

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

Greensboro, North Carolina  
July 16, 2015

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on July 16, 2015 at 5:30PM, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Hank Henning, presiding; Vice Chairman Jeff Phillips; Commissioners Carolyn Q. Coleman, Alan Branson, Kay Cashion, Ray Trapp, J. Carlvena Foster (arrived at 6:00PM), Justin Conrad, and Alan Perdue.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Marty Lawing, County Manager; Mark Payne, County Attorney; Robin Keller, Clerk to the Board; Ariane Webb, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Ben Chavis, Tax Director; Merle Green, Public Health Director; Robert McNiece, Facilities, Parks, and Property Management Director; Jeff Fowler, Security Director; Joe Raymond, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director, Leslie Bell, Planning & Development Director; Reid Baker, Finance Director; Clarence Grier, Deputy County Manager; Bonnie Stellfox, Purchasing Director; Jim Albright, Emergency Services Director; Alex Smith, Budget Analyst; Ben Kittleson, Budget Analyst; and members of the media and community.

**I. INVOCATION**

Board Chaplin Ben Chavis, provided the invocation.

**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 5:39PM.

**IV. PRESENTATION**

A. [Proclaim July as National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month](#)

Commissioner Ray Trapp read the Proclamation declaring July as National Minority Mental Health Awareness month in Guilford County and recognized Tarnisha Donnell, representative of the Disabled Veteran's Auxiliary Chapter #20 of Guilford County, to accept the proclamation.

Trapp expressed his honor in reading the proclamation and noted the efforts to decrease the stigma attached with Mental Health in minority communities.

Ms. Donnell thanked the Board for their support in awareness of minority mental health concerns in our community. She spoke to concerns regarding post traumatic stress disorders (PTSD), mental health and substance abuse issues amongst minorities and veterans within Guilford County, and invited the board to volunteer and support the Auxiliary and their mission to assist veterans in our community.

Commissioner Cashion noted that Ms. Donnell is also a member of the Sandhills Center Mental Health Board, and thanked her for her service.

B. [Accept The National Association of Counties \("NACo"\) 2015 Achievement award for Public Health's "Going Mobile To Bring Much-Needed Produce to Low -Income Neighborhoods" program.](#)

County Manager, Marty Lawing, noted that Guilford County has four presentations recognizing its achievements on a national level.

Lawing recognized DHHS-Public Health Director, Merle Green, to accept the NACo Achievement Award in recognition of the department's successful Mobile Oasis Farmers Market program.

Ms. Green thanked the County Manager for his support and submitting the program to NACo as a candidate for the award. She spoke to the innovation of the program and the successful collaboration between Public Health and Social Services in combining the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) with health and wellness programs.

C. [Accept the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Guilford County Budget, Management and Evaluation Department from the Government Finance Officers Association, in recognition of meeting highest principles of governmental budgeting.](#)

Lawing reviewed the honor of receiving the Distinguished Budget Award for the year ending 2014 Budget.

Budget analysts, Alex Smith and Ben Kittleson, received the award on behalf of the Budget Department.

Mr. Smith thanked the Board for their efforts and support, and noted that the quality of the budget is representative of the quality of fiscal planning and collaboration with County departments and the Board.

D. [Accept Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Guilford County Finance Department from the Government Finance Officers Association, in recognition for its comprehensive annual financial report\(CAFR\).](#)

Lawing introduced the Certification of Achievement for the Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year ending June 2014 and noted it is the highest award in governmental accounting.

Reid Baker, Finance Director, accepted the award on behalf of the Finance Department. Baker noted that it the 34th consecutive year for receiving the award. He expressed appreciation to the Finance staff and County departments in their efforts to provide critical data for the report. Baker thanked the Board for the continued support.

E. [Accept Certificate of Accreditation for Guilford County Emergency Services from the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services.](#)

Lawing introduced the Ambulance Services accreditation for Guilford County Emergency Services. He noted that less than one percent of Ambulance Services receive this award nationwide and stated only three other agencies in North Carolina received the accreditation.

