MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF EDGECOMBE COUNTY
APRIL 4, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886

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1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN LEONARD WIGGINS AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Leonard Wiggins, Chairman, Mr. Jonathan Felton, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Donald Boswell, Mrs. Evelyn Powell, Mrs. Viola Harris, Rev. E. Wayne Hines and Mr. William Wooten.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Eric Evans, County Manager, Mr. Mahlon DeLoatch, and Ms. Frangie Mungo, Clerk to the Board.

2. **PRAYER.**
Prayer was provided by Rev. Hines.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.**
Mr. Felton moved to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2016 meeting as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

4. **BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW.**

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MRS. HARRIS MOVED TO RECESS THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING AND CONVENE AS BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW. MR. BOSWELL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

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A. **Carol Allen White, Clerk of Court, administered the oath of office to the Board of Equalization and Review.**
B. **Chairman Leonard Wiggins called the meeting to order.**
C. **Scheduled appointments:**
There were no scheduled appointments.

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REV. HINES MOVED TO RECESS AS BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW UNTIL MAY 2, 2016 AND RECONVENE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING. MR. WOOTEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

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5. **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS.**
A. **Family members of Mr. John Vines Cobb, Jr. were present to receive a Resolution In Memory of Mr. John Vines Cobb, Jr.**

Mr. Felton read and presented the framed resolution to the family and moved to approve the following resolution:

Whereas, we as the governing Board of Edgecombe County recognize that our greatness as a County is the sum of the contributions of all of our citizens; and

Whereas, we also acknowledge that there are some whose efforts stand out among others and whose legacy will extend long beyond their lifetime; and

Whereas, we know the late John Vines Cobb, Jr. to be such a person; whose contributions in leadership and service are only exceeded by his love for his family and this County.

Whereas, we recognize his service to this County through the many leadership roles he had, including Edgecombe County Commissioner, the Mayor of Pinetops, and many other boards and committees.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that official recognition and honor from the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners are extended in memory of Mr. John Vines Cobb, Jr.

Adopted this the 4th day of April, 2016.

Signed: Leonard Wiggins, Chairman
Attest: Frangie Mungo, Clerk to the Board

Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Coaches and students of Southwest Edgecombe High School Cheerleaders were present to be recognized by the Board of Commissioners on winning 1st place in the Medium Varsity Non-Tumble Division 2 at the Cheer Ltd Nationals at CANAM 2016.
Coaches and students came to the front of the room and Mr. Boswell read the framed presentation as follows:

Congratulations
Southwest Edgecombe High School
Cheerleaders
1st Place in the Medium Varsity
Non-Tumble Division 2
At the
2016 Cheer Ltd Nationals at CANAM
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
March 20, 2016

Presented this fourth day of April, 2016 by the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners.

Leonard Wiggins, Chairman

Mr. Wiggins recognized the Nash-Rocky Mount School System's Chairman, Vice-Chairman and their new Superintendent.

Mr. Reginald Silver, Chairman of the Nash-Rocky Mount Board of Education, came forth and introduced Mr. William Sharpe, Vice-Chairman and Dr. Shelton Jefferies, Superintendent. He thanked the Board for the tremendous partnership between the two Boards over the years and looked forward to many more.

C. Ms. Cornelia McGee, Coordinator, Keep America Beautiful (KAB) of Nash and Edgecombe Counties, was present to talk about recycling and clean-up events in the County.
Mr. Evans stated that in the last couple of Board meetings discussions were held regarding the issue of trash alongside our roads and how big a problem it is. He felt it was important for the Board to hear some of what is already going on and to hear some new things that can possibly take place in the twin Counties to help to address the issue so he invited Ms. McGee to come and make a presentation to the Board.

Ms. McGee provided a power point presentation as follows:

- **History of KAB**
- **Mission/Goal of KAB**
- **2015 KAB Accomplishments**
- **KAB works to improve community litter suppression efforts and understanding of the impact of litter on our environment in four ways:**

- ✓ Coordinates and promotes the Adopt-A-Spot/Street Program.
- ✓ Organizes and support volunteers in conducting one-time litter cleanups and promotes participation in litter prevention campaigns.
- ✓ Conducts and support volunteers in teaching litter education programs.
- ✓ Promote waste reduction and recycling through a variety of local programs such as the Edgecombe County Recycles Day, Nash County Recycles Day, America Recycles Day and Tarboro/Rocky Mount telephone book recycling drive.

