

Surry County Board of Commissioners
Meeting of March 18, 2019

The Surry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. on March 18, 2019. The meeting was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Historic Courthouse, Dobson, N.C.

Board members present for the meeting were Chairman Van Tucker, Commissioner Bill Goins, Commissioner Eddie Harris, and Commissioner Mark Marion.

Vice-Chairman Larry Johnson was unable to attend.

Others present for the meeting, at various times, were:

Chris Knopf, County Manager
Sandy Snow, Assistant County Manager
Rhonda Nixon, Budget and Performance Director
Kim Bates, Planning Director
Kristy Preston, DSS Director
Don Mitchell, Facilities Management and Interim Public Works Director
Sarah Bowen, Finance Officer
Ed Woltz, County Attorney
Tammy Johnson, Assistant to the County Manager
News Media

Chairman Tucker called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. Commissioner Goins delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Tucker requested the Board consider the minutes of the March 4, 2019 meeting as presented.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the meeting minutes as written.

Chairman Tucker requested the Board consider the consent agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Goins, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda.

Requests from the County Manager:

- Approve the following from the Tax Department:
 1. Total releases for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$2,435.22.
 2. Total refunds for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$4,422.16.
 3. Total NCVTS tag and tax refunds for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$1,206.31.
 4. Total real and personal property discoveries for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$6,528.35.
 5. Total EMS, EMD, and EMS-MC additions for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$107,775.77.
 6. Total EMS, EMD, and EMS-MC refunds for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$183.88.
 7. Total EMS, EMD, and EMS-MC releases for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$6,131.11.

8. Total EMS, EMD, and EMS-MC collections for the month ending 2/28/19 in the amount of \$26,782.63.

Requests from the Assistant County Manager:

- Approve payment for an invoice from Loftis Appraisal for services performed at Turner Mountain.
- Approve the Dockery lease for a year to year term as presented.
- Approve the following changes to the Position Classification Plan, effective April 1, 2019: remove Assistant Human Resources Officer from Grade 73; add Senior Human Resources Manager to Grade 73; remove Land Records Manager from Grade 68; add Land Records Coordinator to Grade 68.

Requests from the Finance Officer:

- Approve the new contract with Alsco for laundry services for Emergency Services.

Requests from the Budget & Performance Director:

- Approve budget amendment #17 as follows:

<u>ACCOUNT</u>			<u>PREVIOUS</u>		<u>REVISED</u>
<u>CODE</u>		<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>					
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>					
<u>Governing Body</u>					
1054110	51500	Professional Services	135,000	10,000	145,000
		Increase departmental total	524,105	10,000	534,105
<u>Judicial Center Building</u>					
1054185	51720	Contracted Services	69,120	1,200	70,320
		Buildings & Grounds			
1054185	53010	Maintenance	214,313	750	215,063
		Increase departmental total	520,523	1,950	522,473
<u>Cooper Street Building</u>					
1054186	51720	Contracted Services	5,500	3,188	8,688
		Increase departmental total	11,000	3,188	14,188
<u>Sheriff's Office Building</u>					
		Buildings & Grounds			
1054187	53010	Maintenance	10,000	5,618	15,618
		Increase departmental total	40,500	5,618	46,118
<u>Dobson Plaza Building</u>					
1054188	51500	Professional Services	0	1,116	1,116
1054188	51720	Contracted Services	40,000	8,087	48,087
1054188	52010	Supplies & Materials	0	1,383	1,383
		Increase departmental total	120,878	10,586	131,464
<u>Historic Courthouse</u>					
1054192	51500	Professional Services	0	10,134	10,134
		Buildings & Grounds			
1054192	53010	Maintenance	10,000	3,089	13,089
		Increase departmental total	81,145	13,223	94,368
<u>Admin/Social Services Building</u>					
1054196	51500	Professional Services	0	8,250	8,250
		Increase departmental total	270,805	8,250	279,055
<u>Central Supply</u>					
1054200	52900	Small Equipment	107,925	(28,947)	78,978
1054200	56010	Equipment	201,529	(39,733)	161,796
		Decrease departmental total	445,667	(68,680)	376,987

