

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GUILFORD COUNTY**

Greensboro, North Carolina
April 16, 2015

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on April 16, 2015 at 5:34PM, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: A. Branson, K. Cashion, J. Phillips, J. Conrad, H. Henning, Mark Payne, County Attorney, R. Trapp, C. Foster, C. Coleman (joined meeting by phone at 5:53PM), A. Perdue, Marty Lawing, County Manager

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Marty Lawing, County Manager; Mark Payne, County Attorney; Robin Keller, Clerk to the Board; Jim Albright, Emergency Services Director; Colonel T.R. Powers, Sheriff's Office; Michael Halford, Budget Director; Joe Raymond, DHHS Director; Merle Green, DHHS-Public Health Director; Scott Green, Environmental Health-Public Health; Elizabeth White, Economic Services-DSS; Robert McNiece, Facilities Parks and Property Management Director; Reid Baker, Finance Director; Jeff Fowler, Security Director; and members of the media and community.

I. INVOCATION

Chairman Henning asked those present to rise for a moment of silence.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Henning led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Henning welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 5:35PM.

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Anne Hice of Pleasant Garden spoke to an article in the Sunday News & Record discussing the Prison Farm Greenhouse. Ms. Hice encouraged Guilford County residents to take advantage of and maintain the Prison Farm greenhouse.

Mary Louise Smith of Greensboro, member of the Renaissance Community Co-op, spoke to the benefits of the co-op and the affordable fresh fruits and vegetables that will available to all

residents. She urged the Commissioners to consider a \$250,000 grant towards the opening of the co-op grocery store.

Charles Spencer of Greensboro, member of the Renaissance Community Co-op Board, spoke of his concerns regarding Guilford County as a top food desert in the United States, and to the positive aspects of the co-op. He urged the Board for their support of the program.

Gary McCants of Greensboro spoke in favor of the Renaissance Community Co-op and urged County support. In addition, Mr. McCants requested a work session of the Board to discuss the County's MWBE program to develop relationships and strategies that will improve its impact within the community.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Resolution in Support and Honor of the Public Safety Employees of Guilford County

Commissioner Perdue invited Jim Albright, Emergency Services Director, Colonel T.R. Powers with Sheriff's Department, Chief Steve Simmons, Chair of the Fire Chief's Board, and other local emergency personnel to the podium for recognition.

Commissioner Perdue read a resolution in support and in honor of the public safety employees of Guilford County.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT AND HONOR OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES OF GUILFORD COUNTY

WHEREAS, in emergency situations in Guilford County, the County's public safety employees (commonly called "first responders"), carry out the critical role of protecting and ensuring public safety;

WHEREAS, the Guilford Metro 911 Department, the Guilford County Sheriff Department, the Rural Fire Departments, and the Emergency Services Department act as a combined team, in conjunction with partners from other agencies, to rescue people from dangerous circumstances, secure dangers, treat the injured and protect the lives and safety of people, regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves;

WHEREAS, Guilford County's first responders often risk their lives when responding to emergencies;

WHEREAS, Guilford Metro 911 staff serves as the first, first responder to protect the people of Guilford County every day, being always available to provide a coordinated response to any emergency at any hour, under any conditions or circumstances;

WHEREAS, Guilford Metro 911 communicators processed 715,858 total telephone transactions, over 3.5 million radio transmissions during 2014, and dispatched 433,870 calls for service for Law, Fire and EMS.

WHEREAS, rural fire fighters provide fire suppression, emergency medical services, search and rescue, hazardous materials response, critical fire prevention and safety education;

WHEREAS, in 2014 the Rural Fire Departments responded to 19,441 fire and medical emergency calls, and provided the public 114,702 contact hours of fire safety training.

WHEREAS, sheriff deputies protect our families and our property, detect and prevent crimes, restore the peace, uphold the law, ensure justice and make Guilford County a safer community;

WHEREAS, the Sheriff Department in 2014 responded to 79,686 calls for service, reduced crime to one of the lowest known levels with the State of North Carolina, and a strong majority of Guilford County's residents have a positive opinion of the Guilford County Sheriff Department and believe they have been effective in making neighborhoods and the County safe;

WHEREAS, Emergency Services provides paramedic level emergency medical care, fire department support operations, fire code inspections, fire investigations, and emergency management for Guilford County.