- Volunteer with KAB and make a positive difference in Edgecombe County
  - ✓ Great American Cleanup: March 1 – March 31, 2016; "Clean Your Block Party"
  - ✓ Call KAB and learn how you can launch your very own "clean your block party" to spruce up your neighborhood block.
  - ✓ Join us for the Riverkeeper Cup cleanup Challenge on Saturday, April 16, 2016
  - ✓ Participate in the NC DOT's Spring Litter Sweep from April 16-30
  - ✓ Join us for the Edgecombe County Recycles Day on April 23rd.
- Why should everyone care about the litter problem?
  - ✓ Litter cleanup costs the US more than an estimated $11.5 billion each year.
  - ✓ Litter hurts our economy. Tourist avoid areas where litter is an issue and businesses do not want to locate in litter areas. 36% of business development officials say that litter impacts a decision to locate to a community.
  - ✓ Litter is ugly and can last for a very long time.
  - ✓ Litter is a human health hazard
  - ✓ Litter harms wildlife.
- How can we all make a difference in our community?
  - ✓ Reduce, reuse, and recycle everything that you can.
  - ✓ Participate in the Great American Cleanup, Twin Counties Big Sweep, Annual Riverkeeper Cup Cleanup Challenge and other litter cleanups.
  - ✓ Adopt a spot, street or stream.
  - ✓ Always tie down and secure your load whether you are in a car, truck or boat.
  - ✓ Tell your family, friends and neighbors not to litter.
  - ✓ Report people who litter to local law enforcement.

6. **PUBLIC PETITIONS.**

Rev. Roosevelt Higgs, Speed, NC, came forth to share information with the Board 2014 Roadmap of Need, the 2016 edition of the Roadmap of Need. He shared Edgecombe County's 2014 and 2016 rankings in Health, Youth Behavior and Safety, Education and Economic Development in comparison to other counties. He stated that in 1993/94 the Commissioners formed a task force to address some of these issues. He stated that it has been a while since he has heard anything said about these conditions and they are not going away by themselves. Rev. Higgs stated that if the church and school communities do not get involved they are not going to be any better twenty years from now. He further expressed his concerns regarding Edgecombe County's ranking in the State for STDs. He stated that these issues need to be addressed.

Rev. Higgs expressed his concern regarding the two drownings at Shiloh Landing. He stated that if the County owns the property signs should be put up advising the people not to swim in the area.

He further expressed his opinion on the school county line merger stating that the students living on the Edgecombe County side in Rocky Mount should be attending Edgecombe County Schools. He stated that equal funding should go to all Edgecombe County students.

7. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. Approval of budget amendments.
Mrs. Powell moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of a Resolution Declaring April as Fair Housing Month.
Mrs. Harris moved to approve a Resolution Declaring April as Fair Housing Month as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Approval of declaring County vehicles as surplus property.
Mr. Felton moved to declare County vehicles as surplus property as presented and to authorize staff to dispose of surplus vehicles by listing on GovDeals. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Approval of allocation of JCPC funding for FY 16-17.
Mr. Evans stated that it is expected that the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention will made available $216,301 for FY 2016-2017 to support local programs. The Edgecombe County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) has met and approved funding for six local programs as well as administrative funds for the Council. This funding program requires a local match. The match required is $21,630. Mr. Evans recommended that the Board approve the allocation.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the allocation of the funds, commit to the required match, and to authorize the Chairman and staff to execute the required documents. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

8. BOARD DISCUSSION.

A. Funding and School District lines for Nash-Rocky Mount School system.
Mr. Wiggins stated key points for discussion on Nash County School issue was provided in the agenda and a revised proposed settlement presented by Chairman Belfield, Chairman of Nash County Board of Commissioners was handed out by the County Manager because it was not received in time to be in the agenda package. Mr. Wiggins stated that Board discussion is needed because a joint meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. Mr. Wiggins stated that changes were in the revised proposed solution in particularly item number seven which stated that Edgecombe County shall consent to be a co-defendant in any school funding lawsuit brought by the NRMS system. Mr. Wiggins asked for comments from the Board.

Mrs. Harris stated that she would not agree to number seven.

