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

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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, Mrs. Viola Harris, Mrs. Evelyn Powell, Mr. Donald Boswell, Rev. E. Wayne Hines, and Mr. William Wooten.

   MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

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

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

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.**
   Mr. Felton moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2015 meeting as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

4. **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:**
   A. Ms. Bea Burnette, 2015 Women's Super Seniors World Tennis Champion, was present to be recognized by the Board of Commissioners for her accomplishments.
   Mr. Evans stated that Mr. Wiggins brought to his attention that Ms. Bea Burnette was somewhat of a celebrity in Edgecombe County and asked him to get in touch with her so that the Board could recognize her accomplishments and present her with a plaque and resolution of recognition.

   Rev. Hines moved to adopt the Resolution of Recognition as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

   Mr. Wiggins asked Mrs. Harris to read and present the following resolution and plaque to Ms. Burnette:

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF BEA BURNETTE AS THE 2015 WOMEN'S SUPER SENIORS WORLD TENNIS CHAMPION

Whereas, Bea Burnette is a resident of Edgecombe County with many achievement in national and international tennis competitions, and

Whereas, she won three Gold Ball Awards and the Doris Hart Cup from the International Tennis Federation's super Seniors World Tennis Championships; and

Whereas, she is the current Women's World Champion in her age group; and

Whereas, her accomplishments shine a very positive light on the great qualities of Edgecombe County and the Twin County Region.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That the Governing Board of Edgecombe County hereby recognizes the accomplishments of Bea Burnette and her positive impact here in Edgecombe County and beyond.

Ms. Burnette thanked the Board and shared a brief video of an interview piece done by WRAL after she won the world championship.

Mr. Wiggins recognized Mr. Norris Tolson, who is the new President/CEO of Carolina's Gateway Partnership.

B. Mrs. Karen Lachapelle, Health Director, was present to announce Edgecombe County Health Department's accreditation by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.
Mrs. Lachapelle stated that the Edgecombe County Health Department has successfully achieved the status of Reaccredited Public Health Department by the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Board. She stated that to become accredited the Health Department has to work daily to maintain the status and the accreditation is good for four years. Mrs. Lachapelle stated that the site team was impressed with Edgecombe County's Public Health Department and with the new facility and the County Manager's knowledge of Public Health and impressed with several other areas of service provided by the Health Department.

Mr. Wiggins thanked Mrs. Lachapelle and her staff for the achievement for the County.

C. Mr. Eric Evans, County Manager, presented the annual settlement for the former Tax Collector.

Mr. Evans stated that annually the Board of Commissioners charges the Tax Administrator (who serves as both Collector and Assessor) with the responsibility of collecting current year's levy and back ten years. With the recent retirement of former Tax Administrator, Gloria Lyndaker, and the appointment of the new Tax Administrator, Tarasa Lewis, it is necessary that the Board take the following actions:

1. Approve the former Collector's Settlement as of November 30, 2015, subject to independent audit.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the former Collector's Settlement as presented, subject to independent audit. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

2. Charge the newly appointed Collector, Tarasa Lewis, with the responsibility of collecting the outstanding taxes for years 2005 through 2015.

Rev. Hines moved to charge the Tax Collector with the responsibility of collecting the outstanding taxes as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. PUBLIC PETITIONS.
Mr. James Wrenn, 704 NC 97 East, Tarboro (Leggett Community) with the Phoenix Historical Society came forth to remind the Board of a resolution they adopted in 2003 declaring January 29th as George Henry White Day in Edgecombe County. He also shared information with the Board regarding an event being held in Raleigh to honor George Henry White, which is sponsored by several organizations and asked for the Board's support.

Mr. Felton moved to support the celebration of the memory of George Henry White and to authorize the County Manager to send a letter of support on behalf of the

Board of Commissioners. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Approval of budget amendments.

Mrs. Powell moved to approve the budget amendments a presented. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of bad debt write-off for the Health Department.

