

**Cleveland County Board of Commissioners**  
**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015:**

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

**PRESENT:** Jason Falls, Chairman  
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chairman  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner  
Susan Allen, Commissioner  
Ronnie Hawkins, Commissioner  
Jeff Richardson, County Manager  
Bob Yelton, County Attorney  
Henry Earle, County Clerk  
April Crofts, Deputy Clerk  
Kerri Melton, Community Services Director  
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director  
Bill McCarter, Planning Director  
Brian Epley, Finance Director  
Chris Green, Tax Administrator  
Sam Lockridge, Gun Range Manager  
Mark Dellinger, Electronic Maintenance Director  
Marty Gold, IT Director  
Greg Traywick, Cooperative Extension Director  
Joe Lord, EMS Director  
Lori Poston, Communication/911 Director  
Karen Ellis, DSS Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Falls called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting.

### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

**ACTION:** Chairman Falls asked for a motion to adopt the agenda and Commissioner Hutchins requested the addition of a resolution in support of the Governor's Infrastructure bond to the agenda. Chairman Falls said it would be placed as item 6 on the regular agenda, moving the budget discussion to item 7. Commissioner Hutchins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to adopt the agenda as presented by the County Clerk with prior mentioned additions.

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Chairman Falls stated that they were thrilled to honor Karen Ellis as the 2015 State of North Carolina DSS Director of the Year. He then invited her to the front where she was given a shadow box from the Commissioners. Each commissioner took turns congratulating her on the work she and her department does and then pictures were taken.

### **CITIZEN RECOGNITION**

- Buford Burton: 322 Margrace Road, Kings Mountain- Mr. Burton spoke in opposition to the casino, asking the commissioners to rescind their support of it.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Commissioner Hawkins made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Holbrook, and unanimously adopted by the Board, to approve the following items:

**MINUTES:** There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the Minutes of the April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 work session and April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 regular meeting were presented and approved as written.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENT #056**

| <u>Account Number</u> | <u>Department/Account Name</u> | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 012.530.4.991.00      | Donations/Contributions        | \$ 100.00       |                 |
| 012.530.5.790.30      | Donations/Contributions        | \$ 100.00       |                 |

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget donation from the Lions Club of Shelby for eye exams.*

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENT #057**

| <u>Account Number</u> | <u>Department/Account Name</u> | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 012.532.4.310.00      | TB/STD/CD                      | \$ 167.00       |                 |
| 012.532.5.310.00      | TB/STD/CD                      | \$ 167.00       |                 |

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget STD Prevention Funds from DHHS for staff training*

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AMENDMENT #058**

| <u>Account Number</u> | <u>Department/Account Name</u> | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 012.541.4.350.00      | State Government Grants        | \$ 11,668.00    |                 |
| 012.546.5.121.00      | Departmental Supplies          | \$ 3,000.00     |                 |
| 012.546.5.131.00      | Automotive Supplies            | \$ 3,000.00     |                 |
| 012.546.5.132.00      | Motor Fuels                    | \$ 2,668.00     |                 |
| 012.546.5.133.00      | Travel/Training                | \$ 2,000.00     |                 |
| 012.546.5.134.00      | Education Expense              | \$ 1,000.00     |                 |

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget state performance based Food & Lodging funds for operating expenses.*

**SOCIAL SERVICES: BUDGET AMENDMENT #059**

| <u>Account Number</u> | <u>Department/Account Name</u> | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 012.548.4.310.00      | CODAP                          | \$ 7,500.00     |                 |
| 012.548.5.311.00      | CODAP                          | \$ 3,500.00     |                 |
| 012.548.5.370.00      | CODAP                          | \$ 1,000.00     |                 |
| 012.548.5.581.00      | CODAP                          | \$ 3,000.00     |                 |

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget Project Lazarus-Chronic Pain Initiative funds from NC Office of Community Care to support community efforts in drug overdose prevention.*

**SOCIAL SERVICES: BUDGET AMENDMENT #060**

| <u>Account Number</u> | <u>Department/Account Name</u> | <u>Increase</u> | <u>Decrease</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 012.536.4.350.00      | State Government Grants        | \$ 75,000.00    |                 |
| 012.536.5.121.00      | Salary-Regular                 | \$ 34,560.00    |                 |
| 012.536.5.131.00      | Social Security                | \$ 2,143.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.132.00      | Retirement                     | \$ 2,444.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.133.00      | Hospital Insurance             | \$ 7,827.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.134.00      | Dental Insurance               | \$ 180.00       |                 |
| 012.536.5.135.00      | Employer 401K                  | \$ 1,727.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.136.00      | Medicare Insurance             | \$ 502.00       |                 |
| 012.536.5.210.00      | Departmental Supplies          | \$ 1,067.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.211.00      | Controlled Property            | \$ 733.00       |                 |
| 012.536.5.310.00      | Travel/Training                | \$ 8,778.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.321.00      | Telecommunications             | \$ 651.00       |                 |
| 012.536.5.370.00      | Advertising/Promotions         | \$ 2,908.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.491.00      | Board Meeting Expenses         | \$ 1,940.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.581.00      | Awards/Appreciations           | \$ 7,740.00     |                 |
| 012.536.5.910.00      | C.O. Equipment                 | \$ 1,800.00     |                 |

*Explanation of Revisions: Budget NC Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grant for Health Education Specialist to carry out Smart Girls and Wise Guys Educational curriculum in the middle and high schools as well as operating expenses to support the program.*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**PETITION TO ABANDON A PORTION OF HARBOR POINT DRIVE:**