Sheriff's

1054310	56010	Equipment	255,473	25,865	281,338
		Increase departmental total	5,630,596	25,865	5,656,461

Soil & Water Conservation

1054960	56550	Buildings	0	12,110	12,110
		Increase departmental total	149,171	12,110	161,281

Transfers

1059810	59227	Transfer to Airport	266,364	40,000	306,364
		Increase departmental total	6,339,088	40,000	6,379,088

REVENUE

1044000	49900	Unencumbered Balance	6,435,106	50,000	6,485,106
1044960	44569	Project Management Fees	0	12,110	12,110
		Increase fund totals.	73,095,790	62,110	73,157,900

AIRPORT OPERATIONS FUND

EXPENDITURES

8154985	51500	Professional Services	50,000	40,000	90,000
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REVENUE

8144985	49800	Transfer from General Fund	266,364	40,000	266,364
		Increase fund totals.	428,360	40,000	468,360

- Approve the Sheriff's Office to purchase three drug dogs from the Narcotics Fund.

Chairman Tucker declared the meeting to be an open forum and invited members of the audience to address the Board on any matters of civic concern.

Mark Jones, Chairman of the Surry County Republican Party, expressed concerns about compliance of the County's firearms policies. To avoid being challenged by Grassroots NC and incurring expensive legal fees, he asked the Board to review the policies to make sure they comply with the North Carolina law.

Mark Jones, Chairman of the Surry County Republican Party, advised that Stokes County has been working with Representative Kyle Hall to establish local legislation to establish a partisan school board of which the Surry County Republican Party supports. Mr. Jones asked the Board to consider exploring the possibility of having Surry County added to the bill.

Gary York commended the Board on the County building renovations of the former Just Save retail store and the Historic Courthouse. Mr. York was pleased to see the transformation/preservation of both buildings while taking a tour with Don Mitchell, Facilities Management Director.

Scott Elvis concurred with Mr. Jones' previous comments about Grassroots NC and asked the Board to become aware of the violations the County could receive should the firearms ordinances not be in state compliance.

Paula Stanley, Mayberry for Paws, spoke about the increasing intake of animals being brought into the shelter and the costs associated. She asked the Board to consider creating a Spay and Neuter law.

Chuck Koubenec echoed previous comments regarding repealing of the concealed carry laws in Surry County and also supports the discussion of creating partisan school board elections.

There being no additional public comments, Chairman Tucker closed the public forum.

Chairman Tucker requested the Board review and approve the meeting agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Harris, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the March 18, 2019 agenda.

Kim Bates, Planning Director, presented a petition for Case #ZCR1186, pertaining to a conditional rezoning request for a proposed Dollar General store project at the northeast corner of NC Highway 89 and Beulah Church Road, approximately a mile west of I-77. Mr. Bates advised that this is consistent with some elements of the land use planning for case-by-case approval of community-oriented businesses at rural highway intersections and asked the Board for their consideration to approve.

Chairman Tucker declared a public hearing and requested comments from the public.

Derek Goddard, Blue Ridge Environmental, representing Dollar General and Teramore Development LLC in the application, advised that this is a \$1.6 million investment and feels the project would serve the community well.

There being no further comments, Chairman Tucker closed the public hearing.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the Statement of Consistency as follows.

Surry County Board of Commissioners' Statement of Zoning Consistency and Reasonableness:

Subject:	Case #ZCR1186, a Petition for Conditional Rezoning
Applicant / Owner:	Teramore Development LLC; Blue Ridge Environmental Consultants, P.A. (engineer); owner Allen Bostwick
Property Description:	Tax Parcel 4979-00-86-5752 (partial), 1.60 acres located in the northwest corner of West Pine Street / NC Highway 89 and Beulah Church Road, Stewarts Creek Township
Requested Reclassification:	From Rural Agricultural (RA) to Highway Business Conditional (HB-C), restricted to a single use, general retail discount store.

Development Goals from Land Use Plan 2020:

- 5.3.3 Encourage economic and commercial development that does not detract from the rural environment.
- 5.4.5.4 New commercial development should be encouraged to locate within existing areas of commercial activity.
- 5.4.5.12 Businesses should be served by roads and streets of a capacity sufficient for safe traffic flow; large businesses should locate at major intersections.

