire September 15, 2010.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session for attorney/client privilege. During closed session the Board was briefed on a legal matter with no action being taken and the Board returned to regular session.

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

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman