

JUNE 18, 2012

The Pender County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 18, 2012 at the Public Assembly Room, 805 S. Walker St., Burgaw, NC 28425.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman George Brown, presiding; Vice Chairman Jimmy Tate; and Commissioners F.D. Rivenbark, Chester Ward, and David Williams.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Mickey Duvall, County Manager and Clerk to the Board; Trey Thurman, County Attorney; Melinda Knoerzer, Deputy Clerk to the Board; other staff and members of the Press and public.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and thanked and welcomed all.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Williams offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Rivenbark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

15a. Resolution Requesting Approval to Hold Title to Southeastern Center Building.

Mr. Rivenbark made a motion to add item 15a to the agenda, Mr. Williams seconded the motion, and by unanimous vote of the Board it was added to the agenda. Due to a scheduling issue for Southeastern Center Director, Mr. Foster Norman, this item was addressed immediately. Mr. Rivenbark said this action concerns the purchase of a building for Southeastern Center for Mental Health. He said it is the former Time Warner building on Shipyard Blvd. Mr. Norman thanked the board for taking this under consideration at this time. He said that statutes require title to property owned by an "authority" to be held in the name of the County where it is situated unless all five (5) member Boards agree that title can be held in the name of the Authority. He said that New Hanover County met and approved this resolution earlier today and that Brunswick County is considering it tonight as well. Upon the motion of Mr. Rivenbark and second by Mr. Williams, the resolution was unanimously approved.

Upon the motion of Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Rivenbark and unanimous vote, item #10 was pulled and will be scheduled on the July 23rd agenda

PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. Ruth Glaser, President, Pender Memorial Hospital: Request to Sub-Lease One Room in the Main Hospital Building.

Ms. Glaser said that Carolina Therapy Services wishes to sublease space in the hospital, which requires the permission of this Board. She said the hospital began to outsource therapy services in June of 2011 and now they wish to relocate their outpatient therapy services into the hospital facility. Mr. Tate asked if there is an increase in the population served and Ms. Glaser responded that some things are up and some are down. She said they continue to bring on new physicians

and have implemented a plan for growth. Mr. Tate asked about marketing efforts and Ms. Glaser responded that they are doing quite a bit, including the Community Health Fair run in conjunction with NC Farm Bureau's Health Fair. She said that event drew over 600 people and that 200 were screened that day, which was a record for Farm Bureau. Upon the motion of Mr. Rivenbark and second by Mr. Tate, it was unanimously approved that the hospital can sublease one room in the main hospital building to Carolina Therapy Services.

2. Ken Vafier, Planner: Update on Currie Small Area Plan

Mr. Vafier said that at the November 7, 2011 meeting, the Board authorized the Planning Department to move forward with this project. He said they held a public kickoff on Jan. 28th and appointed a Steering Committee who has held subsequent meetings with local stakeholders and Planning Staff. He reviewed the objectives and accomplishments and said they plan to have a first draft for the July 12 Steering Committee meeting. He said that will be followed by public input opportunities, and initiation of adoption proceedings in the fall of 2012.

3. Kyle Breuer, Planning Director: Update on Pender County Comprehensive Land Use Plan Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Required Elements

Mr. Breuer said that being a coastal county, Pender is required to have a Land Use Plan that is certified by the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC). He said the current plan was adopted in 2010 and they are working with the CRC to update this. He said Division of Coastal Management has reviewed it and supplied staff with comments and suggestions. In addition, he said they incorporated 2010 census information, as well as new data from the Tax Office and new infrastructure information from Pender Utilities. Mr. Breuer showed tables with future land use designations by land classifications. He said that they plan to hold two public hearings, one with the Planning Board on July 10th and with the Board of Commissioners on July 23rd. He thanked Planners Ashley Frank and Ken Vafier for their work on this project. Mr. Williams asked if this is the first plan of its kind in the state and Mr. Breuer responded "yes."

