

Cleveland County Board of Commissioners
April 4, 2017

The Cleveland County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Cleveland County Administrative Office.

PRESENT: Eddie Holbrook, Chairman
Susan Allen, Vice-Chair
Jason Falls, Commissioner
Johnny Hutchins, Commissioner
Ronnie Whetstine, Commissioner
Betsy Harnage, Register of Deeds
Randy McDaniel, Soil & Water District Superintendent
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
Chris Green, Tax Administrator
Allison Mauney, Human Resources Director
Dayna Causby, Board of Elections Director
Lorie Poston, E911 Communications Director
Stephen Bishop, Soil and Water Conservation Technician

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Eddie Holbrook called the meeting to order and Commissioner Ronnie Whetstine led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation for the meeting.

AGENDA ADOPTION

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to adopt the agenda adding item 8, a closed session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with the attorney to preserve attorney-client privilege. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falls and unanimously approved by the Board.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION OUTREACH UPDATE AND SPEECH CONTEST

WINNER: Commissioner Falls introduced Stephen Bishop, Soil and Conservation Technician. Mr. Bishop introduced Katie Earl from Soil and Water, Pam Nolan from Crest High School and Bailey Hall, the runner up in the Crest Middle School Soil and Water Conservation Speech contest. Mr. Bishop reminded the Board that it had been roughly a year since the Farmland Preservation Program had been presented and he thanked them for their continued support of farmers and farmland programs in Cleveland County. Ms. Earl then spoke about her focus on agricultural education within the school system. Ms. Earl asked Ms. Hall to come forward and the Commissioners congratulated her on her win and then took a picture with her.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION

- There were no citizens registered for citizen recognition.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES: There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the minutes of the March 21, 2017 regular agenda meeting were presented.

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

MANAGER'S REPORT: The March 2017 Manager's Report was presented. Highlights include all budget documents being submitted with a May timeline for a Manager's Budget presentation, and that County investments had earned \$303,000 for fiscal year 2016/2017.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the March Manager's Report. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously adopted by the Board.

FINANCE: NCGS 159-34 requires that each County has an annual audit that must be approved by the Board of Commissioners. The Finance department was recommending Martin Starnes and Associates for a contracted amount of \$60,500.00.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the audit contract for Martin Starnes and Associates. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously adopted by the Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER: BNA #040

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
012.542.4.410.00	Local and Other Grants	\$27,000.00	
012.542.5.122.00	Salary-PT	\$25,081.00	
010.438.5.310.00	FICA	\$1,555.00	
010.438.5.461.00	Medicare	\$364.00	

Explanation of Revisions: Budget \$27,000.00 from the Foundation for the Carolinas for salary/fringe for the Get on the Bus with Us program.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the budget amendment. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: BNA #041

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
010.495.5.810.99	Dairy Steer Project	\$3,077.00	
010.495.5.790.99	Dairy Steer Project	\$3,077.00	

Explanation of Revisions: Budget \$3,077.00 in donations received for the Youth Dairy Steer Project.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the budget amendment. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

EMERGENCY 911: BNA #042

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
026.454.4.991.00	Fund Balance Appropriation	\$113,659.00	
026.454.5.920.00	Lease Purchase Payment	\$113,659.00	

Explanation of Revisions: Budget \$113,659.00 in Emergency 911 fund balance to cover lease purchase of new 911 phone system including equipment for backup center.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the budget amendment. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE: BNA #043

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Department/Account Name</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
010.441.4.810.00	Donations/Contributions	\$9,681.00	
010.441.5.790.00	Donations/Contributions	\$9,681.00	

Explanation of Revisions: Budget \$9,681.00 in donations for the Sheriff's Office to purchase two AED devices to be carried in patrol cars. .

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the budget amendment. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

TAX ADMINISTRATION: The Tax Administration Department requested a public hearing be set for the Tuesday, April 18th, 2017 Commissioner meeting to hear a Small Business Incentive Agreement.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the interlocal agreement. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Greenheck Real Estate Holdings, LLC is requesting a two year extension to the five year option the company has on an eight acre tract of land adjacent to its current location. This option was a part of its 2012 Project Tundra Incentive Agreement and the current option expires in July 2017. If approved, the option would expire on July 10, 2019.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the option extension for Greenheck Real Estate Holdings until July 10, 2019. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Infocrossing, Inc. reorganized in March, 2016 and transferred its data center business to its related entity, Wipro Data Center and Cloud Services, Inc. Infocrossing is requesting consideration to assign all rights and obligations of its incentive agreement to Wipro Data Center and Cloud Services. This request is in wording only and has no financial impact upon the County.

ACTION: Commissioner Whetstine moved to approve the reassignment of Infocrossing's Incentive Agreement to its related entity, Wipro Data Center and Cloud Services, Inc. It was seconded by Commissioner Hutchins and unanimously approved by the Board.

