

Meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Monday, December 21, 2009 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. Chairman Hunt led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

Employee Recognitions – Letitia Edens

Jerome Bennett, Jr. – 5 years – Jail
Tasha Richardson – 5 years – HATS
Yvette Walters – 5 years – DSS
Amber Oxendine – 5 years – DSS
Randi Grant – 5 years – Communications

The Board thanked these employees for their years of service and a job well done.

Planning Matter – Public Hearing – Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Change

a. The County of Hoke intends to amend the following sections of the Hoke County Zoning Ordinance by adding, "Hoke County Utility Structures and facilities such as sewer/water pump stations, filtration units, and water storage tanks" as a permitted use.

8.6 - RA-20 Residential-Agricultural District, B. Permitted Use, 8.6.1- R-20 Residential District, B. Permitted Use, 8.7 -R-15 Residential District, B. Permitted Use, 8.7.1- R-10 Residential District, B. Permitted Use, 8.8- R-8 residential District, B. Permitted Use, 8.9- RMF Multi-Family Residential District, B. Permitted Use, 8.10 - R.MH Manufactured Home Park District, B. Permitted Use, 8.11- HC Highway Commercial District, B. Permitted Use, 8.12-NB Neighborhood Business District, B. Permitted Use, 8.13-I industrial District, B. Permitted Use

William Fields stated that this will be a permitted use in all the zones of the zoning ordinance.

(minutes continued from the December 21, 2009 meeting) 2905

There was no public comment.

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

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve the proposed zoning ordinance text change, seconded by James Leach.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes from the December 7, 2009 meeting
- b. Utility Easement – March Riddle
- c. Approval of Updated Subdivision List
- d. Budget Amendments
- e. A & R Railroad Easement – Clean Burn
- f. Projects for LGC Approval
 1. Storage Building for Board of Education
 2. Sewer System

The updated subdivisions list consists of: Bedford Subdivision, Durham Landing, Dwight Sullivan, Mariners Pointe, Riverbrook (1- 1 & 2), Steeplechase II and Westgate.

Robert Wright asked about the funding for the storage building for the Board of Education? Chairman Hunt stated that this request only approves the process to go to LGC for financing only. If approved, a design will then be submitted. Robert Wright stated that this was fine.

Motion: James Leach made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Robert Wright.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Hoke County Tax Collector's Report – December 21, 2009

Tax Levy 2009	\$ 17,784,879.06
Collected to date	12,979,467.44
Uncollected balance before releases	4,805,411.62
Releases to date	7,576.33

(minutes continued from the December 21, 2009 meeting) 2906

Uncollected balance after releases	4,797,835.29
Deceased	
Advertising Charged	
Uncollected balance 2009 Tax Levy (1)	\$ 4,797,835.29

Collections November 2009	\$459,694.05
Releases November 2009	1,025.98
Percent of levy collected (receipts)	72.98%
Percent of levy collected (releases, etc.)	<u>4.%</u>
Percent of levy collected (totals)	73.02%

PRIOR YEARS

Prior Years tax levy June 30, 2009	\$ 2,175,368.20
Collected to date	352,867.81
Uncollected balance before releases	1,822,500.39
Releases to date	2,940.57
Insolvent	
Deceased	
Uncollected balance prior years (2)	\$ 1,819,559.82

Collections November 2009	\$49,339.96
Releases November 2009	220.00
Percent Prior years collected (receipts)	16.22%
Percent pr. Yrs. Collected (releases, etc.)	<u>13%</u>
Percent pr. Yrs. Collected (totals)	16.35%
Total Uncollected Taxes (1+2)	\$ 6,617,395.11

2008 Taxes

Tax Levy July 2008	\$ 16,459,593.39
Collections November 2008	414,147.97
Releases November 2008	420.51
Insolvent	
Percent collected (receipts)	70.48%
Percent collected (releases, Etc.)	<u>5%</u>
Percent collected (totals)	70.53%
Prior years tax levy July 2008	\$ 1,947,691.76
Collections November 2008	39,975.87
Releases November 2008	24.86
Deceased	

(minutes continued from the December 21, 2009 meeting) 2907

Insolvent	
Percent collected (receipts)	18.16%
Percent collected (releases, etc.)	<u>12%</u>
Percent collected (totals)	18.28%

Releases:

McCallum, Sarah – 2009 – Solid Waste Fee Error - \$110.00

Motion: James Leach made a motion to approve the release in the amount of \$110.00, seconded by Jean Powell.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Request for Adjustment of Penalties

Windstream Carolina – They are a public service utility company and they are requesting a release for the late penalties. The State accesses the property values and sends them to us. They did not file their report to the Department of Revenue on time. The deadline was March 31st. It was filed on May 31st. There were several other counties that this happened to. It is not the recommendation of the Department of Revenue to grant the release the penalties. They were assessed properly. Robert Wright asked what did the other counties do? Ms. Gibson stated that the counties she talked to, they denied the request.

Motion: James Leach made a motion to deny the request to release the penalties, seconded by Robert Wright.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Military Exemption of Personal Property

Ricko Jones - \$184.83 – He paid his property taxes on a motor vehicle. He is not a resident of North Carolina. He does have the property documentation.

Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve the exemption, seconded by Ellen McNeill.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

(minutes continued from the December 21, 2009 meeting) 2908

Disabled Veteran Applications

Joann Yost - \$342.00 – She is the surviving spouse of Veteran, Anthony R. Yost who was killed in action on November 19, 2005 in Iraq. She applied on December 7, 2009 and she does meet the qualifications. This would be for a refund in the amount of \$342.00

Bertha M. Pandure - \$355.00 – She is the surviving spouse of Veteran Ralph A. Pandure, who passed away on October 9, 1994. She applied on December 2, 2009 and does meet the qualifications. This would be for a release in the amount of \$355.50.

Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve both Disabled Veteran applications, seconded by Ellen McNeill.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Chairman Hunt asked when the new year started? Ms. Gibson stated January 1st. She stated that 2009 was the first year for this process. They have been working with the Veteran Service Office.

Appointments – Linda Revels

a. Commissioner Appointments – After discussion the Board approved the following commissioner appointments:

1. Robert Wright

Board of Health
Fire Commissioner
Smart Start
Tax Board
Regional Land Use Advisory Commission
Infrastructure Planning
Local Emergency Planning Committee (Alternate)

2. Ellen McNeill

Social Services
Scotland/Hoke Criminal Justice Partnership Board
Hoke County RTPO Advisory Council
Hoke County Local Emergency Planning Commission

(minutes continued from the December 21, 2009 meeting) 2909

Downtown Revitalization
Communication Board
Southeastern Economic Development Commission (SEDC) (annually)

3. James Leach

Scattered Housing Advisory Board (LRCOG)
Parks & Recreation
Juvenile Crime Board
Senior Service Board
LRCOG
LRCOG (Joint/Nursing Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee)

4. Jean Powell

Sandhills Mental Health
Fayetteville Metropolitan Planning Organization Board
Library
BRAC Regional Task Force
Regional Land Use Advisory Committee (Voting Member)
Museum Board

5. Tony Hunt

Southeastern Economic Development Commission (SEDC) (annually)
N. C. Cooperative Extension
Parks & Recreation
Tax Board
Local Government Military Base Advisory Committee
Regional Land Use Advisory Commission (Alternate)
LRCOG (Alternate)

(All Commissioners serve on Building and Grounds Committee)

Motion: Jean Powell made a motion to approve the commissioner board appointments, seconded by Robert Wright.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

(minutes continued from the December 21, 2009 meeting) 2910

b. ABC Board – Buddy Newton – Mr. Newton stated that he did not wish to continue to serve on the ABC Board. Robert Wright stated that he would like to recommend Mr. Wayne Ashburn.

Motion: Robert Wright made a motion to approve the appointment of Wayne Ashburn to the ABC Board, seconded by James Leach.

Action: The motion was unanimously carried.

Vice Chairman Leach asked to be excused from the meeting for another engagement.

Update on Sewer Progress

Chairman Hunt recognized committee member Linda Scott, and thanked her for coming.

Tom McNeill stated there are two major sewer projects going on, with one being to serve Wal-Mart and the other is for the balance of eastern Hoke County. There are two firms working on these projects. They are Marizano & McGougan and Hobbs, Upchurch. Both have representatives here tonight. Eric Wagner with Hobbs, Upchurch and Brian Sexton with Marizano & McGougan presented a power-point on what they were going to be discussing consisting of: 1 – the project background, 2 – the existing collection system, 3 – the proposed collection system, 4 - the proposed wastewater treatment plant – 5- the project status, 6 – the project funding, 7 – the cost estimates, and 8 – the current construction projects. The county wants to manage growth in the urban services area and protect the agriculture areas. Sewer will also help with the influx of BRAC. It will also help reduce septic systems and improve water quality. The proposed location is on Ellis Road at Rockfish Creek. Clean Burn Fuels and other industries can use reclaimed water. They hope to start with 2 ½ to 5 million gallons a day, going as high as 10 million gallons a day. The Beaver Creek Interceptor will accept new flow from the Shoppes at Raeford, with existing flow from Hoke Landing, East Hoke Middle School and 801 Housing. The Rockfish Road pump station and force main will transmit collected flow to the Riverbrooke collection site and pumping station to be delivered to the City of Raeford. In the future all county flow may be diverted to the proposed Hoke Waste Water Treatment plant. The project is currently on schedule and under budget. They have been awarded at total of \$4,033,786 in grants, anticipating some pending. The total construction cost estimate is: \$19.0 million dollars. Chairman Hunt asked if they were going to eliminate the pump station at 801 Housing? Tom McNeill stated yes, in that they were some problems there. The project is being designed according to plans. The county has been in a good building environment. There have been three contracts done. The county saved money having a competitive environment. The contractors are doing a good job. The plant is anticipated to be up by 2011. Chairman Hunt thanked the sewer

committee and engineers.

County Manager's Report

Tim Johnson stated that he wanted the Board aware that the retirement for employees may increase in next year's budget. This will be a major cost and will be discussed more at the retreat. The State had a lot of losses in investments. The water system and water suppression tank is moving well.

There being no further business to come before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, Jean Powell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ellen McNeill, unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Tony Hunt, Chairman

Linda Revels, Clerk to the Board