The Board finds consistency with plan elements 5.3.3 and 5.4.5.12, above, and notes that the proposed use of the land as a general discount retail store at a highway intersection will serve the public interest and provide needed service to the Beulah community and rural areas of the northwest quadrant of the County. These benefits are found to offset any inconsistency with element 5.4.5.4 above. Planning Staff and the Surry County Planning Board reviewed the submitted site plan; on March 11, 2019 the Planning Board returned a unanimous recommendation of approval of the proposed conditional rezoning.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve Rezoning Case #ZCR1186, from Rural Agricultural (RA) to Highway Business Conditional (HB-C), restricted to a single use, general retail discount store.

Kim Bates, Planning Director, presented a petition for Case #ZCR1187, General Use Rezoning. Mr. Bates presented facts pertaining to be a corrective rezoning for the Lowgap Medical Clinic project that was planned by Dr. Challie Minton at NC89 / Flippin Road; a rezoning to Highway Business-Conditional, specific to the planned clinic, was adopted by the County on June 18, 2018. As discussed at the Commissioners' meeting on February 18, Dr. Minton will not be pursuing his clinic project at this site but will instead be renovating the former Scenic Outlet property on West Pine Street/123 Scenic Outlet Lane for his clinic. We propose that the originally intended site is now zoned to permit only a medical clinic as proposed in plans submitted by Dr. Minton, and that since the project was discontinued, should most appropriately be returned to its original general-use RA zoning. Mr. Bates asked the Board for their consideration to approve.

Chairman Tucker declared a public hearing and requested comments from the public.

There being no public comments, Chairman Tucker closed the public hearing.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the Statement of Consistency as follows.

Surry County Board of Commissioners' Statement of Zoning Consistency and Reasonableness:

Subject:	Case #ZCR1187, a Petition for General Use Rezoning
Applicant / Owner:	Surry County Administration
Property Description:	Tax Parcels 4060-00-65-6175 (partial), 4.73 acres located in the northwest corner of West Pine Street / NC Highway 89 and Flippin Road, Stewarts Creek Township

Requested Reclassification: From Highway Business Conditional (HB-C), restricted to a single use, medical clinic, to Rural Agricultural (RA).

This rezoning is proposed as a corrective action. On June 18, 2019 the Board adopted a conditional rezoning of this property for a single-use district, to permit a proposed medical clinic project. The applicant has since relocated the project to a nearby site and has secured zoning approval and begun renovation of the new site. Therefore, the subject property now carries a business zoning classification specific to a site plan that will not be executed on the property, and the land cannot be developed as it is now classified. Staff proposes reclassification to the original general-use rural agricultural district, which is the predominant district in the area and is consistent with all surrounding properties. The Surry County Planning Board reviewed the current proposal on March 11, 2019, and unanimously recommends returning the land to RA zoning.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Harris, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve Rezoning Case #ZCR1187, from Highway Business Conditional (HB-C), restricted to a single use, medical clinic, to Rural Agricultural (RA).

Mr. Bates informed the Board of a permit application received from Duke Energy Renewables Solar LLC. Mr. Bates added that this is the first solar farm project under the zoning ordinance that includes a prior text amendment, adding regulations to solar farms. Mr. Bates also stated that the project proposed includes 150 acres in the Stony Knoll area near Rockford. Mr. Bates also advised that the Planning Board will have the authority to approve the conditional use permit and a public hearing will be held on the 8th of April.

Kristy Preston, DSS Director, reported on the following:

- DSS Dashboard for January and February 2019.
- NC DHHS Performance Measures for October and November 2018.
- Program Integrity Update - Sherry Hawks, Program Integrity Investigator and Review of the agency's current Program Integrity activities.
- General information related to the transformation of Medicaid.
- Implementation of NC FAST for Child Welfare update.
- Letter to General Assembly members from NCACDSS.

Don Mitchell, Facilities Management Director, presented quotes for asbestos abatement and demolition of the Cooperative Extension Building located on North Main Street in Dobson. Mr. Mitchell asked the Board to consider the lowest bid from EME Industrial Services, LLC, in the amounts of \$178,339.00 (Abatement) plus \$53,889 (Demolition), totaling \$232,228.00. Mr. Mitchell advised that funds are available for the work to be completed in the current fiscal year.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Harris, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve to award the bid to EME Industrial Services, LLC.