WHEREAS, Emergency Services responded to over 65,000 incidents with 75,000 unit responses and transported 45,000 patients to local healthcare facilities, conducted 3,011 fire and life safety inspections, provided 21 training presentations to over 700 individuals on disaster management and preparedness, and is one of only three ambulance services accredited within the State.

WHEREAS, The Guilford County Fire Marshal's Office staff conducted 3,111 fire and life safety inspections in businesses throughout unincorporated Guilford County and the following Towns: Gibsonville, Jamestown, Oak Ridge, Pleasant Garden, Sedalia and Summerfield during CY 2014. In Addition there were 625 inspections conducted in relation to new construction projects throughout Guilford County.

WHEREAS, The Guilford County Fire Marshal's Office provides fire and life safety inspections as well as electrical inspections as required by North Carolina General Statutes for all of our Guilford County Public Schools (GCS). There are 125 GCS campuses which comprise 439 school buildings which are required to have a fire and life safety inspection every 6 months.

WHEREAS, the government of Guilford County is charged first and foremost with assuring public safety by protecting the lives, peace and property of its residents;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF GUILFORD COUNTY:

That the Board of Commissioners declares, for itself and the residents of the County, that the County gratefully and completely supports our first responders;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners encourages all residents of Guilford County to express their gratitude to our first responders with their own acts and expressions of kindness and appreciation for their efforts and sacrifices during other nationally recognized events and by attending and supporting local aware ceremonies such as National Telecommunications Week (April), Guilford County Sheriff Annual Awards Ceremony (March), Fireman's Annual Award Banquet (February) and other events sponsored by local merchants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as the September 11th anniversary approaches, the Board of Commissioners supports the creation of a Public Safety Appreciation Day event that affirms the goals and efforts of Guilford County and all communities to honor and celebrate the contributions and sacrifices made by our first responders in Guilford County, and all first responders of the United States.

Col. Powers thanked the Board for the resolution. He noted the extraordinary team of responders in Guilford County.

Commissioner Conrad recognized Mr. Bill Jones and Mayor Randy Braswell, local constituents and elected officials from the Town of Stokesdale, and thanked them for visiting the meeting.

Commissioner Coleman entered the meeting at 5:53PM via simultaneous communication.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Henning asked if any Commissioner wished to pull an item from the consent agenda. Vice Chairman Phillips pulled item VI.B.1; Commissioner Coleman pulled item VI.C.3.

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. Approve an increase to the FY 2015 Health and Human Services Department (Public Health Division) budget by \$19,735 detailed below: a) NC Division of Public Health, NC Department of Health and Human Services has been awarded funds to be dispersed to the five counties in North Carolina who have the biggest number of citizens from West African Countries currently affected by the Ebola virus. Guilford County Public Health Division Communicable Disease nurse staff monitors people who have come from the affected countries, either as visitors or returning home to North Carolina from visiting Liberia, Sierra Leone or Guinea. Monitoring is 21 days for each traveler and to date; Guilford County has conducted active monitoring of 30 people. Funds will enhance the monitoring and readiness program. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.
2. Approve proposed Environmental Health fees as outlined in attached fee schedule for water samples. The Public Health Division is seeking to increase water sample testing fees in order to cover the fees charged by the State Lab of Public Health. The State Lab of Public Health increased the fees that local health departments are charged for water sample kits in September 2014, some of which were substantial. This increase has effected every local health department in the State. If the fee schedule is not adjusted, the County would have to absorb approximately \$14,000.00 in increased costs. Public Health Division staff are requesting the increase to the lab fees only. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.
3. Approve increase to the FY 2014-15 Econ. Dev. and Assistance budget of \$238,680 for receipt of the "One NC Fund Grant" from the NC Dept. of Commerce. The funds will be disbursed to Honda Aircraft Company, LLC in the amount of \$238,680 per the terms of the One NC Fund Grant. NO COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

The Economic Dev. and Assist. Dept. budget to be amended as follows:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

General Fund

Increase Appropriation Economic Development and Assistance: \$238,680

Increase Federal and State: \$238,680

B. CONTRACTS

Removed from Consent Agenda

1. Approve the annual external audit contract for Guilford County in the amount of \$85,688 with the firm of Cherry Bekaert, L.L.P. for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. On January 13, 2011 the Audit Committee and Board of County Commissioners approved a

three year extension of the terms of the external audit contract with Cherry Bekaert, L.L.P. for the fiscal years 2011, 2012 and 2013 at a cost of \$84,000 each year and an additional two year option at the base amount plus the lessor of 1% or the consumer price index rate. The Audit Committee met on February 20, 2014 and approved exercising the two year option for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 and approved the contract for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$84,840. With a 12/31/14 CPI of 0.8%, the fiscal year 2015 amount is increased only 0.8% to \$85,519, still well below the FY2010 amount of \$89,250. Funds for the contract are included in the FY2015 budget. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED. (Reid Baker)

2. Approve purchase of EMC VNX 5400 Storage Area Network device from Varrow for the amount not to exceed \$210,000 which includes hardware, installation and 4 years of support and maintenance. This is approved by ITAC and included in the technology project budget for fiscal year 2015. Pricing and terms and conditions based on NC State contract 204J. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Accept and approve the Property Tax Rebate and Release Reports for the month ending March 31, 2015. Complete report maintained on file with the Clerk to Board.
2. Accept and approve the Tax Department's Beverage License and Tax Collection reports for the month ending March 31, 2015. Complete reports are maintained on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Removed from Consent Agenda

3. *Approve the following sets of County Commissioner's Meeting Minutes: (Robin Keller) 4/2/2015 - Work Session.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Kay Cashion, and seconded by Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster to approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: A. Branson, K. Cashion, J. Phillips, J. Conrad, H. Henning, R. Trapp, C. Foster, C. Coleman, A. Perdue
NOES: None

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

- B.1.** Approve the annual external audit contract for Guilford County in the amount of \$85,688 with the firm of Cherry Bekaert, L.L.P. for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. On January 13, 2011 the Audit Committee and Board of County Commissioners approved a three year extension of the terms of the external audit contract with Cherry Bekaert, L.L.P. for the fiscal years 2011, 2012 and 2013 at a cost of \$84,000 each year and an additional two year option at the base amount plus the lessor of 1% or the consumer price

index rate. The Audit Committee met on February 20, 2014 and approved exercising the two year option for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 and approved the contract for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$84,840. With a 12/31/14 CPI of 0.8%, the fiscal year 2015 amount is increased only 0.8% to \$85,519, still well below the FY2010 amount of \$89,250. Funds for the contract are included in the FY2015 budget. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

Commissioner Phillips noted an error in the contract amount listed on the agenda item cover and stated the correct cost is \$85,519.

Motion was made by J. Phillips and seconded by J. Conrad to approve the annual external audit contract for Guilford County in the amended amount of \$85,519 with the firm of Cherry Bekaert, L.L.P for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: A. Branson, K. Cashion, J. Phillips, J. Conrad, H. Henning, R. Trapp, C. Foster, C. Coleman, A. Perdue
NOES: None

C.3. Approve the following sets of County Commissioner's Meeting Minutes: 4/2/2015 - Work Session.

Commissioner Coleman expressed concerns regarding documented absence during the work session, stating she attended via simultaneous communication and minutes should reflect she was present.

Commissioner Coleman also requested the addition of language to the work session agenda minutes to clarify her concerns voiced during the meeting regarding lack of communication with Family Justice Center staff.

Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman, and seconded by Commissioner Kay Cashion to approve the following sets of County Commissioner's Meeting Minutes: 4/2/2015 - Work Session, with suggested amendments.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: A. Branson, K. Cashion, J. Phillips, J. Conrad, H. Henning, R. Trapp, C. Foster, C. Coleman, A. Perdue
NOES: None

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Proponents shall be heard first and shall be provided a total of 20 minutes notwithstanding the number of persons desiring to be heard. Opponents shall be heard after the proponents and shall be provided a total of 20 minutes notwithstanding the number of persons desiring to be heard. Each side will be allowed three (3) minutes in rebuttal.)

A. Hold a Public Hearing and consider Approval of the issuance and sale by Guilford

County, North Carolina (the "County") of its Urban Renewal Revenue Bond (Union Square Campus Project), Series 2015 (the "Bonds") in an amount not to exceed \$17,000,000, the proceeds of which will be landed to Union Square Campus, Inc., a North Carolina nonprofit corporation or an affiliated or related entity or related entity (the Square Campus, Inc. a North Carolina nonprofit corporation or an affiliated or related entity (the "borrower") to be used to (a) acquire, construct and equip a new, three-story, approximately 83,000 square foot facility to be known as Union Square Campus and used to provide health care training facilities (the "project") and (b) pay certain costs of issuance relating to the Bond. The Project will be located on an approximately one acre site at the corner of Arlington Street and Gate City Boulevard in Greensboro, Guilford County, North Carolina. The Project will be owned and operated by the Borrower. The Bonds, when and if used by the County shall not be a debt of the State of North Carolina (the "State") or the County or any political subdivision thereof and neither the State nor the County nor any political subdivision thereof shall be liable thereon, nor in any event shall such Bonds be payable out of any funds or properties other than those derived solely from payments made by the Borrower; and Upon Approval of Attached Resolution approving the issuance, Authorize staff to execute associated Inter-Local Agreement contingent upon approval of the LGC, and to take any other such measures as is deemed necessary to complete the issuance.

Mary Nash Rusher - Bond Attorney spoke to the item. Ms. Rusher spoke to the power to act as a Redevelopment Commission and advised to the statutory requirements. She noted that the county is being asked to serve as the issuer of the bonds so that the borrower can receive lower tax interest rates. She noted that because this is a private activity bond the approval is required after a public hearing. She noted that John Marrow with Union Square Campus is also available.

Chairman Henning opened the floor for proponents. No residents spoke in support of the item.

Chairman Henning opened the floor for opponents. No residents spoke in opposition.

Commissioner Trapp questioned the requirements of approval.

Ms. Rusher stated that the Board serves as the actual issuer of the bonds, but is not monetarily responsible for payments. She noted that as this is going through a private bank, the Board would serve as a pass through in order to qualify for a tax exempt loan.

Commissioner Phillips asked Ms. Rusher to discuss the impact, if any, to the citizens should the borrower default on the loans. Rusher emphasized that there is zero risk to the County or the citizens.

Commissioner Cashion questioned if the County will be placed at risk if the borrower defaults, as the County does contribute funds to the project through GTCC. County Attorney Mark Payne advised that contributions are on a separate funding track, which would result in no liability for the County if the borrower defaults.

Commissioner Foster questioned if there were any additional burden on staff. County Manager Marty Lawing noted that the closing documents would be the only additional work on staff.

Payne provided clarification on the motion, indicating it should include approving a resolution to issue and sell the bond, authorize staff to enter into an inter-local agreement and authorize staff to complete the closing process.

Motion was made by R. Trapp, and seconded by C. Foster to hold a public hearing and approve the issuance and sale of Urban Renewal Revenue Bond, series 2015, in an amount not to exceed \$17,000,000, the proceeds of which will be landed to Union Square Campus, Inc., a North Carolina nonprofit corporation; approve the associated resolution to issue and sell the bonds and further authorize staff to take all reasonable and necessary measures to complete the agreements and close the sale.

VOTE: **Motion carried 9 - 0**
AYES: **A. Branson, K. Cashion, J. Phillips, J. Conrad, H. Henning, R. Trapp, C. Foster, C. Coleman, A. Perdue**
NOES: **None**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Health and Human Services

Joe Raymond, Health and Human Services Director noted that moving forward they will have monthly updates reviewing the status of the consolidated department. Raymond stated that the department has begun the process of completing a thorough recommendation report by November 2015 and reviewed the four critical questions that staff will address on a strategic level to achieve the best consolidation results. Mr. Raymond described the planning process and recommended hiring a consultant to assist in the development of a final consolidation matrix.

Commissioner Trapp advised that the Board needs to take a more involved role in the process and work with DHHS staff to identify structure and goals for the department. He suggested creating a sub-committee to focus on these issues.

Raymond noted that he would like to meet with each of the commissioners beginning in May to discuss their ideas.

Chairman Henning suggested a sub-committee to focus on consolidation. Commissioners Trapp, Conrad, Foster and Phillips volunteered to participate on this committee.

Commissioner Foster commended DHHS-Public Health on being ranked 10th within the state. She inquired about the DHHS-Division of Social Services Child Daycare audit monitoring score of 97.5%.

Chairman Henning requested the Board make a final decision on sub-committee participants before proceeding forward in the meeting.

Commissioner Coleman stated the need for a work session to discuss consolidation goals. She also noted that she would like to receive an assessment referencing department needs and his goals. Coleman expressed concerns with hiring a consultant at this point in the process and encouraged the Board to consider a full work session with Mr. Raymond prior to hiring.

Raymond shared the benefits of a consultant to aid in the design of an integrated budget. He noted that his expertise will be helpful and stated that the County might benefit from additional assistance to have open meetings and to help facilitate the changes.

Commissioner Coleman again asked that we not overlook the need for a full Board work session.

Chairman Henning noted the requested.

Commissioner Phillips spoke to his support as to the direction we are heading. He thanked Mr. Raymond for establishing an overall structure and handling the immediate needs of the department. Commissioner Phillips spoke to the difficulties in recruiting qualified candidates for Environmental Health Positions.

Raymond shared that there are challenges with salary compression and the inability to hire talented individuals at a rate higher than those existing employees who have lower salary rates.

Scott Green, Environmental Health, reviewed recruitment efforts taken by the County. Green reviewed the state inspection requirements and asked the Board to open up the recruitment to allow for a qualified intern. He noted that this is a lengthy accreditation process and takes roughly one year.

Commissioner Conrad questioned the competitive salaries.

Green noted that the starting salary for an intern is \$39,900, which is \$2,000 less than the salary for a comparable position in an adjacent county.

Lawing reviewed the difficulty in bringing in new hire positions as result of the salary compression issues.

Commissioner Coleman questioned if these issues were addressed during the recently conducted salary study. She also questioned experience as a consideration prior to offering starting salary.

Lawing stated recruiting candidates with experience is a challenge, as they normally decline starting salary offers. Offering higher salaries often results in equity and morale issues with existing staff.

Commissioner Phillips questioned if the issue was a lack of availability in candidates, pay or both. Mr. Green noted that pay and quality of candidates both contribute to hiring issues.

Commissioner Phillips urged staff to quickly review the pay range for the position and to consider interns as candidates.

Commissioner Foster reiterated her request regarding DHHS-DSS Child Daycare state audit.

Elizabeth White, DHHS-DSS Economic Services Director, reviewed the status of child care monitoring.

Commissioner Foster questioned the status of Medicaid enrollment and recertification.

Ms. White reviewed upcoming deadlines and noted that staff are expected to meet Medicaid processing goals within the required timeframes. She also reviewed processing timeframes for Food & Nutrition Services, stating that staff are processing 97% of FNS applications and recertifications within required timeframes.

Commissioner Branson expressed concerns with inability to meet customer service and the backlog resulting from inability to fill the Environmental Health positions. He questioned if these shortages are causing backlog for development.

Mr. Green stated that the County is meeting the customer's needs and the backlog has decreased from four to two weeks.

Commissioner Conrad commended Mr. Green for his efforts in helping to maintain the backlogs and requested a follow-up conversation regarding compression.

Commissioner Trapp commented on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation update regarding DHHS-Public Health ranking and expressed concerns regarding the rankings of the department. He asked if the foundation provided recommendations to improve the department.

Mr. Raymond explained the social determinates used to rank the counties.

Merle Green, DHHS-Public Health Director, shared that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation does not provide specific recommendations on how to improve ranking. She shared that they are pleased to move up from 14th to 10th but that they continue to strive to be in the top three.

Mrs. Green thanked the Board for their assistance in re-accreditation and provided an update to the Board as to the communicable disease status in Guilford County. She spoke to influenza and its impact on our county and noted that the County did suffer from some flu-related deaths. Green stated that the influenza numbers are decreasing and reviewed Guilford County statistics.

Mrs. Green discussed GIS mapping technology and a related grant that will assist staff in identifying neighborhoods within the County where certain diseases are prevalent. She noted that this technology will allow the department to allocate staff and resources where the needs are greatest.

Green reviewed the concept of valuing Public Health within the community and identifying savings associated with prevention efforts. She reviewed specific savings associated with preventive services around teen pregnancy and in-home services.

Commissioner Trapp questioned when the GIS mapping would be available. Mrs. Green reported that this technology is currently available.

Commissioner Cashion thanked Mrs. Green for her update. She asked Mr. Raymond for his thoughts as toward consolidation and salary compression. Cashion asked for a solution to “cure the issue” related to recruitment and salary.

Raymond shared that Human Resources is aware of this issue and suggested funding a market-based pay plan.

Lawing reiterated Mr. Raymond's statement of funding the pay plans. He noted that it would be cost-prohibitive to address the problem overnight and that he will discuss some recommendations during future conversations with the Board.

Commissioner Phillips cautioned the Board against a broad approach when evaluating salary compression, but they should identify specific positions that are classified as “hard to fill”.

