

Surry County Board of Commissioners
Meeting of October 2, 2017

The Surry County Board of Commissioners met on October 2, 2017. 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 Eddie Harris, Vice-Chairman Van Tucker, Commissioner R.F. "Buck" Golding, Commissioner Larry Johnson and Commissioner Larry Phillips.

Others present for the meeting, at various times, were:
Chris Knopf, County Manager
Conchita Atkins, Clerk to the Board
Edwin Woltz, County Attorney
Sandy Snow, Assistant County Manager for Human Resources and Operations
Sarah Bowen, Finance Officer

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Golding delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Harris requested the Board review and approve the agenda.

Upon motion of Commissioner Tucker, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

Chairman Harris requested the Board consider the minutes of the September 18, 2017 meeting.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Chairman Harris requested that the Board consider the consent agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items:

Requests by the County Manager:

- Approve the following resolution regarding holding the November 20, 2017 meeting at the Mount Airy High School:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Surry County Board of Commissioners received an invitation from the Mount Airy City Schools to host its regular Board meeting at the Mount Airy High School; and

WHEREAS, the Surry County Board of Commissioners feels it is desirable from time to time to conduct Board meetings at various locations throughout the County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Surry County Board of Commissioners will conduct its November 20, 2017 regular meeting at the Mount Airy High School beginning at 6:00 p.m.

- Approve the adjustment amount of a Homeland Security Training Grant from \$425,000 to \$491,034. The \$425,000 was approved at the September 21, 2017 Board meeting.
- Direct the Tax Department to utilize Kania Law Firm to handle current and future property tax foreclosures.
- Approve the following resolution regarding supporting easement for a scenic view at the Overlook on US 21:

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT EASEMENT
FOR A SCENIC VIEW AT THE OVERLOOK ON US 21**

WHEREAS, the County of Surry recognizes the scenic beauty of Surry and Wilkes counties; and

WHEREAS, Surry County supports the North Carolina Department of Transportation opening and maintaining a Scenic Overlook on US 21 that showcases the Surry and Wilkes viewshed; and

WHEREAS, re-opening the site will provide a very desirable view from this overlook for local citizens and tourists; and

WHEREAS, Surry County seeks to preserve, protect, enhance, and connect the cultural, natural, historical and scenic assets of Surry and Wilkes counties; and

WHEREAS, Surry County strives to encourage economic development by fostering the growth of entrepreneurship, tourism, and general business development while improving the quality of life for the region through an increased emphasis on the beauty of Surry County, as well as surrounding counties; and

WHEREAS, the overlook is physically located in Wilkes County; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation will need a right-of-way of approximately fifteen acres with an estimated cost related to this property, including administrative fees, will be approximately \$60,000, which is a perpetual solution to maintain an acceptable panoramic view; and

WHEREAS, Senator Shirley Randleman and Representative Sarah Steven have each secured \$30,000 for a total of \$60,000, for acquiring the right-of-way for this project.

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

1. That the clearing and maintaining of the US 21 Overlook will provide a panoramic view for citizens and tourists to enjoy.

2. That the Board of Commissioners supports Senator Randleman and Representative Stevens for obtaining Contingency Funds for the Overlook Project.
3. That a copy of this resolution be provided to Senator Randleman and Representative Stevens upon passage.
4. That this resolution be effective upon its adoption.
 - Approve the purchase of 63.073 acres, located on Joe Layne Mill Road, identified as Tax Parcel no. 4973-00-72-5490, for \$240,000 to allow for the installation of new monitoring wells associated with the Elkin Landfill, with funds coming from Fund 67, the Landfill Enterprise Fund and budget amendment no. 7 as follows:

The Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the FY 2017-2018 Budget Ordinance at their meeting on October 2, 2017.

