

Special meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 9:00 a.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
Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Hunt called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Commissioner McNeill.

The special meeting was regarding sewer funding.

Fred Hobbs and James Freeman with Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates were also present.

Tim Johnson stated that he had received two proposals for a feasibility study to fund the sewer plant. This study is required by the LGC. Hoke County does not currently have a customer base for sewer with the residents being on PWC or the City of Raeford. Once the sewer plant is built, these customers will be transferred to us. LGC gave a list of firms and Mr. Johnson requested proposals from the three firms that were in North Carolina. Two proposals were submitted, coming in with costs higher than expected. The proposals are: Raftus Financial Consultants - \$39,775.00 and Black & Veatch - \$49,800.00. Mr. Johnson recommended accepting the bid of Raftus Financial Consultants at \$39,775.00. The sewer plant is a large project. The total cost will be approximately 23 million dollars. The county will borrow approximately 15 to 17 million dollars. Growth is necessitating the building of a sewer plant.

Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to accept the bid from Raftus Financial Consultants for a feasibility study, seconded by James Leach.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Fred Hobbs gave a grant update. He stated that they were waiting to hear from the state on Clean Water Funds. The Board needs to contact their legislators regarding this application. They have applied for 1 million dollars and will apply for 2 million dollars in February. They will also apply to USDA in the form of revenue bonds and loans. Chairman Hunt asked if we could recoup some of the funds that the county has spent? Tim Johnson stated yes once the feasibility study was submitted.

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Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to send a letter to all of Hoke County's state legislators, regarding the Clean Water Trust funds, including Congressman Kissell regarding USDA funds, seconded by Jean Powell.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Hobbs stated that the state likes the project, however; there will be a lot of competition for funds. They are also still working with Goldenleaf and other organizations dealing with the hospitals. Jean Powell asked if we received grant money, would this reduce the amount we have to borrow? Tim Johnson stated hopefully, yes. Chairman Hunt asked if all the funding had to be secured before we go to bid on the project? Mr. Hobbs stated yes. They hope to go to bid next spring. The project is about 6 months behind schedule.

There being no further business to come before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, Ellen McNeill made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Robert Wright, unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Tony Hunt, Chairman

Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board