REGULAR AGENDA

UPDATE FROM PARTNERS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: Vice-Chair Allen introduced Andrew Schrag, Community Development Director, and Rhett Melton, Executive Director for Partners Behavioral Health Management. Mr. Schrag came to answer questions that had been asked of him at the 3-7-17

Commissioners' Meeting. Mr. Schrag stated that there is \$16 million in Medicaid money expended for Cleveland County and currently about \$12 million had been billed by providers in Cleveland County. There are 35 providers in Cleveland County at 45 different sites, excluding foster homes and school sites. For indigent care and indigent emergency room usage, that information currently is not being tracked but that Partners is working with providers to look at ways to begin collecting that data. For 2015/2016 there were 309 allegations of fraud and/or abuse, 90 were substantiated and 17 cases were referred with a recovery of \$350,000 in overpayment. Mr. Melton spoke about the Medicaid Savings Reinvestment Plan. He stated that Partners is working collaboratively with community leaders to decide where to reinvest money, focusing more on programs and less on brick and mortar buildings. Programs that are Partners priorities are:

- Opioid Epidemic: This problem cannot be treated away and/or arrested away and it must be a Community approach. Partners is working toward that end.
- Integrated Care Centers: Before Mental Health Reform there was one facility in Cleveland County where citizens knew where to go for mental health services and that was the Ollie Harris Center. Partners is trying to get back to a similar model with the Ollie Harris Behavioral Health wing at the Public Health Center.
- Partnering for Prosperity Partnership: This program is tackling the social determinants of health, hopefully breaking dependency on "the system". The Cleveland County project is the pilot site for Partners.
- Collaborating for Trauma-Informed Care: Partnering closely with DSS this project aims to help reduce the effects on children of trauma.

Mr. Melton stated that Partners had \$102.3 million in Medicaid fund balance as of June 2016. \$18.2 million was in Risk Reserve and was untouchable, \$39.1 million in Working Capital (60 day reserve) and \$21.6 in to backfill state cuts to their allocation, leaving \$23.4 million in reinvestment.

Commissioner Hutchins stated that it seems there is a lack of service providers, even at 45, and that transportation is an issue for many citizens. Mr. Melton stated that he hoped the hub model that Partners is trying to move back to with the Ollie Harris wing will help citizens get the services they need and that they will know there is one place they can go to get help and that transportation could hopefully be aided with private businesses and TACC pooling some resources. Commissioner Falls asked if, in County specific funds, Cleveland County was spending more than it was receiving. Mr. Melton stated that Cleveland County does put in more than some other counties but that the money spent by the County stays in the County. This year that is a projected \$580,000 - \$585,000.

Commissioner Holbrook thanked Mr. Melton and Mr. Schrag for their time and for coming back to the Board.

NCDOT GRANT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE WASHBURN SWITCH INDUSTRIAL

PARK: Chairman Holbrook called Matt Blackwell, Business Services Director at Cleveland County Economic Development Partnership, to the podium. Mr. Blackwell stated that at the February 6th Commissioner meeting that the Board approved a resolution in support of the application for grant funding from the NCDOT STI Program, Economic Development Program, and Public Access Program funding to equal \$1,875,000 for Project Grizzly construction costs. At the March meeting \$575,000 was formally approved by the Board of Transportation and it is anticipated that the remaining \$1,300,000 will be approved by the Board of Transportation at their April meeting. Anticipated costs for the construction project will be \$2,455,000 and Clearwater has agreed to pay for project costs over the grant award.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the Public Access/Economic Development Agreement and the administration of grant funds associated with the agreement. It was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board.

ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH TGS ENGINEERS AT WASHBURN SWITCH INDUSTRIAL

PARK: Mr. Blackwell stated that on January 26th, 2017 Economic Development put out a Request for Qualifications for Engineering services for Industrial Rail, Road and Turn Lane Improvements for Project Grizzly. Staff recommends using TGS Engineers in Shelby. Conceptual costs, including engineering services, are \$2,455,000. Commissioner Hutchins asked if in the event that all qualifications are equal, can it be written into the contract to require local subcontractors. County Attorney Moore stated that the County is not required to use the lowest bid if what they provide is not what is wanted but the County has to be careful to not look like it is creating projects just for local contractors. Staff Attorney Leslie-Fite stated that wording could be written to state that every effort will be made to use local qualified subcontractors.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the engineering contract with TGS Engineers with the addition of the phrase “with best efforts to secure local qualified subcontractors” on page 1 under General Recitals. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falls and unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Whetstine: Commissioner Whetstine attended the Cleveland County Rescue Mission Banquet, a Groundbreaking for the Washington Missionary Outreach, Chamber After Hours and the Kings Mountain Advisory Council.

Commissioner Falls: Commissioner Falls gave the Board two invitations. The first was on Saturday, April 8th at the Fairgrounds-Clifford's Army was having their annual fundraiser. The second is that, on Sunday, April 9th, the Bankers House will be hosting the "Bags of Wonder" charity event for the Ms. Shelby outstanding Teen.

Commissioner Hutchins: Commissioner Hutchins stated he attended the MPO meeting and had met with the Health Director about the new Health rankings.

Commissioner Allen: Commissioner Allen stated that she was glad to see the Get on the Bus with Us budget amendment from earlier, and that she had been busy with Travel and Tourism, the DSS Board, and she was able to go to a chicken hatching birthday party at Springmore Elementary School.

County Attorney Moore: Mr. Moore stated that he was glad to see so many Volunteer Firefighters in attendance during the meeting. He said often we recognize law enforcement but far too often do not recognize the work of local volunteer firefighters and he appreciated what they did.

CLOSED SESSION

ACTION: Commissioner Allen moved to go into closed session, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (1) (3) to consult with the attorney to preserve attorney-client privilege, at 7:14 p.m. It was seconded by Commissioner Whetstine and unanimously adopted by the Board.

During the closed session Commissioners discussed an issue the County Attorney and Assistant County Attorney that required the Board's attention.

ACTION: Commissioner Hutchins moved to come out of closed session at 8:21 p.m. and into open session. It was seconded by Commissioner Whetstine and unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURN

Chairman Holbrook entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Hutchins, seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved by the Board. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday, April 18th, 2017.