<u>ACCOUNT CODE</u>		<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PREVIOUS AMOUNT</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	<u>REVISED AMOUNT</u>
<u>LANDFILL FUND</u>					
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>					
<u>LANDFILL OPERATIONS</u>					
6757420	56500	Land	0	239,863	239,863
		Increase departmental			
		total	1,947,012	239,863	2,186,875
<u>REVENUES</u>					
6747420	49950	Retained earnings	345,782	239,863	585,645
		Increase departmental			
		total.	2,934,782	239,863	3,174,645
		Increase fund totals	3,059,785	239,863	3,299,648

Requests from the Assistant County Manager for Human Resources and Operations:

- Create a Medical Office Assistant position for the Health and Nutrition Center.
- Reclassify position #517003 from a temporary Interpreter to a regular full-time Interpreter.
- Approve the following retiree resolutions:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Glenn McKinley Hooker, known to everyone as Kenny, was employed by the County of Surry from November 18, 1986 until his retirement on October 31, 2016 as an employee of Surry County Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hooker remains in part-time status with Surry County Emergency Medical Services since his retirement; and

WHEREAS, during his term of regular service, Mr. Hooker served as EMT, EMT-Paramedic, EMS Unit Coordinator, Assistant Shift Supervisor, and Shift Supervisor, a position he held from July 1, 2006 until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hooker has made significant contributions to Surry County Emergency Medical Services and to the County of Surry, achieving numerous certifications,

demonstrating exemplary skill levels, and contributing to his department and to his fellow employees; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hooker, in his supervisory role, has led by example, bringing a high level of integrity and professionalism to Surry County Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, during his years of faithful and dedicated service, Mr. Hooker has earned the admiration and respect of his friends, colleagues, and the employees he has supervised; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Surry County Board of Commissioners wishes to publicly commend Mr. Hooker for his commitment to the citizens of Surry County and wishes to express its appreciation and thanks for his years of dedicated service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends to Glenn McKinley Hooker its best wishes for many years of happiness during his retirement.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Brenda Q. Hall worked for the Surry County Health and Nutrition Center from April 6, 1992 until her retirement from full-time employment on June 30, 2015. She remained in part-time status until January, 2017; and

WHEREAS, during her employment with the Surry County Health and Nutrition Center, Mrs. Hall held the positions of Community Social Services Technician, Community Health Assistant, and Medical Office Assistant, a position she held from October 1, 2004 until her retirement; and

WHEREAS, in the Women, Infant and Children's program, Mrs. Hall provided a wealth of knowledge and experience that not only benefited her clients but her coworkers as well. Mrs. Hall's passion for her work was evident in all that she did to provide the best care and support to her clients; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Mrs. Hall, several initiatives to provide outreach and educational opportunities have flourished well beyond the borders of Surry County. Her continued leadership to raise awareness of pediatric and maternal health has served to provide our community and Surry County families with valuable education and knowledge; and

WHEREAS, in performing her duties with the Surry County Health and Nutrition Center, Mrs. Hall was a natural leader and advocate within our community and always demonstrated professionalism and courtesy in her interaction with clients, co-workers, community stakeholders and others; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Q. Hall has faithfully served Surry County as a caring and conscientious public servant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board publicly commends Brenda Q. Hall for her service to the citizens of Surry County and wishes to express its appreciation for her years of dedicated employment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends to Brenda Q. Hall its best wishes for many years of happiness during her retirement.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Gina Hawks Brown worked for the Surry County Department of Social Services from October 1, 2010 until her retirement on December 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, during her employment with the Surry County Department of Social Services Ms. Brown held the position of Income Maintenance Caseworker II and NC FAST troubleshooter.

WHEREAS, in her most recent position as NC FAST troubleshooter, Ms. Brown was instrumental in the implementation and the counties success with the program.

WHEREAS, Ms. Brown previously worked in County government at Yadkin County from October 1993 until August 2010. While employed she held positions of Income Maintenance Caseworker II, JobLink Coordinator and Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

WHEREAS, in performing these important duties, Ms. Brown applied the knowledge and expertise that she developed through her many years of experience; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brown displayed a positive attitude and assisted her coworkers with true leadership abilities. She always exhibited professionalism, compassion and respect for the clients and families with whom she worked.

