

Cleveland County Board of Commissioners
September 20, 2016

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 20th, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

PRESENT: Jason Falls, Chairman
Eddie Holbrook, Vice-Chair
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner
Susan Allen, Commissioner
Jeff Richardson, County Manager
Tim Moore, County Attorney
Andrea Leslie-Fite, Assistant County Attorney
Henry Earle, Clerk to the Board
Kerri Melton, Community Services Director
Brian Epley, Finance Director
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director
Bill McCarter, Planning Director
Lorie Poston, E911 Communications Director
Perry Davis, Emergency Management Director
Karen Ellis, Social Services Director
Dorothea Wyant, Public Health Director
Dayna Causby, Elections Director

ABSENT: Ronald Hawkins, Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ADOPTION

ACTION: Commissioner Allen moved to adopt the agenda as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION

AWARD: Chairman Falls stated that he was really excited about the special presentations this evening because they were about employee accomplishments. He then introduced Matt Gunnet, Membership Services Director for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and April Hatley, representative for the Local Government Federal Credit Union. Mr. Gunnet thanked Commissioners for allowing him to come and present this award and introduced Cleveland County employee Alison Clark. Ms. Clark is the recipient of a 2016 LGFCU Excellence in Innovation Award for the Adoption Promotion Initiative through Social Services. The state goal for Cleveland County had been 21 adoptions for fiscal year 2015/2016. Through this program Cleveland County was fortunate to finalize 37 adoptions over this time frame.

Chairman Falls asked Social Services Director Karen Ellis to come down front with Ms. Clark, as well as Social Services Board members Mary Accor and Denise Wright. Commissioners each thanked Ms. Clark for her hard work and dedication to Social Services.

RECOGNITION OF COUNTY EMPLOYEE EDUCATION/TRAINING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-

2016: Chairman Falls stated that it was a goal of the Commissioners and of the County Manager to encourage education and employee training, even going as far as to implement the tuition reimbursement program in 2015. Chairman Falls read the following list, inviting employees to the front. Commissioners congratulated employees on their accomplishments and took a group picture.

911 Communications:

- Webb Bowling-Division of Criminal Information Certification
- Lisa Green – Emergency Medical Dispatcher Certification

Emergency Medical Services:

- Summer Bridges – Paramedic Certification from Cleveland Community College

Health Department:

- Tammy Cobb – Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration – Limestone College
- Tania Dixon – Leadership Cleveland County
- Tina Murray – Care Management Certification
- Susan Willis – Leadership Cleveland County
- Sherry Yocum – Field Epidemiology Certification from the UNC School of Government

Human Resources:

- Rebecca Rhinehardt – Bachelor of Science in Public Administration – Liberty University

County Manager's Office:

- Henry Earle – Master of Public Administration – UNC-Pembroke

Planning:

- Chris Martin – Leadership Cleveland County

Social Services:

- Trina Caldwell- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a concentration in addiction-

Veteran's Administration:

- Patty Petrozzi – Veteran Service Officer Accreditation

PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL CONSTITUTION WEEK: Chairman Falls asked Commissioner Hutchins to introduce the proclamation. Commissioner Hutchins stated that this week was Constitution Week in the United States and that North Carolina had played an intricate roll in holding out for the Bill of Rights, guaranteeing additional freedoms and rights to its citizens. Commissioner Hutchins invited Ronald Whetstine and Justin Brackett to the podium to talk in more detail about that involvement. After they had spoken the Clerk to the Board read the Proclamation.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

UPDATE ON THE CERTIFIED ENTREPRENEURIAL PROGRAM: Chairman Falls introduced Steve Padgett, Director of the Small Business Center at Cleveland Community College. Mr. Padgett thanked Dr. Thornburg, President of Cleveland Community College, for letting the Small Business Center thrive, and thanked Commissioners for the creation of the Small Business Incentive Program. Mr. Padgett was very pleased to let Commissioners know that a new website would soon be up. This website would help potential small business owners get information to help them with marketing, finance, and ensuring that the right paperwork has been filled out and filed to start their business. Mr. Padgett thanked Commissioners again for their time and hoped to bring back a certification document, denoting being certified as a small business friendly community, the next time he came to speak before them. Commissioners thanked Mr. Padgett for his continued work to make Cleveland County a place where small businesses can thrive.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION

- There were no citizens registered to speak.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES: There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the minutes of the September 6th, 2016 regular meeting were presented.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to adopt the Minutes as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously adopted by the Board.

TAX ADMINISTRATION: As of August 31st, 2016, 55.6% of taxes for fiscal year 2016/2017 had been collected by the Tax Collector's Office.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to accept the Tax Collector's monthly report as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

TAX ADMINISTRATION: For July, 2016, abatements were \$229,817 and supplements were \$66,017.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the abatements and supplements. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE FOR PROJECT STIX: Chairman Falls invited Matt Blackwell, Cleveland County Economic Development Partnership Business Services Director, to the podium. Mr. Blackwell stated that he was contacted in May concerning a possible business expansion for Kings Plush Inc. in Kings Mountain. This company is proposing to build a 150K square foot facility and will install new machinery with a total new capital investment of \$11.7 million over the next three years. The county is proposing a 30% grant of the .57 cent tax rate for all new taxable investment for three years and that the City of Kings Mountain was proposing a similar 30% grant of the .43 cent tax rate for all new taxable investment for three years.

