

CLEVELAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 5, 2008

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
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chairman
Ronald J. Hawkins, Commissioner
Johnny Hutchins, 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
Bill McCarter, Planning Director
Chris Crepps, Finance Director
Danny Gordon, Chief Deputy
David Allen, *The Star*
Marti Glaser, *Cleveland Headline News*
Other individual names on file in the Clerk's Office

ABSENT: Mary Accor, Commissioner

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. Commissioner Eddie Holbrook provided the invocation.

AGENDA ADOPTION

ACTION: Ronnie Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Johnny Hutchins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to *adopt the agenda as presented by the County Clerk.*

CITIZEN RECOGNITION

Brendan LeGrand spoke in opposition to the request from Destination Cleveland County to lease the old courthouse. Ms. LeGrand told Commissioners that they should have given other citizens the opportunity to propose other ideas for use of the old courthouse. She does not like that, should Commissioners approve the lease, the museum will be called the Earl Scruggs Center. She also believes that the taxpayers should have a vote as to whether or not \$1.5 Million should be spent to renovate the old courthouse. Ms. LeGrand believes that a lack of communication creates confusion and a lack of goodwill. She also believes that the County Manager and the City Manager sitting on the Destination Cleveland County board causes a conflict of interest and destroys trust.

Patrick Davis, of 128-5 Autumn Woods Drive, told Commissioners that he lives near Autumn Woods subdivision. This subdivision is currently under construction. There is a problem with the noise of motorcycles and ATV's riding in the area and through private property. Mr. Davis told Commissioners that Chief Deputy Danny Gordon has been extremely helpful. He asked Commissioners to consider possibly adopting a noise ordinance or some kind of solution to the problem. Chief Deputy Gordon spoke regarding this issue. He has talked to the owner of Autumn Woods and the owner has agreed to post "No Trespassing" signs. The Sheriff's office will continue to look for the parents of the children riding the ATV's and file a complaint with them.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, additions, or deletions to the Minutes of *December 12, 2007* and *December 18, 2007*, motion was made by Johnny Hutchins, seconded by Ronnie Hawkins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***approve the minutes as written.***

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY/FEE COLLECTION POLICY

ACTION: Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Ronnie Hawkins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to ***adopt the Cleveland County Health Department Financial Eligibility/Fee Collection Policy (copy found on Page _____ of Minute Book 30).***

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENTS (BNA #035)

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

<u>Account Number/Project Code</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
012.535.4.350.00/04452-4112	Health Promo/Local & Oth Grants	\$12,048.	
012.535.5.490.00/	Health Promo/Professional Services	12,048.	

Explanation of Revisions: Budget funds by NC Office of Healthy Carolinians to support services of the Healthy Carolinians Partnership (Alliance for Health).

LIBRARY: BUDGET AMENDMENTS (BNA #036)

ACTION: Johnny Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Ronnie Hawkins, 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>
010.611.4.991.00	Library/Fund Balance Appr	\$7,810.	
010.611.5.122.00	Library/Part-time Salaries	4,700.	
010.611.5.131.00	Library/FICA	292.	
010.611.5.136.00	Library/Medicare	68.	
010.611.5.790.00	Library/Donations/Contributions	2,750.	
010.611.4.810.03	Library/Donations/Contributions	1,700.	
010.611.5.790.03	Library/Donations/Contributions	1,700.	

Explanation of Revisions: To budget donations/contributions to cover part-time salaries for circulation desk, processing supplies, travel/training and AV materials.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

YOUTH LITTER PROGRAM

The Health Department is continuing to work on the Commissioners goal of reducing litter in Cleveland County. Denese Stallings, Health Director, believes that enforcement and education are two ways to reduce litter. The Cleveland County Health Department developed a partnership with Imaging Marketing Group to develop a Litter Prevention Institute. Four students from each high school were chosen to participate in the Litter Prevention Institute, where they designed a logo for litter bags that will be distributed to licensed drivers attending high schools in Cleveland County. As incentive to use the litter bags, one student from each school, each month, will be given a \$20 gas card if their name

is chosen and they are using the litter bag. Commissioners presented the winning team and all participants with a certificate of appreciation. Certificates were given to the following students.

Winning Team: Jordan Page, Kings Mountain High School, Lillian Wilson, Shelby High School, Jay Royster, Shelby High School and Jennifer Pearson, Crest High School.

Participants: Caitlin Mezey, Kings Mountain High School, Brian Godwin, Kings Mountain High School, Sierra Clark, Burns High School, Deanna Humphries, Kings Mountain High School, Becca Boggs, Shelby High School, Thomas Selfridge, Burns High School, Kenya Parrott, Burns High School, Alecia Page, Crest High School, Robert Bullock, Shelby High School, Haley Barrett, Kings Mountain High School, Morgan Blanton, Crest High School, Will Stroup, Crest High School.