WHEREAS, Gina Hawks Brown has faithfully served Surry County as a caring and conscientious public servant;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board publicly commends Gina Hawks Brown for her service to the citizens of Surry County and wishes to express its appreciation for her years of dedicated employment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends to Gina Hawks Brown its best wishes for many years of happiness during her retirement.

Requests from the Finance Officer:

- * Approve budget amendment no. 6 as presented:

The Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the FY 2017-2018 Budget Ordinance at their meeting on October 2, 2017.

ACCOUNT CODE	DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUS AMOUNT	CHANGE	REVISED AMOUNT
<u>GENERAL FUND-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>				
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
<u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>				
1154922 59500	Contingency	140,000	(25,000)	115,000
	Trans. to SR Grant Proj Fund			
1154922 59142	(NEW)	0	25,000	25,000
	Decrease departmental total	153,750	0	153,750
<u>GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND</u>				
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT</u>				
2554245 59130	Transfer to School Capital	2,323,543	82,750	2,406,293
	Increase departmental total.	8,995,528	82,750	9,078,278

REVENUES

2544245	43345	Lottery - County Schools	240,000	54,100	294,100
		Transfer from GF- School Capital			
2544245	49810	Imp.	2,323,543	28,650	2,352,193
		Increase fund totals	8,995,528	82,750	9,078,278

GENERAL FUND - SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAYEXPENDITURESCAPITAL OUTLAY - SCHOOLS

2755912	57022	County Schools-Chiller	0	54,100	54,100
2755912	57016	County Schools-Paving	204,450	28,650	233,100
		Increase departmental total.	2,812,391	82,750	2,895,141

REVENUES

2745912	49810	Transfer from Gen.Fund-CIP	2,323,543	82,750	2,406,293
		Increase fund totals	2,812,391	82,750	2,895,141

GRANT CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDEXPENDITURESALTEC REUSE GRANT

3854916	51640	Project Construction (NEW)	0	525,000	525,000
		Increase departmental total.	0	525,000	525,000

REVENUES

3844916	43134	NC Dept. of Commerce Grant (NEW)	0	500,000	500,000
		Trans. from Gen. Fund-Econ. Dev.			
3844916	49708	(NEW)	0	25,000	25,000
		Increase fund totals	870,315	525,000	1,395,315

- Approve the following updated Deputy Finance Officers list as presented by the Finance Officer:

Deputy Finance Officers

Chris Knopf	Ben Pratt
Jean-Pierre DeCelle	Sandra Harris
Sandra Snow	

Department of Social Services Trust Account Only

Kristina Preston	Karen Smith
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Inmate Trust Account Only

Lieutenant Randall	
Shelton	Sergeant Brandon Gentry
Sergeant Tony Holyfield	Sergeant Tim Ward
Sergeant Charles Watson	Senior Officer Mike Hale
Senior Officer Randy	Senior Officer Jimmie
Jenkins	Johnson
Senior Officer Justin	Senior Officer Keith
Jones	Watson

Sheriff's Levy Account Only

Lieutenant Mike Creed	Deputy Jeffery Byrd
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- Approve the following Capital Project Ordinance for Project Eagle:

GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE**Project Eagle/Altec Project**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Surry that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, this grant capital project ordinance is hereby adopted.

Section 1: The project authorized by this ordinance is to provide a 5% local match to Project Eagle, Altec, Inc. as a component for a \$500,000 North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Division Building Reuse/Expansion Grant.

Section 2: The officers of this governmental unit are hereby directed to proceed with this grant project within the guidelines set by the budget contained herein.

Section 3: The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete this project and are hereby appropriated or referenced by prior appropriation.

NC Department of Commerce	\$500,000
Surry County Contribution	<u>25,000</u>
Total Revenues	\$525,000

Section 4: The following amounts are available for expenditures for the project:

Project Construction	\$525,000
Total Appropriation	<u>\$525,000</u>

Section 5: The Finance Officer is directed to report quarterly to the Board of Commissioners on the financial status of this project.

Section 6: The Budget Officer is directed to include an analysis of past and future costs and revenues for this capital project in each annual budget submitted to the Board of Commissioners for as long as this ordinance shall remain in effect.

