

CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 20, 2009

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on this date, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Offices.

PRESENT: Jo Boggs, Chairwoman
Johnny Hutchins, Vice-Chairman
Mary Accor, Commissioner
Ronald J. Hawkins, Commissioner
Eddie Holbrook, Commissioner
David C. Dear, County Manager
Bob Yelton, County Attorney
Kerri Melton, County Clerk
April Crotts, Deputy Clerk
Eddie Bailes, Assistant County Manager
Chris Green, Tax Administrator
Chris Crepps, Finance Director
Bill McCarter, Planning Director
David Allen, *The Star*
Nicholas Bissett, *Cleveland Headline News*
Other individual names on file in the Clerk's Office

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Jo Boggs called the meeting to order and led the audience in the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag of the United States of America. County Attorney, Bob Yelton provided the invocation for the meeting.

AGENDA ADOPTION

ACTION: Mary Accor made the motion, seconded by Ronnie Hawkins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to *adopt the agenda as presented by the County Clerk, with the following additions:*

(E) HEALTH DEPARTMENT: REDUCTION IN FORCE

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, additions, or deletions to the Minutes of *December 16, 2008, December 22, 2008 and January 6, 2009*, motion was made by Ronnie Hawkins, seconded by Johnny Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to *approve the minutes as written.*

TAX COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

The Tax Collector provided Commissioners with the following detailed written report regarding taxes collected during *December 2008* (copy found on Page _____ of Minute Book 31).

TAX ABATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS

The Tax Assessor provided Commissioners with a detailed written report regarding tax abatements and supplements during *December 2008*. The monthly grand total of tax abatements was listed as (\$38,155.49); and, the monthly grand total for tax supplements was listed as \$32,632.58.

SOCIAL SERVICES: BUDGET AMENDMENTS (BNA #047)

ACTION: Ronnie Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Johnny Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve the following budget amendments:*

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
026.454.4.991.00	911 Telephone System/FD Bal Appropriated	\$125,445.	
026.454.5.490.00	911 Telephone System/Professional Serv.	8,000.	
026.454.5.490.00	911 Telephone System/Professional Serv.	117,445.	

Explanation of Revisions: to budget funds for the County's participation with Regional Orthophotography to be orchestrated by Centralina Council of Government along with Photo Science.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: REDUCTION IN FORCE

ACTION: Ronnie Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Johnny Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve abolishment of Position # 0125331256- Public Health Nurse I.*

REGULAR AGENDA

CLEVELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAREER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Holly Sweat, Director of Workforce and Career Development at Cleveland Community College, gave an update on the Career Workforce Development Center. Ms. Sweat has presented eight three hour workshops and has worked with approximately 350 employees since the Career Workforce Development Center was established. Ms. Sweat stressed the importance of soft skills with the workforce in Cleveland County and explained that she will be focusing on polishing soft skills for those who visit the Center.

The database (*see minutes of December 2, 2008*) has been ordered and is being developed.

KINGS MOUNTAIN GATEWAY TRAIL EASEMENT

Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. has agreed to donate an easement to Cleveland County for the development of trailhead facilities on a one-acre parcel on Battleground Avenue (NC216). The facilities will provide access to Gateway Trail. Included in the Facilities Plan are 20 parking spaces, restroom, ranger office, picnic shelter, map kiosk and sidewalk connection to downtown.

Bill McCarter, Planning Director recommended that Commissioners adopt a resolution confirming the acceptance of the easement to Cleveland County. The resolution is identified as Exhibit "C" of the easement document.

ACTION: Mary Accor made the motion, seconded by Johnny Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve the easement and adopt a resolution confirming the acceptance of the easement (copy of easement found on Page _____ of Minute Book 31).*

LATE APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION

PROPERTY USED FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES AND PRESENT USE

Per NCGS 105-282.1, property owners claiming exemption or exclusion have the burden of establishing that the property is entitled thereto. Application is to be filed during the listing period that runs from January 1 to January 31 each year. Applications approved under this provision are effective for the current tax year and are not retroactive. Mr. Green said the property owners making requests tonight do meet the criteria for exemption.

