

Meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Monday, May 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Pratt Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tony Hunt, Chairman  
James Leach, Vice Chairman  
Robert Wright  
Jean Powell  
Ellen McNeill

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tim Johnson, County Manager  
William Fields, County Attorney  
Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Hunt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Commissioner Powell led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

Public Hearings – Planning Matters

a. Application for Conditional Use Permit Use CU-11-04 submitted by Township Developers for a Multi-Family Development for Apartments to be located at 245 Pittman Grove Church Rd. The property more specifically identified by the Hoke County Tax Records as a portion PIN portion of 494660001543 (.603 acres), a portion of PIN 494660001041 (4.156 acres), and a portion of PIN 494660001814 (7.699 acres). The property is currently zoned RMF-Multi-Family Residential District, which allows for Multi-Family Development for Apartments as a Conditional Use. The Planning Board recommended approval. Aaron Thomas was present and affirmed for the request. Conrad Garrison presented a map and stated that the area was RA-20 and HC. Mr. Thomas displayed a design of the apartments stating that they were going to be 3 story buildings with 24 units per building. Ellen McNeill asked about the parking and traffic. Mr. Thomas stated that he had been working with DOT regarding a turn lane on Pittman Grove Church Road and Highway 401. Traffic should not be impacted on Pittman Grove Church Road. There was no public comment.

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by James Leach.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: James Leach made a motion to approve the conditional use application for apartments with additional conditions attached, seconded by Robert Wright.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Conditional Use Criteria**

- A. The use requested is listed among the conditional uses in the district for which application is made; or is similar in character to those listed in that district;
- B. The requested use will not impair the integrity or character of the surrounding or adjoining districts; not adversely affect the safety, health, morals or welfare of the community or of the immediate neighbors of the property;
- C. The requested use is essential or desirable to the public convenience or welfare and will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity for the purposes already permitted nor substantially diminish and impair property values within the neighborhood;
- D. The establishment of the conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district;
- E. The exterior architectural appeal and functional plan of any proposed structure will not be so at variance with either the exterior architectural appeal and functional plan of the structures already constructed or in the course of construction in the immediate neighborhood or the character of the applicable district as to cause a substantial depreciation in the property values within the neighborhood;
- F. The requested use will be in conformity with a land use plan;
- G. Adequate utilities, access roads, drainage, sanitation or other necessary facilities have been or are being provided;
- H. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide ingress and egress so designed as to minimize the traffic congestion in the public streets; and
- I. That the conditional use shall, in all other respects, conform to the applicable regulations of the district in which it is located.

**Additional Conditions**

- J. All connections within the development will be subject to Facility Investment Fees applicable at the time such request for service is made and is to be paid prior to issuance of any building permits.

b. Application for Conditional Use Permit CU-11-13 submitted by Michael and Christina Spencer for a Cemetery to be located at 797 Posey Farms Rd. The property is more specifically identified by the Hoke County Tax Records as PIN 494640001137 (2.02 acres) and is located in an RA-20 Residential-Agriculture District, which allows a Cemetery as a Conditional Use. The Planning Board recommended approval. Terry Long and Clyde Shepley were present and affirmed for the request. Mr. Long stated that Mr. Spencer had cancer and has since passed away. His last wish was to be buried on his property. This will mean a lot to the family. Mr. Shepley stated that Mr. Spencer's health failed quickly. William Fields asked if Mr. Spencer was already buried? Mr. Long stated yes, in the backyard. The mausoleum is on a 20'x20' pad with a privacy fence across the front. It is 130' from the road, 50' from the rear property line and 25' on one side and 170' feet on the other. The Spencers own a total of 4 acres. James Posey spoke for the request. He stated that he lives about ¼ miles from this property and has no problem with the request. Heath Pittman spoke for the request. He stated that he was not opposed. The Spencers are hard working people. Dortch Hicks spoke for the request. He lives across the street. He has no problem with the request and they have his support. Susan Baker spoke for the request. She lives next door. The Spencers are wonderful neighbors and she supports their request. Chairman Hunt asked those in favor of the request to stand. There were approximately 10 to 15 people that stood for the request. There was no opposition to the request.

**Motion: Ellen McNeill made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by James Leach.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve the request along with additional conditions for a cemetery, seconded by Ellen McNeill.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

### **Conditional Use Criteria**

A. The use requested is listed among the conditional uses in the district for which application is made; or is similar in character to those listed in that district;

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B. The requested use will not impair the integrity or character of the surrounding or adjoining districts; not adversely affect the safety, health, morals or welfare of the community or of the immediate neighbors of the property;

C. The requested use is essential or desirable to the public convenience or welfare and will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity for the purposes already permitted nor substantially diminish and impair property values within the neighborhood;

D. The establishment of the conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district;

E. The exterior architectural appeal and functional plan of any proposed structure will not be so at variance with either the exterior architectural appeal and functional plan of the structures already constructed or in the course of construction in the immediate neighborhood or the character of the applicable district as to cause a substantial depreciation in the property values within the neighborhood;

F. The requested use will be in conformity with a land use plan;

G. Adequate utilities, access roads, drainage, sanitation or other necessary facilities have been or are being provided;

H. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide ingress and egress so designed as to minimize the traffic congestion in the public streets; and

I. That the conditional use shall, in all other respects, conform to the applicable regulations of the district in which it is located.

#### **Additional Conditions**

1. One parking space for each employee plus adequate parking along internal drives for funerals.
2. All property lines must be distinctly marked with evergreen hedges or rows of suitable trees.
3. Structures must meet setbacks of 50 feet all property lines.

4. Grave's sites must meet setbacks of 20 feet to the inside of the property line of the graves.
5. The property must also conform to all health regulations for wells and septic systems.
6. Funds for care and beautification of the cemetery must be paid before a zoning permit is issued.

Subdivisions:

1a1. Lightwood Subdivision – Request for Private Roads

Conrad Garrison stated that the subdivision has previously been approved with public streets. The owner, Joe Poole, wants private streets. This is not viable for the subdivision. Tom Goodwin, Hobbs, Upchurch, was present and gave a handout to the commissioners. Mr. Goodwin stated that they are requesting that the plat be amended to allow for private streets. The subdivision contains 127 acres creating 75 lots being located on Doc Brown Road. The lots range in size from ½ acre to 6 ¼ acres. The zoning ordinance requires the streets require curb and gutter. DOT requires that if streets have curb and gutter, a closed drainage piped system must be used. Hoke County falls under phase II of the storm water regulations in that any development with a closed drainage system must meet the requirements of a high density development. Without curb and gutter with the closed drainage system, the subdivision meets the low density standards. If the developer has to develop the property with public streets, he would have to construct approximately \$400,000. worth of storm water ponds to meet the high density requirements. NCDEHR allows the construction of curb and gutter streets with curb openings instead of catch basins with the gutter streets will flow to a ditch along the street of the property to an outlet. This would allow for a low density development. DOT however will not allow a street system with curb openings to be added to their state system. Mr. Goodwin stated therefore they are requesting private streets that will be constructed to DOT standards. A Homeowners Association will be responsible for the maintenance of the streets. With the curb openings, this will eliminate about 10 ponds. The pipe outlets and ditches will also meet all DOT and DENHR requirements. Chairman Hunt asked if the county could enforce restrictive covenants? William Fields stated no, however; the homeowners association can. Mr. Poole was present also. James Leach stated that his concern is once the last lot is sold, who will control the property. Jean Powell stated that this is not a new concept. Mr. Poole stated that he will either have to maintain streets or ponds. Ponds breed mosquitoes. James Leach stated that the county is trying to get away from private roads. Residents come in now and complain

about private roads. Mr. Poole stated that there are pros and cons with this concept. He would rather do public streets. Mr. Goodwin stated that eliminating curb and gutter is against the Hoke County subdivision ordinance. Conrad Garrison stated that he recommended denying this request. He is concerned about the future as well as the size of this subdivision. Ellen McNeill asked how would this impact adjoining property owners. Mr. Poole stated that he has talked with the other property owners. Tim Johnson stated that the board worked hard on the subdivision ordinance especially on the curb and gutter. Chairman Hunt asked if the engineer would sign off on the roads? Mr. Goodwin stated yes. James Leach asked if Mr. Poole would post a bond? Mr. Poole stated that he would check into this. Chairman Hunt stated that this request can be tabled to check on this and bring it back to the board. Robert Wright stated that a bond could be done in lieu of the curb and gutter until the state can take over the road. He would rather see the state take over the road. The county needs to be protected. Mr. Poole can work on the two proposals and bring them back to the board.

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to table this request to let Mr. Poole bring back more information on the curb and gutter system and the possibility of posting a bond, seconded by Jean Powell.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

#### Public Hearing Privilege License Ordinance

Daphne Dudley, Tax Collector, stated that this ordinance has not be amended since 1984 and if approved will be effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. The updates will be as per the state regulations. There was no comment.

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Ellen McNeill.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Jean Powell made a motion to approve the amendments to the Privilege License Ordinance, seconded by Ellen McNeill.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

#### Consent Agenda:

- a. Budget Amendments
- b. Approval of Medical Insurance
- c. Resolution Accepting Conservation Fund Property

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Chairman Hunt stated that item #b will be pulled. Tim Johnson stated that we have the numbers but not the actual policy. This will be looked at during the budget retreat. Chairman Hunt stated that Freddy Johnson is requesting that the board approve a resolution for reimbursement of funds being tornado related. This resolution will replace item #b for the medical insurance.

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve the consent agenda which includes replacing the medical insurance with the resolution for reimbursement, seconded by James Leach.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

Resolution of  
County of Hoke  
Authorizing Acceptance  
of  
Hoke Community Forest from Conservation Fund  
Resolution No #:R-11-21

WHEREAS, the Conservation Fund has purchased 534 acres, more or less, of land from International Paper with the intent of creating a community forest in Hoke County, see attached Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the funding for the purchase came from several sources including PARTF and NC Clean Water Management;

WHEREAS, although the funding is not complete, the Conservation Fund desires to transfer the property with the understanding that Hoke will continue to cooperate with the Conservation Fund in obtaining funding as long as Hoke County in under no obligation to contribute funds.

THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Hoke resolve that:

1. The Hoke County Chairman, Manager, Attorney and Finance Director are authorized to execute all documents necessary to accept title to the real property known as the Hoke Community Forest, conditional upon no monetary contribution by Hoke County.

2. Hoke County will cooperate with the Conservation Fund in obtaining funding at no cost to Hoke County. Funding in the amount of \$888,000.00 will be passed through to reimburse the Conservation Fund.

This the 16, day of May, 2011.

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Tony Hunt, Chairman

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Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board

Robbie Ferris, with SFL+A Architects, gave a presentation for Proposed Sandy Grove Middle School. There were several others present as well as Dr. Freddy Williamson and staff from the school system. Mr. Ferris stated that that the lease will mostly likely be an operating lease but that a capital lease is still an option. Highlights of the lease structure include a net zero building and a higher quality building. Payments will begin when it is most beneficial for the county. There has been an addition of fenced ballfields to site plan as well as the parking area has been redesigned and the gym has been enlarged. No bleachers are in the budget but can be added. Solar panels will also be used. The outside will be brick. Permits obtained are: DOT, Erosion Control, Water and the Department of Insurance as well as DENHR. The sewer permit has been applied for. Robert Wright asked what was the number of students that the school could accommodate? Mr. Ferris stated 800 is the core having about 600. The building can be expanded. The financial data is as follows: using the QSCB allocation at an approximate .0% interest rate with a 16 year term, the 74,018 square foot building lease cost is \$20,648,343.00. The amount has increased since the last presentation due to the ballfields, technology and furniture. This will be a 21<sup>st</sup> Century School. The traditional building will be \$18,511,310.00. Estimated tax credits total about \$4,555,723.00 with the amount of the financed lease being \$16,637,070.00. The next steps are: obtain remaining permits, obtain tax credit allocation for NMTC, craft the operating lease determination letter, final pricing, lease agreement, LGC approval, financing, construction and occupancy. They hope to have the construction documents in about 3 weeks. Mr. Ted Cole with Davenport & Company LLC also gave some financial information. Mr. Cole stated that the goals and objectives are to: present an analysis of the county's existing debt profile, develop peer group medians for the county's current and future financial position, look at debt capacity, look at debt affordability and work towards a plan of finance. They want to make sure funding is available. The county's outstanding tax supported debt as of June 30, 2010 was \$35,585,333. Over time the county's debt will decrease. The county is rated Aa3 by Moody and A+ by Standard and Poor's. QSCB borrows qualify for a direct pay interest