Jim Albright, Emergency Services Director, thanked his staff for their incredible work and efforts. He noted that the accreditation is a reflection of the entire organization.

**V. [SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR](#)**

Andy Stevens, of Greensboro, spoke to the recent redistricting of the City of Greensboro and the associated law suit filed against the Elections department and expressed his concerns regarding the County's legal position on the matter.

**VI. [CONSENT AGENDA](#)**

Chairman Henning asked if any Commissioner wished to pull an item from the agenda. Commissioner Coleman pulled item B.4.

**A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

1. Approve receipt of the 2015 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Grant funds in the amount of \$117,350; and Approve Associated Budget Amendment Increase to the FY 2016 Law Enforcement budget by \$117,350 to reflect the appropriation of the 2015 HIDTA Grant. These grant funds will be used for overtime, training, travel, communications for the taskforce (phones/GPS), and technical investigative equipment. All HIDTA Grant funds are for the sole purpose of reducing drug trafficking and

production in North Carolina. NO LOCAL MATCH IS REQUIRED. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

B. CONTRACTS

1. Approve purchase of replacement radios for Transportation off of state contract #NC State NON ARIBA -725G and increase transportation FY 16 budget be \$95,677; 27 radios at the cost of \$3483.00 each (see attachment).
2. Approve (Price Only) contract, in substantial form, with Falcon Children's Home and Family Services for Maternity Residential and foster care room and board services, by and through the Health and Human Services Department (Social Services Division). Contract amount is \$200,000.00. The contract period will begin on July 1, 2015 and end on June 30, 2016. FUNDS COMMENSURATE WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE FY2015/2016 BUDGET.
3. Approve contract with One Step Further to provide instructional classes to defendants referred from Guilford County Courts. The contract amount is \$100,000. The contract period will begin on July 1, 2015 and end on June 30, 2016. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

Removed from the Consent Agenda

4. *Approve the contract between Guilford County and L & M, Inc (Precision) to provide golf lessons, tennis lessons and day camps at Bur-Mil Park. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUESTED*
5. Approve inter-local Lease Agreement, in substantial form as attached hereto, with the City of Greensboro for the purpose of operating Sternberger Public Park and for open space uses. This Lease shall commence on the July 1, 2015, and shall continue for an initial period of one (1) year and shall have the option for three (3) additional one (1) year renewals by the Parties entering into Contract Amendment(s). NO COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Approve the refund of \$480.00 to Steve Foskett, Esq. for payment of tax stamps per NCGS §105-228.37
2. Accept and approve the Property Tax Rebate and Release Reports for the month ending June 30, 2015. Complete report maintained on file with the Clerk to the Board
3. Accept and approve the Tax Department's Beverage License and Tax Collection reports for the month ending June 30, 2015. Complete reports are maintained on file with the Clerk to the Board.
4. Accept and approve the fiscal year 2014-2015 Tax Collector's Settlement Report.

5. Adopt an order directing the Guilford County Tax Collector to collect fiscal year 2015-2016 taxes to be charged in the tax records and receipts.
6. Public Health seeks approval for Water Quality Unit to offer the remaining new position to a trainee/intern. The Board of County Commissioners approved two new positions for the Water Quality Unit (WQU) in Environmental Health. The stipulation was that we hire two authorized employees. After 60+ days of not receiving a qualified applicant, the commissioners allowed the WQU to hire one trainee/intern. The Water Quality staff recently conducted eight interviews for the trainee/intern position. The interviews identified several suitable candidates for the trainee/intern position, and Human Resources is currently working on an offer for one of the applicants. Since we have still not received any qualified (Authorized) applicants, we are requesting permission from the Board of County Commissioners to fill the remaining position with a trainee/intern.
7. Receive Budget Amendment report for budget amendments that have been processed under the authority granted to the County Manager in the FY 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance.
8. Appoint Michael T. Kirkman, Sheila Stains-Ramp and Lucas G. Carter, as Review Officers for maps and plats within the corporate limits of Greensboro, North Carolina pursuant to G.S. 47-30.2 and approve corresponding Resolution.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** pursuant to NCGS 47-30.2, effective July 16, 2015, that the Guilford County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints the following persons to be Review Officers for the purposes set forth in NCGS 47-30.2 and other applicable law:

Michael T. Kirkman, for maps and plats within the corporate limits of Greensboro;

Sheila Stains-Ramp, for maps and plats within the corporate limits of Greensboro;

Lucas G. Carter, for maps and plats within the corporate limits of Greensboro.

