



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 15.

DATE OF MEETING: July 11, 2011

REQUESTED BY: Glenda Pridgen, Administrative Assistant to the County Manager

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Approving the Payment of Membership Dues: Southeastern Economic Development Commission: \$5,222; The School of Government: \$5,291; North Carolina Association of County Commissioners: \$6,379; Cape Fear Council of Governments: \$21,203.

BACKGROUND: The County is a member of various organizations for various reasons. These items were included in the budget; this action simply authorizes the County Manager to prepare purchase orders and disburse these funds.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the payment of membership fees and dues for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.

RB
Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that

the County Manager is authorized to pay membership dues as follows: Southeastern Economic Development Commission: \$5,222; The School of Government: \$5,291; North Carolina Association of County Commissioners: \$6,379; and Cape Fear Council of Governments: \$21,203. The County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Brown ___ Tate ___ Rivenbark ___ Ward ___ Williams ___

George R. Brown, Chairman 7/11/11
Date

ATTEST 7/11/11
Date



103-A West Broad Street
Post Office Box 921
Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337
Phone 910.862.6985
Fax: 910.862.6986
Email: sedc@ec.rr.com
Home Page: www.sedcnc.org

SOUTHEASTERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

April 14, 2011

Mr. Rick Benton
Office of the County Manager
Pender County
Post Office Box 5
Burgaw, North Carolina 28425

Re: FY 2011-2012 Annual Membership Assessment

Dear Mr. Benton:

On March 30, 2011, the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Economic Development Commission (SEDC) approved a decrease in the per capita annual membership assessment rate from eleven cents (\$0.11) to ten cents (\$0.10) per capita for the upcoming fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. In accordance with ARTICLE XI, Section 1, of the SEDC By-laws, the annual membership assessment is proportioned among the member counties in accordance with the most recent decennial civilian population figures at a rate determined by the Board of Directors.

According to the 2010 civilian population figures released by the U.S. Census Bureau on March 2, 2011, the District's population is about 1.2 million people, a 15.3 percent increase since 2000. Pender County grew by 27.1 percent since 2000 with a population of 52,217. Based on this information, the following table illustrates the proposed change in the annual membership assessment for your County for FY 2011-2012.

PENDER COUNTY

2000 Population	FY 10-11 Annual Membership Assessment (\$0.11 per capita)	2010 Population	FY 11-12 Annual Membership Assessment (\$0.10 per capita)
41,082	\$4,519	52,217	\$5,222

The attached budget request indicates the amount being requested from your County for the period July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012. The county membership assessments will be matched with a Partnership Planning grant in the amount of \$53,000 from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the administrative expenses of the Southeastern Economic Development Commission (SEDC) Economic Development District. Line itemizations for the budget have not been determined at this time. A copy will be furnished to your office once they are determined and

Mr. Rick Benton

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the budget approved by the Board of Directors. A copy of the District's most recent audit report for the period ending June 30, 2010 is enclosed.

The SEDC operates under Chapter 158, Article 2 of the North Carolina General Statutes and is designated as an Economic Development District (EDD) by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. The primary function of the District is to foster and promote economic development through planning, technical assistance, and infrastructure grants through the EDA to create meaningful employment opportunities for the citizens of southeastern North Carolina. Federal, state and local agencies and funds are brought into action as economic programs are planned and initiated throughout the region. The Commission works with local governments, as well as State and Federal agencies. The SEDC produces a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) report that maintains the District's eligibility, as well as Pender County's eligibility for EDA funding, which is a major source of infrastructure grants. Since its inception, SEDC has secured over \$78 million dollars in EDA monies for projects in the twelve-county region. Pender County has received grant funds from EDA of more than \$3.5 million.

Thank you for Pender County's continued support of the District. The District's success is based on collaboration with our local member governments and other organizations throughout the District and State. The SEDC Member Counties have joined together to mutually assist one another in various endeavors to create wealth and job opportunities for the citizens of southeastern North Carolina.

Should you have any questions regarding the County's annual membership assessment dues or if our office can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Pamela H. Bostic
Executive Director

Enclosures

Cc: Mr. Jimmy Tate
5500 NC Hwy 11
Willard, North Carolina 28478

SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT FOUNDATION, INC.

