

Surry County Board of Commissioners
Meeting of December 6, 2010

The Surry County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on December 6, 2010. The meeting was held in the County Commissioners' Meeting Room, Surry County Government Center, Dobson, North Carolina.

Board members present for the meeting were Chairman Paul Johnson, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Miller, Commissioner Bill Hamlin, Commissioner Jim Harrell, Jr., Commissioner Craig Hunter, Commissioner-Elect R.F. "Buck" Golding, Commissioner-Elect Eddie Harris and Commissioner-Elect Garry Scarce.

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

Dennis Thompson, County Manager
Conchita Atkins, Clerk to the Board
Edwin Woltz, County Attorney
Betty Taylor, Assistant County Manager for Budget and Finance
Chris Knopf, Assistant County Manager for Economic Development and Tourism
Sandy Snow, Human Resources Officer
Various Elected Officials
Various Department Heads
Other Citizens
News Media

Chairman Paul Johnson called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Jimmy Miller delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Johnson requested the Board to consider the minutes of the November 29, 2010 meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Hunter, seconded by Commissioner Harrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harrell, seconded by Commissioner Miller, the Board voted unanimously to approve and not release the following closed session minutes.

November 29, 2010 Items 1-5

Upon motion of Commissioner Hunter, seconded by Commissioner Miller, the Board voted unanimously to allocate up to \$100,000 toward the Mount Airy Middle School gymnasium air condition project and up to \$150,000 to replace the bleachers at North Surry High School with the monies coming from sales tax proceeds.

Commissioner Hamlin questioned air condition in gymnasiums at the elementary schools. Commissioner Hunter stated that no elementary schools' gymnasiums were air conditioned.

Chairman Johnson stated he wanted to thank Commissioner Hamlin, Commissioner Harrell, and Commissioner Hunter for their service to Surry County. The following certificates were read in honor of Commissioner Hamlin, Commissioner Harrell and Commissioner Hunter:

Resolution Honoring Commissioner Bill Hamlin

WHEREAS, Bill Hamlin has been a member of the Board of County Commissioners of Surry County from December 4, 2006 to December 6, 2010.

WHEREAS, during Commissioner Hamlin's tenure on the Board many governmental service improvements were made for the benefit of the citizens of Surry County; and

WHEREAS, these improvements include the following:

- Continuous work to keep taxes from becoming excessive;
- Implementation of the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation Service to Surry County;
- Surry County Scenic Bikeway;
- Construction of the Permitting and Health Clinic;
- Construction of the Pilot Mountain and Elkin Workforce Development Centers;
- Expansion of Northern Hospital of Surry County;
- Building projects at Surry Community College;
- Mount Airy City Schools and Elkin City Schools renovations;
- Surry County Schools building and renovation projects, including Rockford Elementary School and Pilot Mountain Middle School;
- Advocate for Kapp Street Extension;
- Plastic recycling improvements;
- Various Economic Development Projects.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hamlin contributed to numerous Water and Sewer Projects: Flat Rock/Bannertown Water and Sewer, Interstates Water and Sewer, Elkin Gentry Road Water Project, Forrest Oaks/Surry Acres/Rockford School/Snowberry Lane water extension, Tobe Hudson/Oak Grove Church Road Project, Water and Sewer Agreements with municipalities.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hamlin served on numerous Boards and Commissions, including Surry Community College Board of Trustees, Economic Development Partnership Board, Workforce Development Consortium, Criminal Justice Partnership Advisory Board, Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments Housing Consortium, Juvenile Justice Prevention Council, Building Committee, Water and Sewer Committee, and Dobson Liaison Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Surry County Board of Commissioners, the Board commends Bill Hamlin for his years of service in behalf of Surry County and its citizens, his many accomplishments, and his devotion to duty.

Resolution Honoring Commissioner Dr. Jim Harrell, Jr.

WHEREAS, Dr. Jim Harrell, Jr. has been a member of the Board of Commissioners of Surry County from December 3, 1990 to December 6, 2010 while serving as:

Chairman from December 7, 1998 until December 6, 1999
Chairman from December 4, 2000 until December 3, 2001
Vice-Chairman from December 3, 2001 until December 2, 2002

WHEREAS, during Commissioner Harrell's tenure on the Board many governmental service improvements were made for the benefit of the citizens of Surry County; and

WHEREAS, these improvements included the following:

- Advances in schools funding for current expense and capital operations;
- Implementation of the Piedmont Authority of Regional Transportation in Surry County;
- Implementation of the E-911 Program;
- Conservation improvements, including Surry Scenic Bikeway and Mitchell River Conservation;
- Development of Workforce Development Centers in Mount Airy, Elkin, and Pilot Mountain;
- Expansion of Northern Hospital of Surry County;
- New and renovated schools in each School System, including the newly opened Rockford Elementary School and the Pilot Mountain Middle School;
- Construction of the Richards Health Science Building and the Viticulture Center;
- Major advances in economic development, with new industries during his term of service;
- Construction of County facilities, including the Historic Courthouse, Fisher River Park, Government Center, Judicial Center, Permitting and Health Clinics, and the Human Services Center;
- Continuous work to keep taxes from becoming excessive.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Harrell contributed to numerous Water and Sewer Projects including: Flat Rock/Bannertown Water and Sewer, White Plains Water, Interstates Water and Sewer, Elkin Gentry Road Water Project, and the Tobe Hudson/Oak Grove Church Road Project; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Harrell served on numerous Boards and Commissions including: Surry-Yadkin Mental Health Substance Abuse Authority, Recreation Study Commission, YVEDDI Board, Northern Hospital Board of Trustees, Fire Department Subcommittee, Economic Development Partnership Board, Mountain Park Recreation Foundation Improvement Committee, North Carolina Association of County Commissioners Board of Directors, Tourism Development Authority, and Chairman of the Cascade Highlands.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Surry County Board of Commissioners, the Board commends Dr. Jim Harrell, Jr. for his years of service in behalf of Surry County and

its citizens, his many accomplishments, and his devotion to duty.