PUBLIC COMMENT

Samuel Woodard from the Willard Outreach Center said, "Willard Elementary school was given back to the community and is a monument to us because our forefathers helped to build it." He said there are many maintenance issues that are addressed on a volunteer basis, by a group of folks in a rural area who desire to keep the community headed in the right direction. He said he has visited many other counties and communities where old schools have been abandoned, and they do not want that for their school in their community. He said they need to preserve the building and asked the County to assist by helping to pay for a new roof.

LaToya Powers, acting secretary for Willard Outreach Center, said that they offer many programs and services for everyone from seniors to youth. She said they partner with Cape Fear Community College to offer the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) course and have even become a testing spot for that program, with the assistance of Ms. Annie Bannerman. She said they offer fitness and wellness programs including aerobics classes. She introduced the fitness instructor and explained that she volunteers her time at the center. She said they annually host a July 4th celebration and hundreds of folks come from surrounding towns to celebrate with them. She said many members of the community are here to support this request for funding, indicating that they have done a lot of fund raising and now need County support. She introduced Mark Mosher who works with programs with Veterans. Mr. Williams asked if Willard Outreach is a 501(c) 3 (Not-for-profit) corporation and Ms. Powers responded in the affirmative.

Mark Mosher provided handouts for the Board members and said his project began 2 years ago as music therapy for wounded warriors in Wilmington and he has been working with them ever since. He said there are many gaps in services with VA and said the younger vets are still hungry for adventure and outdoor experiences. He said they provide transitional therapeutic services to this population. Mr. Rivenbark thanked them for filling this need in the community, as did Mr. Tate.

Doug Johnson summarized that the group has been maintaining the building on their own with sweat equity but now there are some major capital needs. He said they came here originally when they obtained the property and believes they have proved to be good stewards of that property. He said that as a non-profit, they have done what their mission set them out to do, which was to give back to the community. He thanked the Board for entrusting the building to them years ago and asked them to help them continue financially. Mr. Tate said he is excited about having the folks from Willard here because "we don't ask for much." He said there are a number of young professionals who volunteer with this organization and he appreciates their work. He said "We like to help those who help themselves."

Helen Williams said that these are the same issues she recalled hearing the last time she was here. She said the communities need recreational opportunities for all people, but especially for Willard and Maple Hill. She said if the children are not challenged, the police will be running after them. She said these are communities of African Americans and the schools should be open and doing something great for the community.

Joanne Malloy Pickett of the Maple Hill Community said they recently formed the Maple Hill Community in Action group in conjunction with NC Fair Share, and you will be hearing from us soon.

Faye Prevatte said she was speaking as a representative of the northwestern part of Pender County stating that "we are still growing and have hurdles to overcome." She said that no one has issues with schools getting funding and she has never seen Mr. Tate or Mr. Ward vote against anything for the east, yet repeatedly they get turned down on funding requests for projects in their areas. Mr. Brown asked her for specifics. She requested to continue reading from her notes, saying that they need to enact rules that allow for things to happen on the western part of the county as well as the east. Mr. Brown said he is not sure what funding has been turned down. Mr. Tate said she is expressing concern for entities such as the Atkinson Library. Ms. Prevatte said there is no way we can get the help we need and said it is difficult to sit here and watch funding slip away for the Atkinson Library, and for projects in Penderlea and Willard who get little help due to rules and regulations. She said she would like to have a fair playing field and see the Board tweak the rules and statutes to make it fair. Mr. Williams said he does not understand what is not fair. Mr. Tate said that he hears regularly from the folks in his community that there is not equity of service between the east and west. Mr. Williams said he hears a lot too but he tries to address it as it comes up. Ms. Prevatte said there are ball fields in other areas, but some cannot travel to Burgaw or Hampstead so, "lets try to work on it and make it fair." Mr. Brown asked again for specific examples, stating that the Boat Launch was a state and not a county project and no county tax dollars were used. He also said the schools on the west side get more funding than on the east side because of federal title programs. He asked, "What statutes must we change?" Ms. Prevatte said that the bathrooms at Penderlea are in bad shape and compared them to the good shape of the bathrooms in Hampstead. Mr. Brown said that discussion must be held with the School Board.