REGULAR AGENDA

CLEVELAND COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

The Cleveland County Partnership for Children administers Smart Start and the More at Four program. Thirty-nine preschool classrooms operate throughout Cleveland County. Their goal is to serve over 5,000 children. Kathy Taylor, Partnership Director, showed a short video about the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library provides one hard cover book per month to children in Cleveland County ages birth to five.

Steve Padgett, Cleveland County Chamber President, addressed the Commissioners. He shared that 22% of adults in Cleveland County are illiterate. Several businesses have noticed this problem and have begun to address it by supporting the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The annual cost per child is thirty dollars. To date, this program has delivered 27,758 books to children in Cleveland County.

Mr. Padgett told Commissioners that funds are about to run out and stressed the importance of this program. He asked Commissioners to continue funding this program in the amount of \$30,000 while the board tries to secure additional funding.

Commissioner Boggs informed the Partnership for Children that Commissioners are beginning the budget process and will take this under consideration.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT: ZONING MAP AMENDMENT & TEXT AMENDMENT – FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS (FIRM). (Case 08-01)

At the January 25, 2008 meeting, Commissioners held a public hearing to address the adoption of the new flood insurance rate maps and changes to the County Code, as required by FEMA. Floodplain development is regulated as a zoning overlay district, therefore the zoning map must be amended in order to adopt the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM). After the public hearing, Commissioners tabled their decision for the purpose of gathering additional information. At the January

22, 2008 Commission Work Session, Ed Curtis of the NC Division of Emergency Management, answered questions from the Commissioners.

Bill McCarter, Planning Director, said, during the public hearing held on January 15th, several citizens asked questions. Mr. McCarter listed the questions and provided answers as follows:

1. How were the elevations determined? FEMA uses Computer Hydraulic Modeling to establish the base flood elevation.

2. How long have the maps been available? The maps have been on display in lobby of the Administrative Building since February 2007.

3. Have there been any public meetings regarding this? Yes. There was one for state, county and city officials on March 20th, and a public meeting was held on April 19, 2007. Two notices of this meeting were published in the Shelby Star.

4. What if you disagree with the maps? There is a formal process through FEMA where you provide physical evidence as proof that the maps are incorrect. It is free to appeal one lot. However, the cost of the physical evidence (survey) would be the responsibility of the property owner.

5. Will taxes decrease or property values decrease? Property values are determined by sales, not whether or not a property is in a floodplain.

Ed Curtis of NC Emergency Management informed Commissioners that if they do not adopt the flood maps, the county would immediately be suspended from the National Flood Insurance Program.

Flood insurance policies would not be issued or renewed and if there was any natural disaster, Cleveland County would not qualify for state or federal funding.

ACTION: Ronnie Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Johnny Hutchins and unanimously adopted by the board to ***approve the zoning map amendment as presented by Planning Director Bill McCarter and adopt the revised ordinance (copy found on Page _____ of Minute Book 30).***

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Johnny Hutchins- Commissioner Hutchins informed the public that, in reference to comments made earlier regarding the use of the Courthouse, the Commissioners have done nothing behind closed doors. He confirmed that the renovations need to be completed on this building whether or not the lease is executed with Destination Cleveland County. He said that at first he was skeptical about this situation but after researching it, he believes this will be a win/win situation for everyone involved.

Eddie Holbrook- Vice-Chair Holbrook said it is the intention of the Board to do what is in the best interest for Cleveland County. "If we have been viewed as operating behind closed doors, it was not intended or perhaps a misinterpretation." He also said that his phone was available and offered to meet with any group that has questions for the Commissioners. "As a county, we need to be unified in our approach to things."

Vice-Chair Holbrook also thanked Commissioners for their support of the Duke Power Cliffside project. He said that many citizens do not understand the impact of this project on Cleveland County. Once the plant is fully operational, the tax base would equal that of several thousand \$200,000 homes.

Jo Boggs- Chairwoman Boggs gave a special thanks to Commissioner Holbrook for all of his work on the Duke Power Cliffside project. She also shared that the Commissioner long range planning session held on January 22nd was a very good meeting.

Chairwoman Boggs spent several days working with the Destination Cleveland County design team. She suggested that citizens take the opportunity to help volunteer at the old courthouse. There is much cataloging that needs to be completed. “This would be an eye opening experience,” Ms. Boggs said. She also thanked all of the volunteers for taking the time to complete this project. Lastly, regarding the use of the old courthouse, Chairwoman Boggs said that she hopes that everyone gets on board to “move this train forward.”

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Chairwoman Boggs *adjourned the meeting (at 7:30 p.m.)*. The next regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for *Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.* in this Commission Chamber.

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

*Kerri Melton, Clerk
Cleveland County Board of Commissioners*