Resolution Honoring Commissioner R. Craig Hunter

WHEREAS, R. Craig Hunter has been a member of the Board of Commissioners of Surry County from December 2, 2002 to December 6, 2010 while serving as Chairman from December 4, 2006 until December 7, 2009; and

WHEREAS, during Commissioner Hunter's tenure on the Board many governmental service improvements were made for the benefit of the citizens of Surry County; and

WHEREAS, these improvements include the following:

- Advances in schools funding for current expense capital operations and technology.
- Implementation of the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation in Surry County;
- Many conservation improvements, including Surry Scenic Bikeway, Mitchell River Conservation Program, and recycling improvements, including plastics recycling;
- Funding and development of Workforce Development Centers in Mount Airy, Elkin, and Pilot Mountain;
- Expansion of Northern Hospital of Surry County;
- New and renovated schools in each School System, including the newly opened Rockford Elementary School and the Pilot Mountain Middle School;
- Major advances in economic development, with new industries opened during his term of service;
- Construction and renovation of County buildings, including the Historic Courthouse, the Judicial Center, the Permitting and Health Clinics Center, and the Human Services Center;
- Continuous work to keep taxes from becoming excessive.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hunter contributed to numerous Water and Sewer Projects: Flat Rock/Bannertown Water and Sewer, Interstates Water and Sewer, Elkin Gentry Road Water Project, Forrest Oaks/Surry Acres/Rockford School/Snowberry Lane water extension, and the Tobe Hudson/Oak Grove Church Road Project; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hunter served on the following Boards and Commissions: Criminal Justice Partnership Committee, Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee, Northern Hospital Board, Rural Planning Organization Transportation Committee, Workforce Development Consortium, Piedmont Triad Partnership Board of Directors, Building and Grounds Committee, Social Services Board and Mount Airy/Surry County Liaison Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Surry County Board of Commissioners, the Board commends R. Craig Hunter for his years of service in behalf of Surry County and its citizens, his many accomplishments, and his devotion to duty.

Board Members expressed heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to serve along side other Board members and the citizens of Surry County during their tenure.

Carolyn Comer, Register of Deeds, presented a certificate to each outgoing Board member.

Erica Smith, Democratic Party Chairman, presented a plaque to Commissioner Hamlin and Commissioner Harrell.

Dave Erby, Republican Party Chairman, presented a plaque to Commissioner Hunter.

Earlie Coe, Surry County Schools Board Chairman, thanked the Board members for all their support of the Surry County School System.

Chairman Johnson then turned the meeting over to the Honorable Judge Angela Puckett for the swearing in ceremony for newly-elected Commissioner R.F. "Buck" Golding, Commissioner Eddie Harris and Commissioner Garry Scearce.

Judge Puckett administered the oath of office to Commissioner R.F. "Buck" Golding, with the oath being on file in the County Manager's Office.

Judge Puckett administered the oath of office to Commissioner Eddie Harris, with the oath being on file in the County Manager's Office.

Judge Puckett administered the oath of office to Commissioner Garry Scearce, with the oath being on file in the County Manager's Office.

Each Commissioner expressed excitement for the upcoming year and looks forward to serving the citizens of Surry County.

The Board took a ten minute recess for the seating of the newly-elected Commissioners.

Chairman Johnson asked the County Manager to preside over the nomination and election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for December 2010 through December 2011.

The County Manager opened the floor for nomination for Chairman.

Commissioner Scearce nominated Commissioner Paul Johnson.

There were no other nominations.

The County Manager called for a vote.

The vote was unanimous.

The County Manager announced that Commissioner Johnson would remain Chairman for 2011.

Commissioner Johnson thanked the Board for their trust in him and stated that he will do what is best for the County.

The County Manager opened the floor for nomination for Vice-Chairman.

Eddie Harris nominated R.F. "Buck" Golding.

There were no other nominations.

The County Manager called for a vote.

The vote was unanimous.

The County Manager announced that Commissioner R.F. "Buck" Golding would be Vice-Chairman for 2011.

Commissioner Golding stated that he is excited about the upcoming year.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to allocate up to \$4,000 to David Hill Builders, for additional work to the auditorium at the old Jones School Auditorium facility. Chairman Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

There was not further business to come before the Board.

Chairman Johnson invited everyone to the lobby of the Government Center for a reception in honor of out-going and newly-elected Commissioners.

Upon motion of Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Golding, the Board voted unanimously to recess until December 17, 2010-8:00 a.m., Room 335, Surry County Government Center, for a Board Retreat and other County business. The meeting ended at 7:00 p.m.

Conchita Atkins
Clerk to the Board