Mr. Tate said he has put together a commitment to work with folks in Penderlea and Willard for a park. He said what we hear from Ms. Prevatte is “passion” and to please understand what she is saying. Mr. Brown said the County did not buy the land at Kiwanis Park and does not own the land. He said he has no problem putting money into parks, but it is difficult if we don’t own the land.

Bob Simon came forward as Robert Foy provided handouts to the Board. He said he is a citizen of Scotts Hill and a member of Hampstead Fire Department’s citizen Board. The handout was a copy of the June 7, 2010 Board resolution #19 approving the merger of the Scotts Hill Fire District with the Hampstead Fire and Rescue District. Mr. Simon asked what the Board intended to do with the Memorandum of Understanding, who would end up owning the Scotts Hill Substation land and who would pay for it. He said HFD should be reimbursed for the money it spent purchasing the land. He asked why the MOU could not be put in the name of HFD? He requested the property remain held in name of HFD and asked why citizens of a fire district should purchase this land and then have the County sell it? He said that land in Scotts Hill is limited, this land is a perfect location and the price was very good. He said “Pender County paid \$44,500 to New Hanover County to run 8 calls last year, averaging about \$5,562 per call which is a bit high.” He said that HFD, on the other hand, ran 81 or 89 total calls in Scotts Hill. He said due to the complexity of this issue, he would ask the Board to reconsider the vote on putting a substation at Scotts Hill. There was a discussion about merging the fire districts, versus keeping them separate. Mr. Thurman said there are five ways to structure how the public pays for fire protection and that the taxing lines do not have to line up with fire district. HFD Treasurer Bob Reid said that the Fire Department does not want to own the property.

Bruce Novak of Atkinson said some folks on the western side don’t feel resources are equitably allocated. He said, “Perception is reality.” Mr. Novak said he is on the Atkinson Town Council and is exposed to this attitude constantly. Mr. Williams said it is indisputable that the east side sends much more money to the county than it gets back. Mr. Novak said Atkinson is a taxing entity supplying services, yet you don’t help us. Mr. Brown asked what other “towns” the County provides help to? Mr. Novak spoke in favor of item #13 and asked the Board to support Mr. Tate in this resolution.

Samuel Parnell of Atkinson said their library really needs financial help and that it is very important for the residents.

Mr. Tate thanked his fellow commissioners for indulging him in putting these items on the agenda. He said “I see there is a lot of passion and a Board who is listening. We will work together to make all of Pender County a better place.” Mr. Williams recalled that when he attended high school on the east side some years back, Topsail was the forgotten part of the County and he does know what it was like to have limited services in the past. He noted that folks in Scotts Hill still ride 20 minutes to play ball in either Hampstead or Wilmington. He asked how the Board would resolve Mr. Tate’s resolution since the Board agreed they would not fund any non-profits this year. He said that if we fund these two, everyone else will come asking as well. Mr. Brown said that in order to fund these projects, money will either have to come from the fund balance or by raising taxes. Mr. Tate said he understands that others will come looking for funding. He said he has heard continuously that the west side feels like they are left out, saying, “mine is a low income district”. He said they don’t see themselves as part of Burgaw and many cannot afford to drive to Burgaw to play ball.

Johnnie Stringfield said he supports item #12 and #13 and also asked them to consider funding for the basketball courts at the County park. He asked the Board to please take this into consideration. He said we need two recreation centers – one for the east and one for the west side to keep people out of the jails and prisons. He said there are not enough activities here for the youth.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon the motion of Mr. Tate and second by Mr. Rivenbark, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4. Approval of Minutes: Budget Work Session with Departments; and Regular and Closed Session Meetings of May 21 and June 4, 2012.
5. Resolution Authorizing \$16,000 in Additional Funds to an Established Purchase Order to Land Management Group, Inc.
6. Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Purchase Order to Priority Dispatch for Software Maintenance and Support: \$5,692.50.

RESOLUTIONS

7. **Resolution to Approve FY 12-13 Cooperative Service Agreement between Pender County and USDA Wildlife Services for the Beaver Management Program (BMAP): \$56,000.**

Rachael Schwartz of USDA was present to answer any questions. Mr. Tate asked how the beaver eradication program was going in Western Pender County. Ms. Schwartz said the intent is not eradication of the beaver population, instead she deals with water quality issues as it relates to beaver control. She said she is catching up at this time of year, which is a less active time of the year compared to fall and winter. Mr. Brown asked if we are the only other county in NC that does not require citizens to participate in the cost. She said that Sampson County may be the only other one. Upon the motion of Mr. Williams and second by Mr. Tate, the Board unanimously approved this resolution.

8. **Resolution Authorizing Contract(s) and Purchase Order(s) for County Legal Advertising for FY 12-13.**

Ms. Knoerzer presented this item stating that the options for advertising have changed this year due to the merger of the Pender Post and Topsail Voice and the emergence of Topsailnews.com. After a brief discussion of the options and costs for advertisement of the “Pender County Government News” and the Board agendas, Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt option “a – to maintain status quo”. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tate and carried by unanimous vote of the Board.

9. **Resolution Adopting a M.O.U. Regarding Fiscal Reimbursements for Scotts Hill Substation**

The County Manager provided a handout entitled “Pender County Fire Districts” showing the proposed 2012-13 tax rate for each fire district, and specifically .037 for Scotts Hill. He explained that this amount represents .012 that will be collected exclusively for the reimbursement to HFD of the \$235,000 purchase of the property in Scotts Hill. The MOU outlines the intent to use the .012 exclusively for that purpose and reserving the remaining .025 to split with New Hanover County for the continuation of fire protection in Scotts Hill. After discussion, Mr. Tate made a motion to approve this resolution, Mr. Ward seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 3 to 2 with Mr. Williams and Mr. Rivenbark voting in opposition.

10. **Resolution Requesting the Board of Commissioners to Declare One County Owned Vehicle as Surplus and Transfer Title to Surf City Volunteer Fire Department.**

Item #10 was removed to the 07/23/12 agenda.

11. Resolution Approving Loan Financing for the Shiloh Columbia Volunteer Fire Department.

EM Director Tom Collins and Shiloh Columbia VFD Chief William Rossell presented this item which is a request for permission to borrow \$25,000 to purchase a pumper truck. Financing is with the Local Government Federal Credit Union for 5 years at 3.5% per year and will be used in conjunction with a matching grant in the amount of \$30,000 from the state. Mr. Collins said this is likely to exceed their 25% debt limit, but we will not know for sure until the tax rate is approved. After discussion of how close they are to debt limit, Mr. Tate made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Rivenbark provided the second and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

12. Resolution Authorizing \$40,000 to be Allocated for the Construction of a Baseball/Softball Field within Hampstead Kiwanis Park.

Kyle Breuer stood in for Dee Turner who had to leave to attend an event at Hampstead Kiwanis Park. Mr. Williams explained that this project had received one donation of \$30,000 for naming rights from a local family and they expect to be able to raise another \$10,000 to provide half of the expected \$80,000 cost to construct the proposed field. He said they are asking for \$40,000 in matching funds from the County. In addition, Mr. Williams explained that private funds had been raised to build batting cages at the park and a \$25,000 building was just constructed with funds raised from the softball group. He said the community is stepping up and they are hopeful that the County will be able to help with this request. Mr. Breuer explained that there is \$246,550 available in the Parks and Recreation Capital Fund. He said after commitment of \$162,545 for PARTF matching funds for 2012 for Millers Pond Park and \$40,000 for this project, there will be a balance of \$44,500 in this capital fund. He confirmed that this fund was created for parks grant opportunities like this one, and that this funding may only be used for a park purpose. Mr. Thurman confirmed that PARTF grant funds can only be used for park purposes. Mr. Ward explained that he would have to oppose this resolution because he did not feel it was the appropriate time to approve such an expenditure. Mr. Williams asked the Board to support this, stating that many folks have already put their own in money to provide the match. He then made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Rivenbark. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 1 with Commissioner Ward voting in opposition.

13. Resolution of Support for Funding Future Youth Recreational Centers and Initiatives in Commissioner Tate's District to Equate to other District Recreational Funding Initiatives in Pender County (to specifically include \$20,000 allocated for the Willard Outreach Center and \$5,000 for the Atkinson Library).

Commissioner Tate said this is a difficult budget year and he does understand that the Board made a commitment to not allow funding to non-profits in this budget, however, there is such a need for this type of community support. He said the Willard folks are invested "in kind" and with their own financial support. He said the Willard School Alumni Association has helped to support maintenance efforts at this building but the upkeep is expensive. He asked the Board to consider the passion of all the folks who spoke on behalf of this resolution and to approve it. He also said he would be supportive of approving this resolution with language indicating that there should be no other funding provided to non-profit groups this year. With that, Mr. Tate made a motion to approve this resolution with the understanding that we will not fund any other non profits this year. Mr. Ward asked if the two funding requests are being considered as one resolution and Mr. Tate responded in the affirmative. Mr. Tate asked for support of the Atkinson library funding component as part of his district. He said these small communities are struggling economically

and he is asking for consideration, stating that many folks cannot drive to Burgaw to use the library. He also thanked Mr. Donatone from Hampstead, for donating a new computer to the Atkinson library. Mr. Williams asked if the Willard Outreach group would permit a Commissioner to represent the County on their Board in order to keep apprised of the activities and to ensure expenditures are consistent with this action. He said this would be good for assurance and accountability. Mr. Tate concurred and suggested that a member of the group should provide regular updates to the Board of Commissioners on the expenditure. Mr. Rivenbark provided a second to the motion previously made by Mr. Tate so that discussion could continue. Mr. Brown stated that there is no "extra" money in this budget. He said he had no idea this was coming and would have been willing to give Willard Outreach their own item on the agenda so they would not have to present under "Public Comment". He stated that there is much to absorb and asked if the Board would like more time to consider this. Mr. Tate and Mr. Ward expressed their desire to make a decision today and not draw it out. Mr. Tate said he frequently attends Willard Outreach meetings and would be happy to be the Commissioner Representative. Mr. Rivenbark commented that the New Hanover County Fund Balance is 18% versus Pender's which is 28.8%, and said the \$60,000 total funding for these two items is a "drop in the bucket" of the fund balance. Dr. Duvall reminded the Board that the County had just been favorably reviewed for an improved bond rating and that would be subject to change if we dip further into the fund balance. He said there is funding in a "contingency" category that he recommends be used for this expenditure and not the fund balance. Chairman Brown said that a group from Currie had recently approached him about funding, but he told them, "no" based on the Board's agreement. Mr. Tate said this is different due to the recreational activities this group provides. He said the Board of Education entrusted this group with the building and they have made good faith efforts to maintain it to the best of their ability. Mr. Brown said he is not as inclined to support the library because the Town of Atkinson has the ability to tax and raise funds to support this effort. A Ms. Wells from the audience stood up and stated that "all the library has is what is donated and they need help". Mr. Brown said he understands that, however, the County does not assist any other towns, and it would not be fair. Mr. Tate stated that the County did provide funding for the Burgaw Train Depot. Jerri Bonomo came forward to say that when Mr. Brown was campaigning, he told her that she could rely on him for support. She said she appreciates his support and thinks the whole Board does great things. She asked them to support funding for the library. Commissioners Tate and Rivenbark reiterated their motion and second. Mr. Ward said he has no problem with the library, but is concerned with the Willard Outreach group. He said he would like to see an operational budget, and noted that he is very impressed with what they are doing. Chairman Brown asked if the Board wished to delay this action. Mr. Rivenbark made a motion to close debate and vote. Mr. Tate provided the second and the Board voted unanimously to do so. Based on the prior motion and second the resolution passed with a 4 to 1 vote with Commissioner Ward voting in opposition.

14. Resolution Adopting the FY 12/13 Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2012

Mr. Williams asked the differences between this budget and the last one discussed. Dr. Duvall said there is \$650,000 in the General Fund Contingency line item (\$327,000 has been placed in Contingency for the BASF project and there will be a line item established for the future BASF and Pender Shell Building debt service payments. The Kiwanis Park fund was placed in Contingency in case the grant did not come through which included the \$40,000 for the ballfield, the York House initially had only \$75,000 and he added another \$75,000 to Contingency pending RFP Bids, plus added funding for initial hurricane expenses to supplement the Emergency Management budget if

needed). Dr. Duvall indicated that there is no tax increase, and that the tax collection rate has been increased to 95.50%, with no dipping into the appropriated or un-appropriated fund balances (this insures the county's recent "Standard and Poor" bond rating upgrade from an A+ to AA- would be maintained as the current fund balance percentage ratio to the General Fund was instrumental in raising the bond rating, and Duvall further indicated that if the current Fund Balance amount was not maintained at the current level the county could risk losing the bond rating upgrade). Mr. Williams cautioned that we cannot say there is no tax increase because some fire department taxes are being increased. Dr. Duvall agreed, stating that there is no ad valorem tax increase. In addition, he confirmed that Maple Hill's fire tax rate was agreed upon at .070. Mr. Tate asked about the specific salary increase requests, specifically for the Register of Deeds. Dr. Duvall said that those decisions have yet to be made by the Board. He said this amount is in contingency and can be added in tonight if the Board chose to make those salary increase changes above what he had recommended.

The salary increases to be considered include:

- 3 DSS Employees at \$5,494 each
- IT Director at \$3,132
- Register of Deeds to \$54,000 salary plus applicable fringe

Mr. Thurman suggested that the Board vote on the base budget as presented, and then amend the budget for each salary increase they wish to fund. Thereupon, Mr. Rivenbark made a motion to adopt the budget as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Williams and carried by unanimous vote of the Board.

15. Resolution Approving FY 12-13 Budget Ordinance Amendment

The purpose of this Amendment is to provide funds from Contingency to pay Commissioner Chester Ward's salary as a Deputy Sheriff. Funds were removed from the initial budget as voting on his own salary would present a conflict of interest. Mr. Rivenbark made a motion to recuse Commissioner Ward from the vote, which was seconded by Mr. Tate and carried by unanimous vote of the Board. Mr. Williams then made a motion to approve item #15, which was seconded by Mr. Rivenbark and carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

There was discussion of the requested raises for DSS personnel and Dr. Shiver confirmed that the state would pay half of the raises. She said she asked for them because personnel in these positions were responsible for managing the addition of the Child Support and Collection Unit. Mr. Tate said that Dr. Shiver and her staff had been handed all these extra duties and said he supports giving them a raise. Mr. Ward said he thought they were asking for another position. Ms. Parker said they added a Web Administrator that will be shared with the Health Department, but that they requested case workers and office assistant staff and those were not recommended. Mr. Williams said he is not prepared to add any new positions that have not been discussed prior to now. Mr. Tate said he hears from his brother, who serves on the DSS Board, that child support creates additional work and they need help. Mr. Brown said the DSS budget is \$9 million and that Dr. Shiver has been here 30 years and he commends her for her service, but her \$85,000 salary is good for this area. He asked Dr. Shiver to explain this reclassification. She said it is not a reclassification, but when DSS accepted child support last year, the DSS Board requested a \$2,000 increase for her for taking on additional services. She said last year, the County Manager said "No raises", so she asked for it this year because it appeared salary increases were being entertained.