Don Mitchell, Facilities Management Director, presented proposals for local professional engineering companies to perform civil engineering work in preparation of constructing a parking lot at the site of the Cooperative Extension Building to be demolished. Mr. Mitchell asked the Board to consider approving a contract with Moore & Associates, for a cost of \$20,600.00. Mr. Mitchell advised that funds are available for the work to be completed in the current fiscal year.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the contract with Moore & Associates.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, discussed a memorandum from Rhonda Nixon, Budget & Performance Director, providing information about assets included in the County inventory: 1) copier purchased for \$13,829.90, and 2) digital imaging system purchased for \$12,574.00. The equipment was left in the Cooperative Extension Building and needs to be declared surplus prior to the County disposing.

Mr. Knopf advised that the department heads will have an opportunity to take what they can use from the building first, and a public notice will go out next, prior to the demolition.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Harris, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve for the copier and digital imaging system be declared surplus for disposing.

Don Mitchell, Facilities Management Director and Interim Public Works Director, presented Change Order #01 issued from Simcon Company for the Scale House at the Landfill. Mr. Mitchell advised that there is \$24,000 available for contingencies.

Change Order #01

Additional cost to add CAT6 cabling for the Scale House, including 8 phone/data ports and 4 camera locations (server or termination in the server room not included). Cost \$2,075.70

Upon motion of Chairman Tucker, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve Change Order #01.

Don Mitchell, Facilities Management Director, requested the proposal from Moseley Architects for Phase II, full architectural and engineering design services, for the Jail and law enforcement facility be pulled from the agenda due to revisions being worked through.

The Board took a ten-minute break.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented a resolution for incentives to Project Med, a new investment in a new Rural Health

Care facility. Mr. Knopf asked for the Board's consideration to approve following a public hearing.

Chairman Tucker declared a public hearing and requested comments from the public.

Dr. Challie Minton spoke about the proposed health care facility looking forward to getting back into Surry County and thanked the Board for their support.

J.T. Henson, Greg Hiatt, Steve Flippen, Lynda Hunter, Richard Loman, and Teresa spoke in favor of the health care facility and asked for the Board's support for the project.

Todd Tucker, President, Surry County Economic Development Partnership (EDP), spoke in favor of the proposed business to be located at this facility.

There being no further comments, Chairman Tucker closed the public hearing and the Board thanked Dr. Minton for considering Surry County to locate his business.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve the resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there has been described to the Board of Commissioners ("Board") of Surry County, North Carolina ("County") a proposal for Surry County to provide certain incentives to Project Med ("Company") in connection with the Company's new investment in a new Rural Health Care facility located in Surry County; and

WHEREAS, County will partner with Company as applicant to seek a North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Division Rural Health Care Grant ("Grant") in the amount of \$10,000 per new, full-time job created by Company, up to 10 jobs, for a total potential Grant of \$100,000, and

WHEREAS, the Grant requires a 5% local match from Surry County, not to exceed \$5,000, and

WHEREAS, Company proposes to create as many as 10 new full-time jobs within 18 months of the Grant award, and

WHEREAS, verification of new jobs shall occur after grant funds have been paid by County as part of the grant close-out process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Surry County:

1. County will provide the 5% local match component for a \$100,000 North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Division Rural Health Care Grant, not to exceed \$5,000. A source of funds for the \$5,000, 5% local match, is the County's Economic Development Fund Contingency.
2. Prior to receiving Grant funding, Company shall pay to County a sum equal to the required 5% local match to

- prevent a financial loss to County as a result of its participation in the Grant.
3. Given adequate access, County will assess company records sufficient to verify employment numbers and report the results to the North Carolina Department of Commerce as required by the Grant.
 4. Verification of new jobs shall occur after grant funds have been paid by County as part of the grant close-out process.
 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately and all of the Board proceedings, or parts thereof in conflict with the Resolution or, to the extent of such conflict, are hereby repealed.
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Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented a goal setting report prepared by Darren Rhodes, Rural Planning Manager, from an exercise the Board participated in at their retreat focusing on identifying priority goals for FY19-23.