Rev. Hines stated that we have a bully session going on. They are trying to make us do something that we do not have to do. He stated that we made a proposal to get it right and they do not want to accept that. Rev. Hines stated that the Nash County Commissioners do not have a leg to stand on and that the North Carolina Justice Department will find discrimination in this and Nash County would have to go to Federal court and they do not want to go there.

Mr. Boswell stated that if Edgecombe County is a funding partner we will be partner in a lawsuit regardless how we feel about it.

Mr. Wiggins stated that he would not consent to be in a lawsuit. He also stated that Rocky Mount should remain as a funding source

Mr. Wooten asked if we knew what the initial cost will be to Edgecombe County if we take students back into our County owned schools in comparison to paying Nash County's asking price.

Mr. Evans stated that we will not spend more on current expense, we would fund them all at the same level that we currently fund our students. As far as capital outlay costs it is hard to determine right now.

After more discussion each proposed settlement was discussed and Board's responses were noted as follows:

1. **Edgecombe County shall be responsible for 100% of all capital projects (including capital outlay, renovations, additions and new construction) for school facilities on the Edgecombe side of Rocky Mount including maintenance costs.**

   Agree to have further discussion.

2. **Edgecombe County shall be responsible for the proportionate amount of maintenance costs and debt service at Rocky Mount high School, The Early College and Tar River Academy based on annual student attendance at each of these schools.**

   Agree with the explicit understanding that Edgecombe provides no funding for the schools not listed.

3. **Edgecombe County shall be responsible for funding current expense on a per student basis with Nash County each year.**

   No agreement – Edgecombe will ask if CRM can designate revenues generated from the Edgecombe County side of Rocky Mount to cover the current expense differential.

4. **All Elementary and Middle School students residing on the Edgecombe side of Rocky Mount that are located in the Nash-Rocky Mount School system shall attend schools on the Edgecombe side of the City and all students residing in Nash County shall attend schools located in Nash County.**

   Agree, with Nash-Rocky Mount Schools having some flexibility to assign students.

5. **All students in the NRMS system living on the Edgecombe County side of Rocky Mount in grades 9-12 shall attend Rocky Mount High School, the Early College or Tar River Academy.**

   Agree.

6. **Edgecombe County and Nash County shall proportionately share the cost of maintenance and capital outlay, renovations, additions and new construction related to the Resource Center and Child Nutrition Building based on the percentage of students from each County in the NRMS system.**

   Agree.

7. **Edgecombe County shall consent to be a co-defendant in any school funding lawsuit brought by the NRMS system.**

   No agreement.

9. **<u>PLANNING BOARD REPORT</u>.**

   Cynthia Jenkins, Planning Director, presented the Planning Board Report.

   A. Action Items:

   1. **Proposed text amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance regarding principal buildings per lot.**

      The Planning Board voted to forward the request to the Board of Commissioners to call for and hold a public hearing on May 2, 2016.

Mr. Wooten moved to call for a public hearing on May 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. on this prosed text amendment. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Other Business: None.
C. Draft minutes.
D. Next meeting scheduled for April 18, 2016.

10. APPOINTMENTS.
A. Human Relations Commission.
Mrs. Harris moved to appoint Mrs. Susan Freeman. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

11. CONTRACTS FOR REVIEW AND/OR APPROVAL.
Mr. Felton moved to approve the contracts as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

12. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.
Mrs. Harris moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

13. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW. ***Received***
A. Water Services.
Mike Matthews, Utilities Director, shared with the Board two areas where water leaks were identified.
B. Veterans Service.
C. PreTrial Release Summary.
D. Financial Summary report.

14. MANAGER'S REPORT. ***Received***
A. Dates of importance:
- Joint meeting with Nash County Board of Commissioners, April 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.
- Joint meeting with Board of Education, April 18, 2016.

B. Invitation to open house: Edgecombe Youth Development Center: April 14, 2016; 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.
C. Update on Willow Grove Sunshine Community Park
D. LME/MCOs update.
E. Economic/Workforce Indicators.

15. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

16. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.

17. CLOSED SESSION.
Mr. Wooten moved to go into closed session to discuss economic development. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Wooten moved to go out of closed session and resume the regular meeting. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

18. REV. HINES MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL ARPIL 5, 2016 AT 10:00 P.M. FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JOINT MEETING WITH THE NASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. MR. FELTON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved May 2, 2016

Frangie Mungo

Frangie Mungo, Clerk to the Board