ACTION: Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Eddie Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve and accept Central United Methodist Church (Parcel No.72372) late application for property used for religious purposes.*

ACTION: Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Eddie Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve and accept LeMaster Properties (Parcel Nos. 311, 47500, 50116, 101, 188) late application for present use value-agriculture.*

ELDERLY / DISABLED HOMESTEAD EXCLUSION

Chris Green, Tax Administrator gave Commissioners a list of properties which represent those who have submitted application for the Elderly/Disabled Homestead Exclusion after June 1st. The Homestead Exclusion includes tax relief on homes owned by people over 65 years of age or totally and permanently disabled within a certain income limit. Those applications filed after June 1st are considered timely and are subject to approval by the Commissioners.

ACTION: Mary Accor made the motion, seconded by Johnny Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to approve and accept the late applications (applications listed below.)*

11675 & M50146	Martha Odums
38859	Dolly H. Hull
48085	Billie Jean Freeman
42643 & M000577	Shirley Lovelace Mabry
7133 & M001804	Sandra Stewart
29782	Reba J. Jones
11091	Herbert Daniels
26577	Willie Lewis Phillips

KINGS MOUNTAIN ETJ: PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENTS

ACTION: Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Eddie Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to re-appoint Hugh Logan and Bob Scoggins to serve as ETJ representatives to*

the Kings Mountain Planning and Zoning Board, for a term scheduled to conclude on December 31, 2011.

Before the vote, Chairwoman Boggs also opened the floor for nominations to see if any members of the public would be interested in serving on this board. Commissioner Accor went on record stating that Christy McCleary has contacted Ms. Accor and is interested in serving on a planning or historic board. Ms. Accor would like to see consideration given to Ms. McCleary at a later date.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Holbrook attended the 20/20 meeting and noted that, in spite of the economy, they are entertaining several new prospects. He attended the Duke Energy Cliffside public hearing at Chase High School, which was well attended, and encouraged Commissioners to attend the next public hearing to be held in Statesville on January 22, 2009. Mr. Holbrook noted that of those in attendance, approximately 85% were in favor of the Duke Cliffside project and 15% were opposed.

Commissioner Accor attended a meeting in Washington DC where they discussed the economy with the Obama transition team. The purpose was to try and direct funding from the federal government straight to the counties rather than through the state.

Commissioners attended the NCACC Legislative Conference. At the conference, Commissioner Hutchins presented Cleveland County's Legislative Goals. Commissioner Hutchins explained what happened to each goal after they were presented to the board.

- Cities shall be required to enforce the Minimum Housing Standards authorized by NCGS 160A, Article 19, Part 6 within the ETJ, if these standards have been adopted within the corporate limits. ***Not recommended to be sent to committee.***
- Lobby for a representative from the NCACC Board of Directors to be placed on the North Carolina Transportation Board. ***Passed to Executive Committee.***
- Require all newly constructed nursing homes to have back-up generators. ***Sent to committee.***
- Increase funding for Community Colleges and Career Technical Education in High Schools. ***Brought before entire delegation for approval.***
- Oppose the annual mileage road tax. ***Cleveland County went on record opposing this tax.***

The goal of increasing funding for Community Colleges and Career Technical Education in High Schools was brought before the entire delegation and was approved. This goal will be added to the NCACC goals for 2009.

Chairwoman Boggs praised Commissioner Accor for her work serving as the Acting President of the NCACC and said she "handled it beautifully."

Chairwoman Boggs also noted the loss of Joyce Cashion. Ms. Cashion was the first woman elected to the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners.

RECESS TO RECONVENE

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Ronnie Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Eddie Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, *to recess to reconvene for a joint meeting of the Commission and the City of Shelby on Friday, January 23, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in the City of Shelby Utilities Operation Center on Grover Street.*

*Rebecca Jo Powell Boggs, Chairwoman
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners*

*Kerri Melton, Clerk
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners*