

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
REGULAR SESSION  
November 15, 2010**

**Be It Remembered that the Board of Commissioners of Northampton County met on November 15, 2010 with the following present: Fannie Greene, James Hester, Chester Deloatch, and Robert Carter.**

**Absent: Virginia Spruill**

**Agenda Work Session:**

A 10-minute work session was held to discuss today's agenda items. The following changes were made to the agenda:

- Add Item 5 under Tab 8-Set Special Commissioners' Meeting date and time to receive public comment on a CDBG application
- Add Item 6 under Tab 8-Report from Finance Officer on broadband proposal (Health Department's initiative)

Commissioner Carter asked Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, to brief the Board on a meeting held between the DSS Board Chairman, County Manager, and himself.

Mr. Jenkins briefed the Board on the discussion that took place at that meeting concerning the new DSS Building.

**Regular Session:**

Chairwoman Greene called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chairwoman Greene welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Commissioner Carter introduced the Intern of the Month-Kimberly Lassiter, a Junior at KIPP Pride High.

Chairwoman Greene explained the citizen comment process.

**Approval of Regular Session Minutes for November 1, 2010:**

A motion was made James Hester and seconded by Chester Deloatch to approve the regular session minutes of November 1, 2010. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Approval of Agenda for November 15, 2010:**

A motion was made by Robert Carter and seconded by Chester Deloatch that the agenda for today's session be approved with the aforementioned changes added. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**March and Celebration of Dr. King:**

Mrs. Linda McNair-Moore, MLK, Jr. Project Chair with the Ahoskie Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., appeared before the Board inviting them to participate in the March and Celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 17, 2011 in Ahoskie, North Carolina.

**EMS Crew Accommodations-Lake Gaston:**

Mr. Chuck Joyner, EMS Director, appeared before the Board to obtain approval to use the existing funding to add a sprinkler system to the Roanoke-Wildwood Volunteer Fire Department Substation.

A motion was made by Robert Carter and seconded by James Hester to authorize Mr. Chuck Joyner and county staff to move the process forward with the knowledge that the renovations will not exceed \$75,000 and bring back to this Board three quotes and the lease agreement.

**Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Amendment to Three-Year Solid Waste Plan:**

Mr. Billy Martin, Public Works Director, appeared before the Board to obtain approval of the Northampton County Solid Waste Management Plan Three-Year amendment to include recycling of televisions and electronic equipment to the plan.

A motion was made by Robert Carter and seconded by Chester Deloatch to adopt and approve the Northampton County Solid Waste Management Plan Three-Year amendment. **Question**

**Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Ad Valorem Tax Appeals:**

Mrs. Cathy Allen, Tax Administrator, appeared before the Board to obtain approval to release or refund ad valorem taxes assessed in the amount of \$4,133.73 on nine appeals.

A motion was made by Chester Deloatch and seconded by Robert Carter to release or refund the \$4,133.73 to the nine listed names. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Elderly/Disability Exemption:**

Mrs. Cathy Allen, Tax Administrator, appeared before the Board to obtain denial or approval of a late elderly/disability application of Mrs. Odell Brooks on tax bill 10A0102260.

A motion was made by Chester Deloatch to grant Mrs. Odell Brooks the elderly exemption.

**Question Called For: 2 yes (Deloatch and Greene) 2 no (Hester and Carter). Motion failed.**

Mrs. Cathy Allen, Tax Administrator, appeared before the Board to obtain action concerning whether Abide In Him Ministries, Inc. has a good cause for filing a late tax exemption application on tax bill 10A121998.04 (personal property).

A motion was made by Robert Carter and seconded by James Hester to deny the request for the late application. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

Ms. Kimberly L. Turner, Clerk to the Board, advised Chairwoman Greene that Ms. Sue Gay, Health Director, will not appear before the Board today due to the fact that the employee that she was going to introduce was not here today.

**Appts. to Northampton Co. Joint Nursing Home Committee:**

Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, appeared before the Board to obtain four appointments to the Northampton County Joint Nursing Home Committee.

A motion was made by Robert Carter and seconded by James Hester to appoint Cathy James, Doris Pope, Shirley Bryant, and Mary Ann Baker to the Northampton County Joint Nursing Home Committee. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Library Renovation and Addition Project:**

Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, appeared before the Board to obtain approval of the plans and specifications for the Northampton Memorial Library Renovation and Addition Project.

A motion was made by James Hester and seconded by Robert Carter to accept and approve the plans and specifications for the renovation and addition to the Library as designed by Surapon Sujjvanich, Architect, P.A. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Request to Reconsider Delay of DSS Building:**

Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, appeared before the Board on behalf of the DSS Director, to request the Board's reconsideration of the delay of the new DSS Building.

A motion was made by Robert Carter to authorize the County Manager and Finance Officer to continue with the required project process, permits, and all other actions necessary to accomplish filing of the application with the North Carolina Local Government Commission. **Question Called For: 1 yes (Carter) 3 no (Deloatch, Greene, and Hester). Motion failed.**

**Special Commissioners' Meeting:**

Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, appeared before the Board to obtain approval to set a special commissioners' meeting on November 29, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. to conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the filing of a CDBG application.

A motion was made by Robert Carter and seconded by James Hester to set November 29, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. for a special meeting to hold a public hearing. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

**Report on Broadband Initiative:**

Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, appeared before the Board to give a report on a broadband proposal that the Health Department is working on.

**Invocation at Commissioners' Meetings:**

Vice Chairman Hester made comments in reference to reinstating prayer at commissioners' meetings.

A motion was made by James Hester and seconded by Chester Deloatch to reinstate prayer for our commissioners, our county, our state, and our country. *Discussion: Commissioner Carter stated he was in support of prayer. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.***

Mr. Charles Vaughan, County Attorney, stated that he was in support of prayer as well, but they also have to be governed by our court rulings. Mr. Vaughan advised that they cannot engage in sectarian prayer, but they can engage in non-sectarian prayer. Mr. Vaughan stated that he has some sample prayers used in Congress that he would like to share with them. The Board stated they were open to looking at the samples.

**Citizen/Board Comments:**

Chairwoman Greene asked the Board whether or not they would like to hold the Mayors/Commissioners meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Wayne Jenkins, County Manager, stated that there is only one item of business on the agenda for the appointments to RPO's TAC and TCC committees. Mr. Jenkins suggested holding the Mayors/Commissioners meeting after our December 6<sup>th</sup> Commissioners' meeting to take care of the appointments. Mr. Jenkins further stated three mayors would be invited to attend in order to have a quorum.

There was a Board consensus to follow through with Mr. Jenkins' suggestion.

***Chairwoman Greene called for citizen comments: none were heard.***

***Chairwoman Greene called for Board comments:***

Commissioner Carter made comments in reference to the consistency of handling the elderly/disability exemptions. Commissioner Carter also asked the County Attorney if he would bring forward examples of good cause at the next meeting.

There was a Board consensus to request the County Attorney to bring those examples of good cause forward at the next meeting.

Mr. Charles Vaughan, County Attorney, stated that he could give some examples in his opinion.

Chairwoman Greene made comments in reference to her meeting with Senator Hagan at the NCCAR site on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Chairwoman Greene stated it was a pleasure meeting Senator Hagan and she was very impressed with our facility.

Commissioner Hester commented in reference to being open to any other religion's prayer.

Mr. Jenkins reminded everyone of the Electric Vehicle Rally on November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Kimberly Lassiter, Intern of the Month, thanked the Board for the opportunity and stated it was very informational and educational about how the county works.

A motion was made by James Hester and seconded by Chester Deloatch to adjourn. **Question Called For: All present voted yes. Motion carried.**

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Kimberly L. Turner, Clerk to the Board

"r.m. 11-15-10"