subsidy up to 100% of interest due. Hoke county has received three QSCB allocations totaling \$18,711,889. The total project cost for the new middle school is estimated at \$21,037,785. \$18,711,889. of the costs are projected to be funded through QSCBs. The remainder will be funded through a bank placed installment purchase contract. The project is anticipated to begin construction by fall 2011. Two amortizations were shown with Case level #1 at debt for the proposed middle school through 2038 with a total tax effect of 6.0 cents and Case level #2 with a total tax effect of 4.8 cents. The next step is to go to LGC for approval. They anticipate crafting a plan that LGC and the lenders will approve. This project needs to move forward. Chairman Hunt stated that they would like to have time to look at this and review it at the budget retreat next week. They also want to look at the long range plans. Chairman Hunt thanked them for coming and stated that they would get back with them after the retreat.

Chairman Hunt stated that our bond rating is excellent in that the staff worked very hard.

Hoke County Tax Collector's Report – May 16, 2011

Tax Levy 2010	\$ 18,674,578.11
Additions to Levy YTD	509,917.08
Total Levy to Date	19,184,495.19
Collected to date	17,591,703.60
Uncollected balance before releases	1,592,791.59
Releases to date	9,883.90
Uncollected balance after releases	1,582,907.69
Adjustments	151.22
Refunds 2010	(85,203.45)
Discounts/Write offs	(124,411.78)
Advertising Charged	3,500.00
Uncollected balance 2010 Tax Levy (1)	\$ 1,373,443.68

Collections April 2011	\$ 135,950.22
Releases April 2011	\$24.33
Percent of levy collected (receipts)	91.70%
Percent of levy collected (releases, etc.)	<u>0.05%</u>
Percent of levy collected (totals)	91.75%

Prior Years tax levy June 30, 2010	\$ 2,418,539.14
Prior Year Collected in April 2011 to Date	1,046,763.83
Uncollected balance before releases	1,371,775.31

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Releases to date	8,686.48
Adjustments	2,169.83
Refunds	(1,369.46)
Discounts/Write offs	9,028.18
Insolvent	
Uncollected balance prior years (2)	\$ 1,368,577.72

Prior Years Collected in April 2011	\$84,597.30
Releases Prior Years April 2011	\$67.44
Percent Prior years collected (receipts)	43.28%
Percent pr. Yrs. Collected (releases, etc.)	<u>0.36%</u>
Percent pr. Yrs. Collected (totals)	43.64%
Total Uncollected Taxes (1+2)	\$ 2,742,021.40

#### 2009 Taxes

Tax Levy July 2009	\$ 17,787,588.47
Collections April 2010	16,575,160.47
Releases April 2010	1,094.20
Insolvent	
Percent collected (receipts)	93.18%
Percent collected (releases, Etc.)	<u>0.10%</u>
Percent collected (totals)	93.28%
Prior years tax levy July 2009	\$ 2,175,368.20
Collections April 2010	658,678.71
Releases April 2010	6,398.83
Insolvent	
Percent collected (receipts)	30.27%
Percent collected (releases, etc.)	<u>0.42%</u>
Percent collected (totals)	30.69%

#### Releases:

Person, Abigail 2006  
MH Repossessed - \$107.12

Person, Abigail 2007  
MH Repossessed - \$109.83

Person, Abigail 2008  
MH Repossessed - \$101.99

Total releases: \$318.94

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**Motion: James Leach made a motion to approve the releases in the amount of \$318.94, seconded by Robert Wright.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

#### Manager's Report

Tim Johnson stated that they were working on this year's current budget and are making good progress to go to LGC. He hopes to have the fund balance around 9%. He also had a meeting regarding fiber optics running to all the buildings.

#### Schedule Budget Retreat

After discussion, the next budget retreat will be held on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. here in the commissioner's room.

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to schedule the Public Hearing for Budget on June 6, 2011, seconded by James Leach.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to go into closed session to discuss attorney/client, pending litigation and personnel matters, seconded by James Leach.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to come out of closed session and go back into regular session, seconded by James Leach.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

There was no action taken in closed session.

James Leach made a motion to recess until Monday, May 23, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. here in the Commissioner's Room, seconded by Robert Wright, unanimously carried. The meeting was recessed at 9:35 p.m.

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Recessed meeting from May 16<sup>th</sup> to May 23, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room of the Pratt Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tony Hunt, Chairman  
James Leach, Vice Chairman  
Robert Wright  
Jean Powell  
Ellen McNeill

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tim Johnson, County Manager  
William Fields, County Attorney  
Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Hunt called the meeting to order.

Tim Johnson and Garvin Ferguson gave an update from the last budget retreat. Mr. Johnson stated that all the changes from the last retreat have been made including the \$3,000.00 back in for Blue Springs CDC and the 10 vehicles for the Sheriff's Department. The budget is balanced and ready. This is also the question of the increase in fees for Parks and Recreation and the retro fit for Inspections that the Board will need to approve. The biggest change is with the school system. The request that they presented at the budget retreat was for \$1,000,000. in capital outlay. After discussion the recommended amount was \$833,700.00. James Leach asked about sales tax. Garvin Ferguson stated that these come in monthly, usually with a 3 month lag that totals about 1.2 million dollars. Robert Wright asked about lottery funds. Mr. Ferguson stated that last year we received about \$900,000.00. We are currently at about 1.7 million in debt for schools. Robert Wright asked if any debt over the sales tax and lottery funds comes out of the general fund. Mr. Ferguson stated yes. They get about 1 million dollars out of sales tax and any additional will come out of ad valorem taxes. Chairman Hunt stated that they had to look at the student per capita, lottery funds and ½ cent sales tax. He asked if the money from the lottery and ½ cent sales tax has been overspent. Mr. Ferguson stated yes. Robert Wright stated that they can't continue to keep giving current operating expenses and build a new school. Jean Powell stated that for several years the schools were behind in receiving money for operating. She stated that they may need to look at building a cheaper school. They need to have a priority on money. Robert Wright stated that the board needs to give them the approved capital outlay expenses and let them spend the money on needed projects. James Leach stated that the commissioners may have to use some general fund money to keep the current schools up. Chairman Hunt asked what is their balance for this current year. Garvin Ferguson stated that they have spent \$895,000.00 so far. The budgeted amount was \$950,000.00. Paying by invoices helps with saving money.

Robbie Ferris came to answer questions about the construction of the new school. Mr. Ferris stated that they will own the building during the term of the lease, about 15 years, and then it will be turned over to the county. William Fields stated that he wants to see the lease as soon as possible. The lease can be changed. Mr. Ferris stated that there were

some questions about his company and bankruptcy. A separate company for this project will be set up. No one can foreclose on this property for the 7 years of the tax credits. The cost increased due to the building being expanded to include a bigger gym, ballfields, lighting, furniture and generator. This structure does not qualify for technology money. The construction will follow the normal process to include special inspectors. The county will be responsible for borrowing the money. The bond counsel is included in the soft costs. Mr. Ferris stated that his company will put out RFPs and the general contractor will bid out for subcontractors. There will be some flexibility with the rent payment. Davenport will craft a model for payment with it being about \$1,071,000 after tax credits. Mr. Ferris stated that he would schedule a meeting with LCG and they should know about approval. Jean Powell stated that she was not in favor of a 6 cent tax increase. The county has other projects such as water and sewer. Mr. Ferris stated that Davenport could come back with some more information. Robert Wright stated that the board needs to give them some guidelines. Tim Johnson stated that operating costs will also increase with a new school. Chairman Hunt stated that he would like to look a cost with a 2 cent tax increase. James Leach stated that he would also like to look at numbers with a 3 cent tax increase. Chairman Hunt requested that Mr. Ferris look at a 2 cent and 3 cent tax increase and bring back a model to the board.

Tom McNeill was present regarding an update on the hospitals and sewer. He stated that both want to break ground. These projects are about job creation. In looking at the project for the medical campuses, the total cost will be about \$1,620,400.00. These costs will include gravity sewer, a pump station and a 12" force main. The county is also continuing to look for possible funding sources. Sewer is proposed to be at both sites in about 12 months. Job creation starts at \$10,000 per job with Rural Development and \$7,000 for CDBG. First Health is estimating about 30 jobs at the campus, being on the conservative side, to maybe include more for the first phase. Cape Fear is proposing about 35 jobs. There may be some funds left over from the Pennsylvania Transformer project. Chairman Hunt stated that this is phase one of the sewer project that is moving forward. These interim projects will help with the FIF fees and connections for flow. They hope to know something regarding USDA approval by June. Mr. McNeill stated that the board may also want to look at fee schedule. He presented a proposed change for FIF fees that would consist of decreasing from \$3,000. to \$1,600. for a 1" sewer line, from \$6,000. to \$3,200. for a 1 ½" and from \$9,600. to \$5,120 for a 2". The cost of capacity for sewer would also be reduced from \$6.00 to \$2.52. He stated that the current fees are hard to justify. Tim Johnson stated that he had not seen these numbers and the difference would impact the budget numbers. Chairman Hunt stated that he would like to wait and meet with the hospital first.

Letitia Edens was present regarding medical insurance. Hoke County has a proposal from BCBS for medical insurance with a 12.7% increase, to include dental with a .89% increase and life insurance with a 13.6% decrease for the county's benefit.

**Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve the medical insurance proposal from BCBS, seconded by Jean Powell.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Ellen McNeill made a motion to go into closed session to discuss an attorney/client privilege matter, seconded by Robert Wright.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously closed.**

**Motion: Ellen McNeill made a motion to come out of closed session and go back into regular session, seconded by Robert Wright.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

There was no action taken in closed session.

Chairman Hunt asked about the attorney being on contract at the DSS. Tim Johnson stated that the position was in the budget as a full time position. James Leach stated that this position needs to be contracted. Chairman Hunt stated that he would like to see it put out for bid. William Fields stated that the only way the board may be able to control this is through the budget.

**Motion: James Leach made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Ellen McNeill.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

**Motion: Ellen McNeill made a motion to come out of closed session and go back into regular session.**

**Action: The motion was unanimously carried.**

There no action taken in closed session.

Robert Wright asked about fund balance for next year. Tim Johnson stated that he hopes it will be at 9 ½ %. It needs to be at 20%. More money needs to be earmarked for fund balance. He will craft a policy for the board to approve. Garvin Ferguson stated that the proposed budget also includes a 1.5% COLA costing about \$188,000.00 and \$150,000. associated with a Christmas bonus. Chairman Hunt stated that if the board approves a tax increase, the first year could go toward fund balance with the second year going toward school debt. Two issues that need to be looked are the DSS attorney and the Christmas bonus. Tim Johnson stated that the county budget may be impacted by the state budget.

Bob Harvell came into the meeting regarding hiring a full time fire inspector. James Leach stated that there was about \$30,000 left from a position with the Sheriff's office. He asked how many inspectors were fully certified for fire. Mr. Harvell stated that he is the only one certified with Michael Leggett and Freddy Johnson on probationary for level 2. Mr. Leach asked if they were still behind on fire inspections. Mr. Harvell stated yes. He stated that if another inspector was hired for fire, they would be okay. Ellen McNeill stated that they could look at a contract employee. James Leach asked who inspected the mobile home parks. Mr. Harvell stated that this was done by planning. Mr. Leach stated that inspection fees for mobile home parks are being charged and no one is inspecting the parks. Tim Johnson stated that he would check on this. Mr. Harvell stated that if a fire inspector was contracted this would save the county money. Freddy Johnson would still have to assist with fire inspections. Tim Johnson stated that the money could be moved from the Sheriff's department. Chairman Hunt requested that numbers regarding this position be checked to see if it will affect the bottom line.

Robert Wright asked if the QSCB money had been spent. Garvin Ferguson stated no. James Leach stated that if we get this money, \$400,000. needs to come back to the county. The board recommended that \$833,700. be given to the Board of Education for capital outlay being paid by invoice. Tim Johnson stated that he would also look at the increase in the fees for Parks and Recreation and Inspections.

William Fields stated that the board also needs to approve a policy for the cost for copy fees for the public. The current rate is \$.25 per copy.

Tim Johnson stated that some money may be put back in animal control for equipment and training.

(recessed meeting from May 16<sup>th</sup> to May 23, 2011)

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There being no further business to come before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, James Leach made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Robert Wright, unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

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Tony Hunt, Chairman

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Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board