Section 7: Any unexpended funds appropriated shall be reserved by the Board of Commissioners for use as provided by applicable law or regulation.

Section 8: Copies of this grant project ordinance shall be made available to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for direction in carrying out this project.

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

There being no comments, Chairman Harris closed the open forum, and the Board resumed regular business.

Chairman Harris then declared the meeting to be a public hearing on a proposal for Surry County to provide certain incentives to Project Eagle.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, stated the company will invest in an existing facility located within the County. The company requests the County act as the applicant for a Building Re-use Grant from the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center. The amount of the grant is \$500,000 with the State requiring a local match of 5%, which would be \$25,000. The company will create 50 new full-time jobs within twenty-four months and maintain the jobs for six consecutive months.

Chairman Harris asked for comments from the public.

Todd Tucker, Economic Development Partnership President, spoke in favor of the grant. Mr. Tucker stated the company has 1,000 employees nationwide, 30 locations in the United States, 4 locations in North Carolina and works in over 100 foreign countries. Mr. Tucker stated the company is financially sound and has been in Surry County for 1 ½ years and continuing to grow. The company purchased the Pike Electric service facility which is 200,000 square feet. The company will renovate the building based on their needs. Mr. Tucker discussed the average pay for the new jobs.

Upon motion of Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Golding, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as presented.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	}	
	}	RESOLUTION
COUNTY OF SURRY	}	

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 Eagle ("Company") in connection with the Company's new investment in an existing facility located in Surry County; and

WHEREAS, County acted as Applicant for a Building Re-use Grant ("Grant") from the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center ("Center"); and

WHEREAS, a \$500,000 grant proposed by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Division Building Re-use/Expansion Grant ("Grant") requires a local match from Surry County, not to exceed \$25,000; and

WHEREAS, the private corporation proposes to expand its operations in Surry County to create 50 new full-time jobs within 24 months of the grant and maintain those jobs for 6 consecutive months; 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. The County provide an incentive grant, not to exceed \$25,000, as a 5% local match toward a \$500,000 North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Division Building Re-use/Expansion Grant. A source of funds for the \$25,000, local match, is Surry County's Economic Development Fund Contingency.
2. Given adequate access, the local government applicant will assess company records sufficient to verify employment numbers and report the results to the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center.
3. Verification of new jobs shall occur after grant funds have been paid by County as part of the grant close-out process.

4. Prior to receiving grant funding, Company shall cause a \$500,000 Irrevocable Letter of Credit to issue in favor of Surry County, at a time and in a form prescribed by the County, together with an approved Reimbursement Agreement to prevent a financial loss to Surry County as a result of its participation in the Building Re-use Grant.
5. The Resolution shall take effect immediately and all of the Board proceedings, or parts thereof in conflict with this Resolution or, to the extent of such conflict, are hereby repealed.

Chairman Harris informed the audience that it was time for the special recognition portion of the agenda. The Board recognized the following individual:

Gina Brown for her many years of faithful service to Surry County.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, addressed the Board regarding a lease agreement between the City of Mount Airy and Surry County for usage of Graham Field. The lease is for the term of 10-years. The City of Mount Airy will be required to maintain liability insurance as well as any expenses or upkeep of the property. The City will utilize the property for recreational purposes.

Upon motion of Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the lease agreement as presented.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, addressed the Board regarding a lease agreement between Pilot Knob Volunteer Fire Department and Surry County for a 950-square foot area for an emergency medical service outpost. The rate for the lease agreement is \$750 per month. The term of the lease agreement will be for 5-years and will expire November 30, 2022.

Upon motion of Commissioner Tucker, seconded by Commissioner Golding, the Board voted unanimously to approve the lease agreement.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, addressed the Board regarding an Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Dobson and Surry County for zoning administration provided by the County for the Town. Mr. Knopf discussed the amount the Town pays the County for services rendered. The agreement is for 5-years and will expire June 2022.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Chairman Harris, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, addressed the Board regarding the Industrial and Pollution Control Financing Authority appointees.