The public hearing was opened at 6:35 p.m.

- Steve Thornburg: Dr. Thornburg is the Chair of the Economic Development Partnership Board. The Board is absolutely thrilled with this incentive agreement. It is nice to see a textile industry that still exists in Cleveland County, especially one that has been present for a long time. It will be a wonderful opportunity for the community and a lot of jobs saved and created.

The public hearing was closed at 6:37 p.m. Commissioner Hutchins thanked Mr. Blackwell for his work and for helping to create/save over 300 jobs in Kings Mountain.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the incentive agreements for Project Stix. It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

REGULAR AGENDA

MINIMUM HOUSING CODE VIOLATION – 387 Light Oak Circle: Chairman Falls called Bill McCarter, Planning Director, to the podium. Mr. McCarter stated that the Planning Department first got a complaint in March of 2016 but that the owner of the mobile home is deceased and the home has never been listed for taxes. Emergency Management Director Perry Davis had told Mr. McCarter that he was interested in using the mobile home for a controlled burn if the Commissioners moved to approve the demolition. Commissioner Hutchins asked if the land value was great enough to negate the costs of hauling off the mobile home. Mr. McCarter stated that more than likely the mobile home would be utilized by the Emergency Management department if the Commissioners approved its demolition.

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve the order to demolish the mobile home at 387 Light Oak Circle. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

MINIMUM HOUSING CODE VIOLATION – 129 Woodberry Drive: Chairman Falls called Bill McCarter, Planning Director, to the podium. Mr. McCarter stated that the Planning Department first got a complaint in June of 2015 but that the owner of the mobile home had asked for more time to clean it up. Mr. McCarter stated that the property owner, Wayne Allen, was present. Chairman Falls asked Mr. Allen if he would come forward. Mr. Allen showed the Commissioners recent pictures of the mobile home that showed improvements made. Commissioner Hutchins asked Mr. Allen if he could bring the mobile home up to code within a 90 day window. Mr. Allen said he could do that. Commissioner Hutchins asked County Attorney Moore if it was legal for the Commissioners to grant a conditional demolition order that would trigger if conditions were not met within 90 days and Mr. Moore agreed that it was legal for them to do so.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the order to demolish the mobile home at 129 Woodberry Drive if the mobile home was not brought up to code within 90 days from the date of the meeting (December 20th, 2016). It was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

BOARD OF HEALTH APPOINTMENT: The County Clerk brought to the Board a list of names (see below) to replace Sherry Rippy Padgett, who resigned effective July 19, 2016. The appointed person is to fill the remainder of the unexpired term, ending on December 31st, 2018.

ACTION: Commissioner Holbrook nominated Robert Miller to fill the unexpired term left by Ms. Padgett. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

Board of Health		
Applicant	Address	Board Qualification
Robert Miller		Public Citizen/Former Member
Robin Brackett	PO Box 668-Lawndale	Public Citizen
Wanda Robinson	126 Ocean Drive-Shelby	Registered Nurse
Will Troutman	257 Cornwell Road-Shelby	Public Citizen
Jeff Aderholdt	113 Shadowgate Drive-Shelby	Public Citizen
Alva Finney	1205 Borders Road-Shelby	Public Citizen
Frank Kopenec	213 John Cline Road-Cherryville	Public Citizen
		Terms:
		Appoint One
		Fill Remainder of Term
		Term Expires 12/31/2018

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Allen: Commissioner Allen encouraged everyone in attendance to be active in the community and to get involved in projects.

Commissioner Hutchins: Commissioner Hutchins asked that those in attendance keep Shooting Range Administrator Sam Lockridge in their thoughts and prayers. He also stated that the Shooting Range 250 yard bay should be open in the relatively near future. All of the extra work being done to it is being paid for by the NC Wildlife Commission.

Commissioner Holbrook: Commissioner Holbrook stated that workforce development is going strong in Cleveland County and thanked Mr. Blackwell for his work on Project Stix. Commissioner Holbrook stated that the funeral for Shelby Police Officer Tim Brackeen was very emotional and was a real testament to the power of Shelby and Cleveland County coming together as a community.

Chairman Falls: Chairman Falls stated that the Cleveland County Fair begins on Thursday, September 29th and that he echoed Commissioner Holbrook’s sentiment, stating that this level of Community support does not exist in most places and he is proud to call Cleveland County home.

ADJOURN

Chairman Falls entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Hutchins, seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously approved by the Board. The next regularly

scheduled meeting of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday, October 4th at 6:00 in the Commissioner's Chamber.