March 28, 2011

Rick Benton
Manager
Pender County
PO Box 5
Burgaw, NC 28425-0005

Budget Item

Dear Mr. Benton:

The School of Government remains dedicated to meeting the needs of local governments. In this difficult economic climate, we have taken several steps to serve you better:

- Adding courses and webinars to address urgent issues and shifting emphasis in some existing courses to address pressing concerns around the economy
- Researching and sharing information about strategies that will help governments not only weather these difficult times, but build strength for the future
- Offering expanded content in blogs and on resource websites at no cost to you

This is a time that calls for a strengthened partnership between the School and local governments. **We could not act this quickly or develop these resources if not for membership dues.**

Because the School is facing its own significant budget challenges, your dues are more important than ever. The School has eliminated positions, improved efficiency, and now we are preparing for our next round of permanent budget cuts from the state. **We have reduced our budget but not our services.** We can maintain the quality of our services because of your steadfast support through membership dues.

Because we understand your financial constraints, the School will not increase your membership dues for the 2011–2012 fiscal year; they will remain the same level for the fourth straight year. A request for payment will be sent in early July, as usual, and the amount will be **\$5291.**

If you have questions about your dues, do not hesitate to contact Brad Volk, the School's associate dean for administration, at 919.843.2553 or volk@sog.unc.edu. If I may be of assistance, please contact me at 919.966.4107 or msmith@sog.unc.edu.

Sincerely,

Michael Smith

Michael R. Smith
Dean, School of Government

P.S. If your jurisdiction has funds remaining in the budget as this fiscal year comes to a close, please consider paying your membership dues early. If you would like to pay dues now (partially or in full) for the 2011–2012 fiscal year, please contact Missy Underwood at 919.962.2469 or mwunderw@sog.unc.edu.



N O R T H C A R O L I N A
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 18, 2011

The Honorable George R. Brown
Pender County Board of Commissioners
361 Bridgeside Road
Rocky Point, North Carolina 28457

Dear Chairman Brown:

The Board of Directors of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners recognizes that these are difficult economic times for counties. As a result, the Board voted at its April 13 meeting to reduce each county's member dues for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

This marks the third consecutive year that our Board has voted to reduce our membership dues. The Association is able to absorb the reduced revenues because your staff continues to monitor its expenses while maximizing our non-dues revenues.

Our normal policy is to adjust dues each year based on the trailing rate of inflation and population change. This year, while the Board did adjust for population changes, they approved a 5 percent reduction in the rates charged. As a result, Pender County's dues for 2011-12 are \$6,379, a reduction of \$197 from 2010-11. We are providing this information to you now as you plan your 2011-12 budget. Your finance officer will receive the formal invoice in early June.

Over the past few years, your staff has made several changes to help counties continue to participate in our many programs. For three straight years, we have waived the registration fees for our annual District Meetings, which are held each April. Corporate sponsors have stepped up to cover the costs associated with these meetings. We waived the registration fee for our 2010 Annual Conference in Pitt County for all county commissioners and county managers who registered prior to the early registration deadline. And this year, I am very pleased to announce that the Board of Directors authorized staff to waive the registration fee for county commissioners who pre-register for our May 25 County Assembly Day.

You will soon be receiving registration information in the mail for this event. Please make sure you and your fellow commissioners take advantage of this offer and register for the event prior to the pre-registration deadline. With the General Assembly struggling to figure out how to make up for the projected \$2.4 billion deficit, counties must be diligent and persistent in working with legislators to make sure they do not attempt to balance their budget on the backs of counties.

The Association truly appreciates the support and participation of Pender County.

Sincerely,

David F. Thompson
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Rick Benton, County Manager
Mr. David McCole, Finance Director

Cape Fear Council of Governments
1480 Harbour Drive
Wilmington, NC 28401

Statement 1112DS-037

STATEMENT

Name	Mr. Rick Benton		
	County Manager		
	Pender County		
Address	P O Box 5		
City	Burgaw	State NC	ZIP 28425-0005

Date	02/01/11

Qty	Description	Unit Cost	TOTAL
1	Membership Dues for the period July 1, 2011 though June 30, 2012 NC State Demographer population estimate as of July 2009; 45,703 In consideration of the current economic situation membership dues remain the same as for the previous three years. Dues & Matching Funds leverage \$8 million for services to citizens of the Cape Fear Region. Thank you for your continued support.	\$ 21,203.00	\$ 21,203.00

Subtotal \$ 21,203.00

If you wish to pay from this statement:

Payee: Cape Fear Council of Governments
 Account Receivable
 1480 Harbour Drive
 Wilmington, NC 28401
 Fed Id# 560949863

TOTAL	\$ 21,203.00

Office Use Only

Progress through Cooperation