Mr. Evans stated that the Edgecombe County Health Department's Bad Debt Write Off Policy states that a patient's account will be handed as Bad Debt when there has been no activity on the account for more than one year. The Fees and Eligibility Determination Policy also states that at the end of the fiscal year any outstanding account having no activity for more than 12 months shall be written off as bad debt. Mr. Evans stated that this does not mean that there will be no further efforts to collect the dept. In fact, if there is any new activity on the account, for example the patient presents at the Health Department for services, then the account is reactivated. This action is an accounting method whereas the written off debt no longer shows on our books as receivable. Mr. Evans stated that the Human Services Board voted unanimously to recommend this debt be written off.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the bad debt write off for the Health Department as recommended by the Human Services Board. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Offer to purchase County owned property located at 607 Martin Drive, Princeville for $4,000 by Wayne Langston.

Mr. Evans stated that an offer to purchase was received from Wayne Langston to purchase property the County owns at 607 Martin Drive, Princeville. This property was acquired through tax foreclosure. The offer is for $4,000. He stated that if the offer to purchase is accepted by the Board, a minimum ten day notice must be given for upset bid. Mr. Evans stated that after inspection of the property, it is found that the interior has been nearly ruined by vandals, leaving significant costs to repair. Therefore, in order to remove this liability from the County and to place it back to taxable status, it is recommended that the Board accept this offer to purchase.

Mrs. Harris moved to accept the offer to purchase and authorize staff to publish notice for upset bid. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Resolution designating a Map Review Officer as required by North Carolina General Statutes.

Mr. Evans stated that North Carolina General Statutes require that all maps and/or plats be reviewed and approved by a Map Review Officer prior to being presented for recording to the Register of Deeds. He stated that approval of the resolution will designate G. Ray Wilson as Review Officer and designate Edward A. Lilley, Tarasa Lewis, Cynthia T. Jenkins and Katina Braswell as Alternate Review Officers.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the resolution as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Tax appeal from Hanson Aggregates Southeast, LLC for property located at 10471 NC 97 West, Rocky Mount after a discovery was made in 2014.

Mrs. Tarasa Lewis, Tax Administrator, came forth to provide a summary. She stated on May 30, 2014, they made a discovery for years 2009 through 2014 for a

value of $14,413,965. Mrs. Lewis stated that a representative for the company was present and in agreement with the Assessor's recommendations.
Overview of Taxpayers request to appeal:

1. Request the penalty applied to tax years 2009, 2010 and 2011 be waived.
   Assessor recommends: tax years 2009, 2010 and 2011 be assessed with interest in lieu of penalty.

   Mrs. Harris moved to approve tax assessor's recommendation as presented. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

2. The request for obsolescence be considered.
   Assessor recommends: Obsolescence be denied. It is still the opinion of the Assessor that if a true obsolescence credit was needed the taxpayer would have requested obsolescence during the original listing periods.

   Rev. Hines moved to approve the tax assessor's recommendation as presented. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

3. Request for assets discovered for the 2012 tax year be assessed using a 10 year instead of the 20 life assessed in the audit.
   Assessor recommends: Machinery and equipment assets being discovered for 2012 tax year be assessed under the 10 year life.

   Mr. Harris moved to approve the Tax Assessor's recommendation as presented. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

F. Contract amendment #2 with Carolina Civilworks for Highway 33/Logsboro Road Sewer project.
Mr. Evans presented contract amendment #2 with Carolina Civilworks, Inc. for the construction of the sewer collection system in the vicinity of Hwy 33 and Logsboro Road. The changes proposed are as follows:

- Addition of $301,738.50 for the installation of compacted sand base and asphalt at Jerry's Village, Forest Pines and Ellis Lane. Note that originally it was proposed to patch these lanes as needed, but construction now dictates that they be resurfaced.
- Reduction of $270,228.00 to remove the amount bid for patching these lanes that now will be resurfaced.
- Increase the contract time by 14 days due to inclement weather.

The net change to this contract will be an additional $93,281.73, changing the total contract price to $3,702,056.21. Mr. Evans recommended that the Board approve the contract amendment, and authorize the Chairman to execute the same.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the contract amendment as presented and to authorize the Chairman to execute the same. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

G. Approval of contract for Engineering Services with The Wooten Company for the Speed Sewer Project.
Mr. Evans recommended approval of a contract with the Wooten Company to provide engineering services for the Sewer to Speed and Vicinity Project. He stated that we have gone through the procurement process, and received approval from both funders, USDA-Rural Development and the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The cost of this contract, $336,500, will

be covered by the project funds which have already been secured. Funding includes $3.058 million from USDA-RD in grant and loan and $2.982 million in CDBG grant funds from NC-DENR, for a total project cost of $6.040 million.

