

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 24, 2010 – 2 P.M.
MINUTES

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced upon completion of the agenda the meeting would be recessed until 6 p.m. in order to hold a public hearing on the QZAB financing for renovations at Nantahala School, that the meeting would then recess until 6 p.m. on May 27th for a budget work session, then recess until 6 p.m. on June 7th for the public hearing on the budget and other work sessions as the Board deems necessary.

INVOCATION: Chairman Beale gave the invocation.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one wished to speak during the public comment period.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Davis the agenda was approved with the following adjustments: add Riverbend water project and minority resolution as items #10A and #10B; add authorization to hire bond counsel for the Nantahala renovations project to the consent agenda as item #11B(3) and add personnel to closed session.

HIGHLANDS LIBRARY: Robert L Smith, Bob Trevathan and Hilda Patrick from the Hudson Library Board, Avary Doubleday from the Macon County Library Board and Librarian Karen Wallace were present to discuss resolutions passed by both the Hudson Library Board and the Macon County Library Board authorizing negotiations for the transfer of ownership for the Hudson Library Building to Macon County in return for an agreement from the County to renovate and expand the building per terms of the resolutions. After discussion Commissioner McClellan made a motion to accept the resolution from the Hudson Library to enter into negotiations as indicated per **attachment #1**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to accept the resolution of the Macon County Library Board in support of the Hudson Library's request per **attachment #2**. A current list of members of both library boards was discussed and an updated list will be submitted.

BUDGET PRESENTATION: County Manager Horton presented the FY 2010/2011 proposed budget with a general fund of \$42,772,146. It was noted due to his recent illness Mr. Horton did not present the traditional budget message and will present at a later meeting. He reminded the board the first work session would be May 27th and the

Board requested representatives from Solid Waste, the schools, Emergency Management and the Airport Authority be present. Other agencies will be scheduled as necessary. The Chairman reminded everyone the public hearing on the budget is scheduled for June 7th at 6 p.m. in the Board Room.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Robert Poindexter representing the Macon County Historical Society stated the Society received \$20,000 from the County last year and nothing this year. He stated the Society needed consideration from the towns and county for funding explaining that all their funding is derived from memberships, donations and the recently opened thrift store. Mr. Poindexter stated the Historical Society plans to work with the Heritage Association and other organizations to enhance the area and requested consideration of an allocation.

RESOLUTION – MINORITY OUTREACH: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously adopted a resolution confirming outreach to minority businesses for participation in contracts, etc. **per attachment #3.**

RIVERBEND WATER PROJECT: Jay Meliski from McGill Associates and Project Manager on the Riverbend Road Water Systems Improvements projects reported ten bids for the project were received on May 6, 2010. Mr. Meliski explained the project includes installation of approximately 19,000 linear feet of 12-inch water line, a 500,000 gallon water storage tank and a water booster pump station that could later be used to extend potable water service to the Swiss Colony and Riverbend Estates community water systems as outlined in **attachment #4.** He stated the low bidder, Tugaloo Pipeline, Inc. is properly licensed and qualified to perform the work. Mr. Meliski noted there may be funds remaining in the grant to repipe Swiss Colony but it would be necessary to request additional funds to work Riverbend Estates. He added that once completed these systems would be incorporated into the town's system. When questioned Mr. Meliski noted Arthur Drake Road is part of the town system and most of Windy Gap Road is on private wells and neither were included in this project. Commissioner Davis made a motion to award the bid to Tugaloo Pipeline, Inc. in the amount of \$1,555,593 as recommended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuppers and all favored.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DAY REVIEW: Commissioner Kuppers gave an update on his attendance at the recent General Assembly Day stating, in addition to attending the Assembly, he met with Representative Phil Haire and representatives at DENR.

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the following items on the consent agenda were unanimously approved: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes of the May 11, 2010, meeting. **Finance** – Approved the following budget revisions: revision #182, increasing Housing Weatherization #1061 WA contract by \$19,360; revision #183, appropriating \$1,000 sponsor fees for Economic Development; and revision #184, transferring \$80,000 from Contingency for air conditioning Macon Middle School gym. (Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached) **School Lottery Funds** – Approved submission of the

attached application for \$586,817 Public School Building Capital Funds from the North Carolina Education Lottery for debt service payment. **(Attachment #5) Bond Counsel** – Approved Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge, & Rice, PLLC of Raleigh as bond counsel on the Nantahala School renovation project at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. **Tax releases** – Approved tax releases in the amount of \$428.16 as submitted. (Note: A print-out of releases is on file in the Tax Office and the County Manager’s Office.) **Fireworks Display** – Authorized the Franklin Chamber of Commerce to hold a fireworks display on July 3, 2010, in the Macon County Veterans Memorial Park.

APPOINTMENTS: Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Board – Appointment to fill a vacancy on the Nursing/Adult Care Home Community Advisory Board was delayed. **Farmland Preservation** – Commissioner Simpson made a motion to reappoint Jerry Sutton to the Farmland Preservation Committee contingent upon his acceptance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. Term will expire May 31, 2013. **Health Board** – Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Tammy Dills representing Nurses and Roberta Swank and Ron Winecoff representing the general public on the Health Board. All terms will expire June 30, 2013.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Davis the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session for attorney/client privilege and personnel. During closed session the above referenced items were discussed with no formal action being taken. Back in regular session, upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the meeting was recessed until 6 p.m. on the same date (May 24, 2010) in the Board Room.

PUBLIC HEARING - Chairman Beale reconvened the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. and then opened the public hearing on the proposed contract for installment financing pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. Section 160A-20 as noticed. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, Interim County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Finance Director Evelyn Southard explained the financing is provided by a Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB) allocation of \$1,800,000 and is for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other available funds for a renovation project at Nantahala K-12 School. She stated that as a result of a request for proposals, three bank proposals were received. A summary of all proposals was provided. No one wished to speak during the public hearing and the recommendation was to accept the proposal from BB& T for a term of 15 years at an interest rate of 6.55% (with subsidy) with the Nantahala School property being used as security. The subsidy rate for the QZAB will be set on the day of closing.

It was noted that the Nantahala Community Development Club would be providing the in-kind match required for the QZAB funding. No formal action was required at this time and the hearing was adjourned.

RECESS: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the meeting was recessed until 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2010, in the Commissioner Board Room on the third floor of the Macon County Courthouse.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman