

PITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
DECEMBER 3, 2001 MINUTES

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, December 3, 2001, at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Auditorium, Pitt County Office Building, 1717 W. 5th Street, Greenville, North Carolina.

Commissioners present:

Beth Ward, Vice Chairman
David Hammond, Commissioner
Terry Shank, Commissioner
Tom Johnson, Commissioner
Tom Coulson, Commissioner
Randy Royal, Commissioner
Glenn Bowen, Commissioner
Eugene James, Commissioner
Mark Owens, Chairman

Staff present:

Susan Banks, Clerk to the Board
Melonie Bryan, Director of Financial Services
JoAnne Burgdorff, County Attorney
Glenn Cutrell, Tax Assessor
James Rhodes, Planning Director
Tom Robinson, County Manager
John Bulow, Assistant County Manager

Call to Order

Chairman Hammond called the meeting to order.

Invocation and Pledge

Summary of Information

The invocation was offered by Commissioner Royal.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Commissioner Johnson.

Approval of Agenda

Summary of Information

Motion:

Motion to approve agenda as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Glenn Bowen.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Terry Shank.

Vote Record:

Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes
Terry Shank	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 9

Total No Votes: 0

Motion Passed

Election of Officers

Election of Chairman for 2002 - JoAnne Burgdorff, presiding

Summary of Information

Following the Board's Rules of Procedure, Ms. JoAnne Burgdorff, County Attorney presides over the election of chairman and vice chairman for the new year.

Commissioner Hammond stated that he had enjoyed his tenure as Chairman and thanked the Board for their unanimous confidence last December. He thanked the Board for this position and what it has meant to him. Ms. Burgdorff conducted this portion of the meeting.

Ms. Burgdorff asked for nominations for Chairman. Vice Chairman Bowen nominated Commissioner Mark W. Owens, Jr. Commissioner Hammond motioned to close the nominations, Commissioner James seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Mark W. Owens, Jr. as their new chairman.

Ms. Burgdorff then called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Johnson nominated Commissioner Beth Ward. Commissioner Bowen nominated Eugene James. Commissioner Hammond motioned for nominations to be closed. Commissioner Royal seconded the motion and the

Board voted unanimously to close the nominations. Commissioner Royal stated his support of putting a woman in the Vice Chairman's seat. Voting in reverse order, Commissioner Eugene James received votes from Commissioner Bowen, Commissioner James, and Commissioner Hammond. Commissioner Beth Ward received votes from Commissioner Royal, Commissioner Shank, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Royal, Commissioner Owens, and Commissioner Coulson.

Commissioner Hammond said that before the reception he wanted to present a gift to the Manager. He presented a book titled, **Jesus would have been a Scratch Golfer.**

Reception

Reception for Outgoing and Incoming Officers

A short reception was held for the change in officers.

Reconvene

The meeting was called back to order by the newly elected Chairman Mark Owens, Jr., following the reception for the officers. Commissioner Shank left the meeting at this time.

Chairman Owens said the work of this Board is to benefit the people of this county. He stated sometimes he is short and to the point but does not like repetition. He said he works under the operation of this Board.

Interim Manager Selection

Chairman Owens stated that it is an appropriate time to consider appointment of an Interim Manager. Commissioner Johnson nominated Phil Dickerson, County Engineer. Commissioner Royal nominated John Bulow, Assistant Manager.

Chairman Owens stated that Commissioner Shank had asked to be excused from this part of the meeting because of extenuating circumstances.

Commissioner Hammond motioned to close the nominations. Commissioner Coulson seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to close nominations.

Chairman Owens called for the vote. Commissioner Royal voted for John Bulow. Phil Dickerson received votes from Vice Chairman Ward, Commissioner Coulson, Commissioner James, Commissioner Hammond, Commissioner

Bowen, and Chairman Owens. Commissioner Shank was not present. Mr. Phil Dickerson was elected as the new interim manager.

Chairman Owens stated that he wanted to have the staff prepare a resolution for the former Chairman and Vice Chairman for presentation at the next meeting. The presentation of Chairman Hammond's resolution was delayed until the next meeting. He asked for a motion in this matter.

Commissioner Coulson motioned, seconded by Commissioner James, to adopt a resolution for former Chairman Hammond and former Vice Chairman Bowen for presentation at the next Board meeting on December 17th.

Public Addresses to the Board

Nancy Colville - spoke about the joint meeting between the Board of Education and the Board of County Commissioners on December 17, 2001. She said the public needs to be more informed about the education compact. She said the money is going to supplement salaries and benefits, workshops and etc. The \$2.4 million for 2000-2001 went to the Schools under Dr. Sosne's supervision. Teachers are begging for paper and pencil and parents are having to buy them. She was opposed to the Development Commission and The Chamber paying for wine at the joint meeting of the two boards. She said she was looking forward to the meeting at the new school.

Items for Report

Manager's Report - Tom B. Robinson

Summary of Information

-Joint Meeting with School Board -Northwest Elementary School at 6:00 p.m. on December 17th. Dr. Priddy wants the Board to see the new school. A tour of the school will begin at 6:00 p.m.

- A head count is needed before Wednesday for the Development Commission dinner on December 11, 2001. Commissioners Hammond and Ward indicated they would attend. Commissioner Johnson said he had sent his regrets.

Chairman Owens stated that Commissioner Shank had asked to be excused for reasons beyond her control.

Clerk's Report - Susan Banks

Summary of Information

-Reception for Tom Robinson, County Manager is scheduled for 12/13/01 at the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Items for Consent

Motion:

**Approve consent agenda as submitted.
Motion made by Commissioner David Hammond.
Motion seconded by Commissioner Eugene James.**

Vote Record:

Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes
Terry Shank	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes

**Total Yes Votes: 9
Total No Votes: 0
Motion Passed**

Releases and Refunds Greater Than \$100 - Glenn Cutrell

Summary of Information

October 2001	Total County Releases (Greater Than \$100) -	57	\$	2,687.24
October 2001	Total Greenville Release (Greater Than \$100) -	24	\$	5,111.82
	Total Refunds (Greater Than \$100) -	4	\$	1,840.52

Black, James & Moore, Ludie & Black, Arthur	\$	190.26
Dawson, Mary E.	\$	482.28
GE Capital Auto Leasing	\$	118.40
Huskamp, Jeffrey C.	\$	1,049.58

**Approve tax releases and refunds as submitted.
Motion made by Commissioner David Hammond.
Motion seconded by Commissioner Eugene James.**

Vote Record:

Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes

Tom Johnson	Yes
Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 8
Total No Votes: 0
Motion Passed

North Carolina State D.O.T. Request For Addition to State Maintained Secondary Road System-Britt Farm Road in Britt Subdivision White Blossom Drive & Dogwood Ridge Drive in Dogwood Ridge Subdivision - Tracy Cash

Summary of Information

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), after receiving a petition requesting that a road be added to the State Maintained Secondary Road System, investigates the situation to determine if the road meets their requirements. If after this investigation it is determined that the road meets certain criteria, the NCDOT District Engineer will request the County's endorsement for the addition by way of a resolution.

Attached are two letters from Danny R. Taylor, District Engineer, requesting the addition of Britt Farm Road in Britt Subdivision and White Blossom Drive and Dogwood Ridge Drive in Dogwood Ridge Subdivision to the State System. Included with these letters is a resolution for your endorsement as well as a copy of the NCDOT Investigation Reports, the petitions from the property owners and a map illustrating the location of the roads.

Motion:

Approve the requests and endorse the Resolution.

Motion made by Commissioner David Hammond.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Eugene James.

Vote Record:

Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes

Glenn Bowen Yes

Total Yes Votes: 8

Total No Votes: 0

Motion Passed

*Budget Amendment - Rural Operating Assistance
Funding - Melonie Bryan*

Summary of Information

Revenue received from the N.C. Department of Transportation for the FY 2002 Rural Operating Assistance Program exceeded the amount originally budgeted. This amendment budget the additional revenue and the appropriation to the agencies that provide the transportation assistance to the elderly and handicapped under this program.

Account No.	Title of Account	Increase	Decrease
243615 436013 Rev.	Elderly & Handicapped	4,048	
245615 569013	Council on Aging	2,529	
245615 569014	ECVC	632	
245625 569015	Creative Living Center	446	
245615 569302	GREAT	441	

The County received \$4048 more in funding from the State for the FY 02 Rural Operating Assistance Program than originally budgeted. This budget amendment budgets the revenue received and related expenditures.

Motion:

Approval of budget amendment as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner David Hammond.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Eugene James.

Vote Record:

Beth Ward Yes
David Hammond Yes
Tom Johnson Yes
Tom Coulson Yes
Randy Royal Yes
Eugene James Yes
Mark Owens Yes
Glenn Bowen Yes

Total Yes Votes: 8

Total No Votes: 0

Motion Passed

Approval of Minutes - Susan Banks

Summary of Information

November 19, 2001 Minutes

Motion:

Motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2001.

Motion made by Commissioner David Hammond.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Eugene James.

Vote Record:

Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 8

Total No Votes: 0

Motion Passed

Items for Decision

Offer to purchase County owned property - JoAnne Burgdorff

Summary of Information

Eddie Atkinson has offered \$1,000.00 to purchase County owned property, Tax Parcel No. 010187, for Lots 88 and 89 of Hillsdale Subdivision. This property was acquired by the County on August 26, 1993, and was conveyed to Habitat for Humanity on May 11, 1995, with the restriction that Habitat construct low income housing on the property within five years and if they failed to do so, the property would revert to the County. Habitat for Humanity did not construct on this property and the property was conveyed back to the County in 2000. The tax value of this property is \$4,000.

The offer must be published after acceptance to allow an upset bid period of ten days before closing.

Comments

Ms. Burgdorff stated that an offer has been made for purchase of property from the County of \$1,000 for both lots. These were properties in the Community Development Block Grant Program. The houses were demolished during the process and the County took the property over. Mr. John Bulow said the properties were given to Habitat for Humanity and they did not build on them so they were returned to the County.

Ms. Shank returned to the meeting at this time.

Commissioner James asked if the people making the offer would guarantee to keep the lots in good condition. Ms. Burgdorff said the County can not put conditions on the sell of the property. Commissioner James said people have complained about this property and they want it cleaned up. The County has already had these properties cleaned up. Commissioner Hammond said that he was in agreement that the properties be sold so they can be put back on the tax books.

Motion:

The property is located outside the city limits of Greenville in the Hillsdale Subdivision and is subject to restrictions recorded in Book H 27, page 337 of the Register of Deeds Office. The lot size is 100' X 100'. As long as the County owns the property, there will be no revenue generated from taxes, and County staff will be responsible for maintaining the property and mowing the grass.

Accept the \$1,000 offer for sale of property to the highest bidder with a 30 day upset.

Motion made by Commissioner Eugene James.

Motion seconded by Commissioner David Hammond.

Vote Record:

Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes
Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes
Terry Shank	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 9

Total No Votes: 0

Motion Passed

Oversight Committee for Expanded Beaver Management Assistance Program - James Rhodes

Summary of Information

At the November 5, 2001 meeting, the Board authorized expansion of the USDA's Beaver Management Assistance Program by contracting with the agency to provide a full-time employee for a six-month period (January-June 2002). The Board also agreed to establish an oversight committee to prioritize areas of critical need and to direct the employee's efforts.

Staff recommends that the committee structure include representatives from the following agencies/boards:

- Pitt County Planning Department
- Pitt County Emergency Services
- Pitt County Environmental Health Division
- Pitt County Soil and Water Conservation Service
- North Carolina Department of Transportation
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Pitt County Planning Board Member

The Pitt County Planning Department will provide staff support to the committee.

Comments

Mr. James Rhodes updated the Board stating that the contract for Beaver Management Assistance was signed and mailed to Raleigh. He stated that he is now requesting approval of the establishment of the committee and its membership. He reviewed the responsibilities of this committee which includes to prioritize trapping requests, identify areas of critical need, monitor and evaluate activities of the beaver management program.

He reviewed his recommendation for the committee membership as proposed.

Motion:

· Establish structure of Beaver Management Oversight Committee as recommended with one additional member from the Sierra Club.

Motion made by Commissioner Tom Johnson.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Terry Shank.

Vote Record:

Beth Ward	Yes
Eugene James	Yes

Mark Owens	Yes
Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Terry Shank	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
David Hammond	No
Glenn Bowen	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 8

Total No Votes: 1

Motion Passed

Consideration of Board Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2002 - Susan Banks

Item delayed until next meeting.

Consideration of Chairman's Appointments to Boards

Item delayed for Chairman to have ample time to consider before making appointments.

Funding for Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Administrative Costs - Trish Staton

Summary of Information

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Board voted and approved the amount of \$15,500 for administrative and related costs of the Council.

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Board voted in favor of funding the Teen Court Program for the amount of \$20,000. This funding is from the JCPC (State Funding) which this County received \$355,256.00. This Program was approved for funding in the second phase of funding. The Teen Court Program has received continuation funding and it has been recognized as one of the needed Teen Programs in Pitt County.

Motion:

Approve funding for the Teen Court Program and the funding for the Administrative Cost for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

Motion made by Commissioner Terry Shank.

Motion seconded by Vice Chairman Beth Ward.

Commissioner Bowen asked to hear from Melonie Bryan on these items. Ms. Bryan said the State awards these funds in Pitt County each year. They had

additional funds this year. The budget amendments are for \$20,000 for Teen Court and \$15,000 for the administrative needs to implement the program. Vice Chairman Ward said she serves on that Council and these are State funds and they did not have enough groups originally apply for the funds.

Vote Record:

Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes
Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes
Terry Shank	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 9

Total No Votes: 0

Motion Passed

Commissioners' Comments

No comments were made.

Chairman Owens said the County is looking to hire a new manager. He reviewed the schedule for the process. Once applicants are received, then the Board will determine who to interview. This Board will review applications and set dates for interviews. He said that first the Board needs a sufficient number of applicants before moving forward. All applications will be kept by the Director of Human Resources until such time the deadlines are met and then they will be distributed to all commissioners. He said he did not see any need for anything further at this time.

Adjourn

Motion:

Commissioner James motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Commissioner Royal seconded the motion.

Vote Record:

Tom Coulson	Yes
Randy Royal	Yes
Eugene James	Yes
Mark Owens	Yes
Beth Ward	Yes
David Hammond	Yes

Terry Shank	Yes
Tom Johnson	Yes
Glenn Bowen	Yes

Total Yes Votes: 9
Total No Votes: 0
Motion Passed

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Banks, CMC
Clerk to the Board