

Surry County Board of Commissioners
Meeting of February 3, 2020

The Surry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m., February 3, 2020. The meeting was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Historic Courthouse, Dobson, N.C.

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

Others present for the meeting, at various times, were:
Chris Knopf, County Manager
Sandy Snow, Assistant County Manager
Nathan Walls, Assistant to the County Manager
Jessica Montgomery, Public Works Director
Rhonda Nixon, Budget Director & Interim Finance Officer
Penny Harrison, Tax Administrator
Daniel White, Parks & Recreation Director
Bill Powell, LT Consulting
Dr. Myra Cox, Elkin City Schools
John Altmueller, Elkin City Schools
Elkin City Schools Board Members and Officials
Jeff Eads, Partners Behavioral Health Management
Ed Woltz, County Attorney
News Media

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

Chairman Johnson requested the Board review and approve the agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the February 3, 2020 agenda.

Chairman Johnson requested the Board consider the minutes of the January 21, 2020 meeting as presented. Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

Chairman Johnson requested the Board consider the consent agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Requests from the Assistant County Manager:

1. Approve for Mountain Valley Hospice to work with the Facilities Director in using the Surry County Resource Center parking lot for a car show on September 26, 2020.
2. Approve to purchase equipment for the County Fitness Facility at an approximate cost of \$6,600.
3. Approve the renewal lease of a garage located at 303 N. White Street, Dobson, NC.

Requests from the Interim Finance Officer:

1. Approve Budget Amendment #10, which follows the description. The budget amendment creates a budget for the grant awarded to fund peer support services for the Post Overdose Response Team and a project ordinance for Phase II of the corporate

development project at the Mount Airy-Surry County Airport, which was awarded a NC DOT grant of \$4 million. No match is required for the grant.

					Change # 10
The Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the FY2019-2020 Budget Ordinance at their meeting on February 3, 2020.					
ACCOUNT			PREVIOUS		REVISED
CODE		DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHANGE	AMOUNT
GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Peer Support Grant (NEW)					
1055197	51720	Contracted Services	0	32,159	32,159
		Increase departmental total	0	32,159	32,159
REVENUE					
1045197	42321	CDC-Peer Support Grant (NEW)	0	32,159	32,159
		Increase fund totals.	78,094,624	32,159	78,126,783
AIRPORT CAPITAL PROJECTS					
EXPENDITURES					
Corporate Development-Phase II (NEW)					
99754991	51560	Professional Services-Engineering	0	469,965	469,965
99754991	51640	Project Construction	0	3,529,065	3,529,065
99754991	59500	Contingency		970	970
		Increase departmental total	0	4,000,000	4,000,000
REVENUE					
99744991	43388	NC DOT Grant Aviation (NEW)	0	4,000,000	4,000,000
		Increase fund totals.	9,770,531	4,000,000	13,770,531

Chairman Johnson advised that it was time for the special recognition portion of the agenda.

The Board recognized Tonya Smith, Piedmont Triad Region Teacher of the Year.

The Board recognized the following members of the East Surry High School football team: Alejandro Rodriquez, Sideline Assistant Aniston Lowman, Team Manager Anthony Ward, Austin Evans, Benji Gosnell, Braden Bottoms, Brandon Carter, Dakota Epperson, Daquan

Cooper, JV Offensive Coordinator Darrin Haywood, Special Teams Coordinator and Linebacker Coach David Johnson, Derek Sutterby, Dillon Mosely, Eli Blose, Elijah Wright, Evan McCreary, Evan Morris, Flavio Arias, Folger Boaz, Hoyt Bullington, Ian Dollyhite, Imajae Hickman, Isaac Washington, Jefferson Boaz, Jeremy Gibson, Jesse Whitaker, Athletic Trainer and Team Mom JoAnne Sutterby, JV Head Coach and Defensive Backs Coach Joe Denny, Jordan Anderson, Sideline Assistant Jordan Hege, Jose Campos, Joshua Fogleman, Joshua Joyce, Judd Goldbach, Kaleb Tilley, Kasey Torres, Kyler Jessup, Landon Stevens, Layton Allen, Luke Bullington, Ball Boy Luke Whitt, Mackenzie Baker, Mackenzie Halstead, Team Mom Pamela Hege, Quincy Smith, Defensive Coordinator and Athletic Director Randy Marion, Rommie Speaks, Strength & Conditioning Coach and Player Relations Rusty Slate, Sam Whitt, Stephen Brantley, Offensive Line Coach Stephen Gosnell, Steve Whitt, Athletic Trainer Tim Bodford, Head Coach Trent Lowman, Trey Armstrong, Tristan Harless, Tye Needham, Victor Flores and Will Hiatt.