Commissioner Allen asked to recuse herself from the petition discussion

because of personal interest (it is her property). The board voted and unanimously approved her recusal. Chairman Falls then called Bill McCarter, planning director, to the stand. Mr. McCarter said that there is a right of way on Harbor Point Drive, located at 110 Harbor Point Drive and there is a petition for the county to abandon it. The commissioners are required to hold a public hearing and the commissioners are required to approve a resolution.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins made the motion to approve the resolution and to set the public hearing for June 16th, seconded by Commissioner Holbrook, and unanimously approved by the Board.**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONNECT NC:** Chairman Falls called upon Henry Earle, to read the following resolution:

Number 04-2015

### **A Resolution in Support of CONNECT NC**

**Whereas** Governor Pat McCrory unveiled the CONNECT NC bond proposals on April 17, 2015; and,

**Whereas** the CONNECT NC proposals will connect North Carolina cities and towns by building roads, upgrading technology and constructing education facilities; and,

**Whereas** the two proposal bonds of approximately \$3 billion will go before the legislature in the fall of 2015; and,

**Whereas** the transportation bond includes work on Highway 74 in Cleveland County and I-485 in Mecklenburg County; and,

**Whereas** Highway 74 and Interstate 85 are vital to the continued economic growth of Cleveland County;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners do hereby resolve to support Governor Pat McCrory and his efforts to improve the infrastructure of North Carolina through the CONNECT NC initiative.

**ADOPTED THIS THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2015.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Falls, Chairman

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Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan K. Allen, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Hawkins, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner

Commissioner Hutchins said this was a good thing and will improve the conditions on Highway 74 and Interstate 85, which are vital to our continued economic development.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Holbrook, and unanimously adopted the Board.**

**BUDGET PRESENTATION:** Chairman Falls called County Manager Jeff Richardson to the stand for a budget presentation. The manager thanked the board for their strategic direction with the 2015-2016 budget. The manager covered the following topics:

- School funding: Natural growth from growing tax base, increase in sales tax revenue and capital allotment, amounts to an extra \$1 million

in school funding and students expected to be just over 15,000 next year.

- **Economic Development:** \$225K given to workforce development. With unemployment hovering at 6% it is imperative to show companies that the county is committed to creating an employment ready work force. There are 29 projects, with \$2.8 million in tax revenue this year.
- **Public Safety:** The county is budgeting \$90K for key card entrances in the administrative building, law enforcement center intercom and jail facility upgrades. The manager proposed \$125K in early holiday payout for employees that are required to work on holidays. They would be paid for the day then instead of cashing out their comp at a much later time. All volunteer fire districts will be funded at a full 5 cent rate.
- **New Health Department:** The new health department is on time and under budget and expected to open in February 2016.
- **Community Education/Customer Service:** \$60K for county marketing/rebranding, \$147K for the shooting range, \$200K grant received for a multi-purpose recycling program. \$150K for animal control office and program upgrades.

- Fiscal Sustainability: The county is quickly approaching the 18% capital reserve that the Commissioners set as a goal. \$75K in the budget for a facilities master plan that will dictate facilities planning for the next 5-10 years. \$100K to the community college capital fund. They are facing needs with aging facilities.
- Capital Projects: \$50K to the Shelby Airport, \$50K for Public Safety Radio Maintenance, \$100K DA office renovations, \$50K Sheriff's Evidence Room upgrades and \$350K for out year capital planning.
- Staffing: One IT administrator at the new health department, one human resources assistant to help with Workplace Wellness and two additional 911 operators for the midnight shift.
- Employee Compensation: 2.4% base ½ step increase for employees with over 1 year tenured experience, 3.0% one-time lump sum payout to all benefited employees. Extra 2.4% for all Sheriff's Office employees. \$35K for college tuition assistance program (CCC, GWU, and state schools), 400K for health insurance. Health Savings Account is moving from \$750/year to \$1000/year. The 70/30 split on insurance is moving up to 80/20.

Commissioner Hutchins thanked County Manager Richardson and the staff on such a fine budget. He's very proud of how well the county is doing.



Commissioner Allen reiterated it and said she appreciates the cost savings and is very happy about the compensation plan. Commissioner Hawkins said it is the best budget he has seen in a long time. He reiterated that being behind like they were is not something they want to do again.

Commissioner Holbrook said it's very evident that this budget is excellent and that the presentation was very visual and well done. Chairman Falls thanked the department heads for what they did in making the budget happen and for finding ways to save costs. He also thanked them for their loyalty.

**ACTION: Commissioner Hawkins made the motion to set the public hearing for the budget to June 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the board.**

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

**Commissioner Hawkins:** Attended the airport advisory board meeting but had most recently spent most of his time in Seattle so he didn't have much to report.

**Commissioner Allen:** Commissioner Allen said she has had a busy couple of weeks, met with the Buxton group regarding retail. She also attended Bill Hooker's 25 year anniversary at United Way and North Shelby's Hearts and Hooves awards banquet.

**Commissioner Hutchins:** Commissioner Hutchins said he had meetings with the MPO and gun range advisory board, looking to try to compete and get a GLOCK match for next spring.

**Commissioner Holbrook:** STEAG was excellent as was the legislative roundtable with the CEO program.

**Commissioner Falls:** Chairman Falls thanked the board and the staff for the budget.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Falls entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Commissioner Hutchins, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins and unanimously approved by the Board. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Chambers.