Commissioner Branson clarified that the Manager was scheduled to discuss these positions with the Board. He encouraged HR to work with staff to fill these positions quickly.

Lawing stated that he is working with HR to identify solutions that are equitable for existing staff.

Commissioner Coleman questioned Mrs. Green regarding the areas of the cities with greater medical needs. She noted that in the past the 27406 area had need for medical care, resulting in creation of the Evans Blount clinic, however noted that there has been some turn-over in physicians and questioned if the County would consider hiring permanent County staff to encourage patient relationships with their physician.

Mrs. Green noted that the current public-private partnership model was selected to save costs; the private partner provides the medical staff. She stated that they have had three partners at that location and explained the cost of bringing these positions in-house.

Commissioner Coleman opined that consistent medical coverage is part of the goal of good customer service.

Green stated that Public Health would research a County staffing model for the clinic.

Commissioner Coleman urged the Board consider evaluating the quality of services in the 27406 community during the budget season.

Commissioner Trapp echoed Commissioner Coleman's concerns. He noted that the clinic is not a free clinic, and for paying customers there is a need and a desire to have a stable medical provider.

B. New Business from County Commissioners

Chairman Henning discussed the need for budget work sessions. Budget work sessions scheduled for June 2 at 9:00AM, June 4 at 12:00PM and June 15 at 9:00AM.

IX. Appointments and Reappointments to Various Boards and Commissions

Motion was made by Commissioner Kay Cashion and seconded by Commissioner Ray Trapp to approve appointments and reappointments to various boards and commissions.

VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0
AYES: A. Branson, K. Cashion, J. Phillips, J. Conrad, H. Henning, R. Trapp, C. Foster, C. Coleman, A. Perdue
NOES: None

Parks and Recreation Commission

Marie Poteat (term expiring 4/2/2018)
Lawrence Straughn (term expiring 4/2/2018)
Mike Dupree (term expiring 4/2/2018)

Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee

Shauntee Fagun (term expiring 4/2/2016)

X. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Trapp shared his pleasure to attend the dedication of the Benbow Nature Preserve located across from Kindred Hospital. He thanked the sorors of Delta Sigma Theta for donating and maintaining the land, and thanked staff for their participation.

Commissioner Conrad expressed his concerns regarding Senate Bill 369 that addresses sales tax reallocation throughout NC counties. He stated that there are several studies as to how this will impact counties and Guilford County would lose over \$17,000,000 during a four year period should this Senate bill pass.

Commissioner Foster shared that she represented the County at Park View Elementary to recognize volunteers with Senior Resources of Guilford.

Commissioner Cashion shared her attendance at the State and Local Employees Retirement System meeting. She shared that the state is considering a Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increase to 1%, with the difference falling on the counties to pay. She also shared that she

attended the Cooperative Extension's Master Gardner's Volunteer programs event, and discussed how the volunteers are now working with schools to teach gardening and composting.

Commissioner Coleman shared that she also participated in the Benbow Preserve ribbon-cutting, stating it is the only inner-city preserve in the state of North Carolina. She expressed her pride in this endeavor and shared that patients of the hospital and members of the local community will be able to enjoy the preserve. She thanked Thomas Marshburn, Parks Division Director, and staff for their efforts.

Commissioner Phillips shared that he attended the Guilford Metro 911 Life Savers award ceremony. He shared that these individuals address approximately 2000 distress calls per day and commended the 911 operators, and staff, for their remarkable work.

Commissioner Perdue shared that he also attended the Guilford Metro 911 Life Savers awards ceremony. He thanked staff and Metro 911 for all they do to make a difference in the lives of our citizens and informed the Board that this is National Telecommunicator Week. Perdue asked remembrance of Robert "Bob" Livengood in his recent passing for his significant service to the community as a paramedic.

Commissioner Branson thanked the County Parks and Recreation committee and Open Space committees for their hard work during the dedication of the Benbow Preserve. He also thanked Commissioner Coleman for leading the development of the preserve.

XI. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER

Lawing provided the Sandhills Center Quarterly Financial Report to the Board for their review. Commissioner Cashion shared that she also attended the recent Sandhills Center Board meeting.

XII. ADJOURN NEXT REGULAR MEETING: MAY 7, 2015 FEBRUARY 5:30 PM COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM OLD COURTHOUSE GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

There being no further business the Board adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:05PM.

Chairman

Deputy Clerk