Chairman Johnson 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 Johnson closed the open forum.

Dr. Myra Cox and John Altmueller of Elkin City Schools, as well as Bill Powell of LT Consulting, presented cost breakdowns, an architect's rough sketch, pictures, drawings and a budget graph for the Elkin High School and Middle School gymnasium project.

Commissioner Harris asked questions about the current and potential future locker rooms, as well as renovations to the HVAC system and current locker room in the current building. Mr. Altmueller discussed how renovations, to include removal of a wall in the current building, would provide extra weight room space.

Mr. Altmueller said that Elkin City Schools and LT Consulting have really tried to cut everything out of the project budget that is possible.

Additional items not shown on the budget graph would also need to be considered in the budget, Mr. Altmueller said. Those items could include a new rubber roof, new door cutouts and new bleachers since the current bleachers cannot be updated. Oil tanks on the property would also have to come out. Additional budget considerations, which were displayed on the budget graph, include asbestos and soil testing, as well as lead removal, totaling \$100,000 to \$400,000. The cost of the project according to the budget graph would be approximately \$11.842 million, not to include new rubber roof, new door cutouts and new bleachers, which could cost an additional \$750,000.

Chairman Johnson asked about elevators, to which Mr. Altmueller said the project would include two elevators.

Commissioner Harris asked about the proposed connector bridge and tower, to which Bill Powell responded the bridge and tower would be added even if the auxiliary gym is not an initial part of the project. Mr. Powell said the auxiliary gym could be added now or later.

Commissioner Harris asked Mr. Powell the price of the gymnasium project he is working on in Forsyth County. Mr. Powell said that project is around \$12 million but does not include caissons and is not being built on a hill like the Elkin gymnasium. Mr. Powell and Mr. Altmueller said the contractor, Vannoy Construction, is good to work with and there could be potential cost savings, but those are not

realized until the project is underway. Commissioner Harris said the project will come down to dollars and cents.

Commissioner Goins asked Dr. Cox if the Board appropriates \$9 million, where does the additional \$3 million come from? Dr. Cox responded, stating Elkin City Schools would phase the project and must add the auxiliary gym later.

Dr. Cox asked the Board for the timeframe in which they would decide. Chairman Johnson said the Board would decide at the Board's Annual Retreat on February 28 and invited Elkin City Schools to attend.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, discussed his County Manager Agenda Items and called Penny Harrison, Tax Administrator, to the podium to discuss the amount of unpaid current year taxes that are liens on real property, which totals \$1,551,168.88. Ms. Harrison requested the Board's permission to advertise the tax liens in March at the new Courthouse and in the Mount Airy News and Elkin Tribune.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, the Board voted unanimously to advertise the tax liens on real property in March at the new Courthouse and in the Mount Airy News and Elkin Tribune.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented an item to surplus the former Mount Airy City Schools administration building and adjacent parking lot at 130 Rawley Avenue in Mount Airy. Ed Woltz, County Attorney, recommended advertising the properties as two separate parcels or combine them as one, whichever brings the better offer. Mr. Woltz said the Property Committee can order separate and combined appraisals.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to approve making the former Mount Airy City Schools administration building and adjacent parking lot surplus property.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented an item to approve the race ordinance for the Running of the Vines 5K and 10K.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marion, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the race ordinance for the Running of the Vines 5K and 10K.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented an item to approve fee waivers from Surry County Parks and Recreation for the Cub Scout Day Camp Program, Cal Ripken state playoffs, March of Dimes Surry County and fees for all local schools.

Upon motion of Chairman Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the fee waivers.

Chris Knopf, County Manager, presented an item to approve distribution of Fisher River Park free shelter reservation gift certificates to requesting agencies who sponsor events for Yadkin Valley Senior Games and Special Olympics Surry County.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Goins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the distribution of Fisher River Park free shelter reservation gift certificates to

requesting agencies who sponsor events for Yadkin Valley Senior Games and Special Olympics Surry County.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session for legal matters pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (3), economic development pursuant to 143-318.11 (a) (4), and personnel matters pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (6).

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

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Chairman Johnson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint employee #1561 as Interim Communications Director, once the position becomes vacant.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, the Board voted unanimously to appoint employee #256 as Finance Officer.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to create a 70% Dentist I position, contingent upon final approval from State Personnel.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Marion, the Board voted unanimously to approve, but not release, the January 21, 2020 closed session minutes.

Upon motion of Commissioner Goins, seconded by Commissioner Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.

Nathan Walls
Clerk to the Board