Mr. Brown explained that unlike the Sheriff voluntarily taking on animal control, the State thrust Child Support on the Counties, and the State should pay the salaries and increases for those involved. Again, Dr. Shiver confirmed that the State would pay half. Mr. Tate said he supports this increase because he does not hear any complaints about child support. He then made a motion to amend the existing budget ordinance to include all three raises for DSS at \$5,494 each, with the state paying half. Mr. Rivenbark seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 3 to 2 with Mr. Brown and Mr. Williams voting in opposition.

Mr. Tate made a motion to amend the budget to approve a salary increase to \$54,000 (plus applicable fringe benefits) for Faye Prevatte, Register of Deeds. Mr. Rivenbark seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Tate then made a motion to further amend the budget to approve a raise for IT Director, Eric Harvey in the amount of \$3,132. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and carried by unanimous vote of the Board.

16. Update on District 5 (Willard/Penderlea) Waste Industries Dumping Station.

Mr. Tate called Michael Mack up to the podium, who deferred to Ms. Knoerzer. Ms. Knoerzer explained that staff had pursued options for providing scrap tire pickup in Willard, and a potential solution for electronics. She explained the history of scrap tire pickup in the County and that there are currently four (4) county convenience sites that have scrap tire trailers for citizens to drop off: Whitestocking, Atkinson, Rocky Point and Hampstead. She said that for very little additional expense a tire trailer can be staged at the Willard Site, but due to space constraints, one of the two C&D containers would have to be removed. In addition, she said she is working with an electronics dealer who has agreed to make a drop off facility at his business located on Butterball Rd. in Wallace available for Pender County residents to drop off their electronics. She said the vendor expects to be able to offer this service in the next week or so. Mr. Tate said that he was happy with those options and with everything he came away from this meeting with. He thanked the Board and the Chairman.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

Dr. Duvall said that the budget process has been challenging but he believes they have adopted a very good budget. He thanked the Department heads for working hard to curtail costs and thanked the Board for working with staff. He said the York House project is moving ahead with an ad hoc committee in place to make some good decisions and come up with a plan that everyone could be proud of.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

Mr. Thurman said he would have items for Closed Session.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Williams said that the Manager came in under less than desirable timing, but he is pleased with how the information was given to them, and that everyone participated to make it a success.

Mr. Tate said he appreciates the weekly updates and looks forward to the Manager being able to generate those once again. Mr. Brown thanked the staff and said he appreciates all the ways folks found to make cuts in the budget and to arrive at a balanced budget.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:50 p.m., Mr. Rivenbark made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. General policy matters may not be discussed in a closed session and nothing herein shall be construed to permit a public body to close a meeting that otherwise would be open merely because an attorney employed or retained by the public body is a participant. The public body may consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim, judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure. If the public body has approved or considered a settlement, other than a malpractice settlement by or on behalf of a hospital, in closed session, the terms of that settlement shall be reported to the public body and entered into its minutes as soon as possible within a reasonable time after the settlement is concluded, and (5) To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and carried by unanimous vote.

7:00 p.m.

At 7:10 p.m. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of closed session, which was seconded by Mr. Rivenbark and carried by unanimous vote. No announcements were made in open session.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: ROAD NAMING AND ADDRESSING/SPECIAL USE PERMIT/UDO AMENDMENT/RESOLUTIONS

ADJOURNMENT

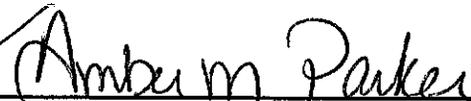
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



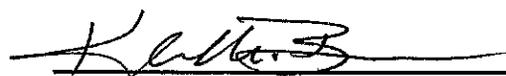
Melinda Knoerzer, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By:

Dr. Mickey Duvall, Clerk to the Board/Amber Parker, Human Resources Director

Planning Items Reviewed By:



Planning Staff