Attorney Woltz stated the Industrial Commission was a popular way to help local manufactures with low interest bond funds. The Authority is the one that executes the bond with a commercial bank, and the County provides the back-up services. Attorney Woltz stated he came upon some minutes from 2006 and he started to look for the minutes' book and could not find one, so he is reconstructing a minute's book. Attorney Woltz stated the board membership needs to be addressed.

The Board discussed the need for the Authority, who can serve on the Authority, and number of members.

It was the consensus of the Board for staff to poll the former Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority and determine their willingness to serve. The Board will readdress at the November 6, 2017 meeting.

Chris Knopf, County Manger addressed the Board regarding a resolution acknowledging the negative impact that House Bill 56 will have on the Surry County Landfill. The bill was vetoed and is scheduled this week for an override vote both in the House and Senate. Mr. Knopf stated, if approved, he will email the resolution to legislators.

Upon motion of Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Golding, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following resolution.

A RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEGATIVE IMPACT THAT HOUSE BILL 56 WILL HAVE ON THE SURRY COUNTY LANDFILL

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly ratified House Bill 56 on August 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Governor vetoed the bill on September 21, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Surry County was notified in late July that the General Assembly may consider some solid waste capacity legislation as part of negotiations on House Bill 56, which was left over at the end of the 2017 long session; and

WHEREAS, legislation in House Bill 56 included language that significantly alters Surry County's ability to incur debt and expand its solid waste landfill; and

WHEREAS, Surry County has a long-planned landfill expansion scheduled for Fiscal Year 2019 and has spent approximately \$3.9M since 2007 in preparing for this expansion, including the acquisition of 95 acres of land through eminent domain; and

WHEREAS, Surry County implemented a methane gas reclamation project in our landfill in 2012 that creates electricity for approximately 500 homes in Surry County and revenue for the County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that while the Surry County Board of Commissioners applauds efforts by the North Carolina General Assembly to seek cost effective private-sector solutions for government operations, we strongly oppose the solid waste capacity language in House Bill 56 in its current form.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if the General Assembly seeks to override or seek new legislation that includes language similar to the solid waste capacity provisions in House Bill 56, the Surry County Board of Commissioners encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to first consult directly with counties who would be impacted before moving forward.

Sarah Bowen, Finance Officer, addressed the Board regarding proposed Federal legislation. Ms. Bowen stated that Regina Crawford, an EMS Advocacy Liaison, had alerted Emergency Services of the proposed HR3729 Federal Legislation. Ms. Bowen stated there are items included in the legislation that will limit the reimbursement for ambulance billing.

The Board discussed the cost adjustment being a Medicare adjustment.

It was the consensus of the Board to find out where NACo stands on the issue and readdress at the November 6, 2017 meeting.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to approve and not release the September 18, 2017 closed session minutes.

Chairman Harris informed the audience of another Special Recognition. The Board recognized the following individual:

Glenn McKinley Hooker for his many years of faithful service to Surry County.

Commissioner Johnson stated on Thursday, September 21, 2017, the Parks and Recreation Department held the Garry Searce Memorial Golf Tournament with proceeds going toward Special Olympics. Commissioner Johnson stated it was a great day.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Vincent V. Miller to the Health Board.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Barbara Long to the Health Board.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Chris White to the Surry County Board of Adjustment.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Dr. David Shockley to the Northern Hospital Board of Trustees.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Anthony Kiger to the Dobson Planning Board-ETJ.

Upon motion of Commissioner Tucker, seconded by Commissioner Golding, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint David Thomas to the Pilot Mountain Planning Board.

Upon motion of Commissioner Tucker, seconded by Commissioner Golding, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Christopher Cook and Lee Cook to the Pilot Mountain Board of Adjustment.

Upon motion of Chairman Harris, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Tony Tilley, Dr. Renfro Hauser, Joan Vasata and Roger Mitchell to the Animal Control Board.

There was no further business to come before the Board.

Upon motion of Commissioner Golding, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting ended at 6:50 p.m.

Conchita Atkins
Clerk to the Board