Priorities included: financial stability/planning, school facilities funding, economic growth, governmental operations and policies, and stronger collaboration with other local governments and state/federal elected officials.

Goals included: 1) Consolidate New Jail/Sheriff's Office/ Communications/Magistrates into one office, and 2) Support economic growth through a second policy and promoting a skilled workforce.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, asked the Board to grant permission to hire a consultant, estimated at \$7,500.00, to submit an application to the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources seeking a National Register of Historic Places designation.

The former J.J. Jones High School, located in Mount Airy, was identified during a survey of probable sites. Mr. Knopf advised that the information has been reviewed by the Property Committee and they support the application. Commissioner Goins, representative for the Mount Airy district, along with the other Board members present at the meeting, spoke in favor of the application.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve for the County Manager to hire a consultant, in the amount not to exceed \$7,500.00, to prepare a National Register of Historic Places designation application.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented a draft letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to seek emergency watershed protection assistance. The assistance would pay to restore flood damages along the Fisher and Mitchell Rivers caused by Hurricane Florence. Mr. Knopf added that Lee Holcomb, USDA Supervisory Soil Conservationist, has advised that 10% match is required and can be secured through in-kind contributions. Tony Davis, Surry County Soil and Water Conservationist, added that the State's soil and water director asked that counties awarded the funding, submit a letter to their office,

to receive help with the 10% match. The Board asked Mr. Davis to see if other damaged areas in the county, in addition to the Fisher and Mitchell Rivers, be included.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Harris, all Board members present unanimously voted to release the letter with any applicable changes worked out with Tony Davis, Soil and Water Conservationist and USDA.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, asked the Board to consider amending his agenda to include two additional items to include a memorandum from Mark Willis, Opioid Response Director, and information from Sarah Bowen, Finance Officer, regarding the 2019 limited obligation bond project update that includes Surry County Schools bid openings.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Goins, all Board members present unanimously voted to amend the County Manager's agenda to include two additional items.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, discussed a memorandum from Mark Willis, Opioid Response Director, requesting the Board's consideration to prepare and submit, with the assistance of Dr. Corey Richardson of Integrated Care of Greater Hickory, Inc., a grant application to seek funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Fiscal Year 2019 Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program. The application is due April 16, 2019 and is for \$500,000, for a two-year period, not to exceed 75% of the program's cost. Mr. Willis received support from District Court Judge Bill Southern and District Attorney Ricky Bowman, to implement an Adult Drug Court in Surry County, projected to open between October 2019 and January 2020. The funds would cover the cost of a Program Manager/Case Manager, estimated at \$65,000 and 25% of the matching requirement. Mr. Willis discussed this as a priority at the planning retreat. The match will be funded from the Opioid Response's FY20 budget.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Goins, all Board members present unanimously voted to initiate the application process for the Bureau of Justice Assistance Fiscal Year 2019 Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, asked Sarah Bowen, Finance Officer, to discuss the 2019 limited obligation bond project update that includes Surry County Schools' bid openings.

Chairman Tucker recognized Surry County Schools Superintendent Dr. Travis Reeves, SCS Board Chair Dr. Terri Mosley, Clark Goings, and other school affiliates in attendance of the meeting.

Ms. Bowen updated the Board on the current bond project that included a preliminary resolution not-to-exceed \$25 million issuance adopted in 2018, Surry County Schools' budget and project bids that have been discussed by the Finance Committee. Ms. Bowen advised that the project documents will need to be prepared by March 22 and Board approval on April 1 to submit to the Local Government Commission (LGC) by their deadline of April 2.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Goins, all Board members present unanimously voted to go into

closed session to discuss economic development, legal, and personnel.

The Board came out of closed session and resumed regular business.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to terminate the contract with Wake Forest Baptist Medical as it relates to the helicopter transport.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Marion, all Board members present unanimously voted to approve but not release the closed session minutes from March 4, 2019.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Goins, all Board members present unanimously voted at 11:40 p.m. to recess the meeting and reconvene Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Tammy Johnson
Clerk to the Board

Sandy Snow,
Deputy Clerk to the Board