Mrs. Harris moved to approve the contract with The Wooten Company as presented. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

H. Approval of the Sheriff's Office 2016 grant applications to the Governor's Crime Commission.

Mr. Evans stated that the Sheriff's Office is applying to the Governor's Crime Commission for 2016 grants for:

- Purchase of 5 MDT and 5 printers $ 17,330.00
- Construction of a pet adoption center $200,000.00
- X-ray machine for Courthouse $ 33,480.00
- Camera equipment on poles $ 79,197.00

There is no cash match required on these grants.

Rev. Hines moved to approve the submission of the grant applications as presented. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

I. Approval of Asset Purchase Agreement for Homecare & Hospice.

Mr. Evans stated that the County has gone through the proper process to solicit offers for the sale of the license and related assets for the Homecare and Hospice programs. At last month's meeting the Board was presented the highest and most responsive bid from Kindred Healthcare, Inc. through its affiliate Capital Care Resources, LLC, in the amount of $2,250,000. He stated that terms to the sales agreement have been negotiated and we are ready to proceed with the next step moving towards closing this transaction. Mr. Evans stated that as required, a notice was published announcing that as asset agreement along with its ancillary documents were available in the Manager's office for public review and that approval of these documents by the Board will effectively sell all of the assets used in the operation of Edgecombe Homecare and Hospice to Kindred. Mr. Evans recommended that the Board approve the resolution and related agreements.

Ms. Erin Roberts, Attorney with Smith Moore Leatherwood, LLP, who has been working with the County on this transaction came forward to address several questions from the Board.

After discussion Mr. Boswell moved to approve the documents as presented and authorize the County Manager to execute the same. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

J. Applications for franchise requests from Atlas Transportation and Lifeline Transport Services, LLC. to operate ambulances in Edgecombe County.

Mr. Evans recommended that the franchise requests be denied.

Mrs. Harris moved to deny franchise requests from Atlas Transportation and Lifeline Transport Services, LLC. Mr. Felton seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

7. APPOINTMENTS.

A. Volunteer Fire Department's Local Firemen's Relief Fund.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the slate of names as presented. Mr. Wooten seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

8. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

9. DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR REVIEW: ***Received***
   A. Water Department.
   B. Veterans Services.
   C. Finance Department.

10. MANAGER'S REPORT: ***Received***
   A. Economic/Workforce.
   B. Jury Commission report.
   C. Rocky Mount Chamber 112th Annual Meeting.
      Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 12 noon – 1:30 p.m.
      Nash Community College, Rocky Mount.
   D. Edgecombe County Rescue 2016 Board of Directors.

11. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

Mr. Boswell stated that he heard an ad on the radio that said that Heritage for the Blind will pick up abandoned vehicles at no charge. He stated that this could be a possible way to clean up some eye sores without costing the County.

Mr. Felton stated that trash has been terrible on the roads for the last month. He stated that the Sheriff Department needs to pay special attention, as well as the Highway Department, to this issue. He also suggested organizing clean-up of the roads on some Saturdays.

Mr. Boswell stated that he called Mr. Evans today about the same thing and pointed out two areas to Mr. Evans where people dumped trash.

Mr. Wooten stated that the budget committee has met twice, once in November and once in December. He stated that staff has been helpful in answering questions. He felt it will help in getting answers before the budget season.

Mrs. Harris stated that the legislative goals are coming up in February and anybody wanting any legislative goals presented to our delegation to get them to her.

12. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.

13. CLOSED SESSION.

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

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

Retreat date tentatively scheduled for March 22, 2016.

Joint meeting with Board of Education to be scheduled.

14. MR. BOSWELL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL MONDAY, FEBURARY 1, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. MRS. POWELL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved February 1, 2016.

Frangie Mungo

Frangie Mungo, Clerk to the Board