Pursuant to said statute, this Resolution shall be recorded in the Guilford County Registry and indexed on the grantor index in the name of each review officer

**ADOPTED THIS DATE, JULY 16, 2015.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Ray Trapp, and seconded Commissioner Justin Conrad to approve the consent agenda.**

**VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0**

**AYES: A. Branson, A. Perdue, C. Coleman, C. Foster, H. Henning, J. Conrad, J. Phillips, K. Cashion, R. Trapp**

**NOES: None**

## **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION**

- B.4. Approve the contract between Guilford County and L & M, Inc (Precision) to provide golf lessons, tennis lessons and day camps at Bur-Mil Park. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUESTED

Commissioner Coleman questioned if the fees paid by participants will cover the costs of lessons and day camps, and if there is a cost to the County.

Robert McNiece, Facilities, Parks & Property Management Director, explained that all costs for services are covered by the fees and the County will receive a percentage of the revenue for the camps to allow them to provide the services. He noted that the anticipated amount of revenue for FY2015-2016 is \$34,000.

Coleman questioned if the contract was placed out for bid.

McNiece stated it was a service contract and not required to go out for bid.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman, and seconded by Commissioner Alan Branson to approve the contract between Guilford County and L & M, Inc (Precision) to provide golf lessons, tennis lessons and day camps at Bur-Mil Park.**

**VOTE: Motion carried 9 - 0**

**AYES: A. Branson, A. Perdue, C. Coleman, C. Foster, H. Henning, J. Conrad, J. Phillips, K. Cashion, R. Trapp**

**NOES: None**

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Approve UNCG contract, in substantial form, to provide case management staff to the Specialty Courts. Contract amount is \$410,706.00. The contract period will begin on July 1, 2015 and end June 30, 2016, with the option to renew for 1 year. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS.**

Angela Liverman, Child Support Enforcement Director, introduced the contract.

Chairman Henning questioned the need to approve the contract as a whole, or the option to approve for an abbreviated period of time until final decisions were made regarding the program.

Superior Court Judge Susan Burch clarified that UNCG administers the contract; however, that this is a County program with no State funds.

Commission Cashion asked if there was any fee paid to UNCG for administration of the program.

Burch noted there is no administration fee. She stated that the Therapy courts have been in place since 2001. The State Administrative Offices of the Courts ended their administration of the program, and the County chose UNCG to administer the program to maintain continuity of services.

Vice Chairman Phillips reviewed the agenda item, and asked for clarity on the daily operations of the program.

Liverman reviewed the referral process, eligibility requirements, along with the monitoring and screening pieces of the program.

Burch expanded on the functionality of the Therapy Courts program. Burch noted that although there are three types of therapy, six programs are offered between High Point and Greensboro. She stated that the numbers and the models used are based on national best practices.

Phillips questioned if seven case managers and 2 coordinators were required to monitor 210 participants.

Burch stated that it would not allow the case managers to manage the volume of cases and coordinate community resources for each client. Burch noted that she has sufficient interest to increase the capacity, but does not have the staffing resources to cover the added volume. Burch stated that it would not be possible to consolidate the programs.

Phillips questioned if one coordinator could manage the program.

Burch noted this would violate national best practices. She stated all staff are cross-trained; however, she cautioned that increasing capacity would decrease the quality of services and that it is not possible to consolidate the Greensboro and High Point programs.

Commissioner Coleman questioned the options to change the terms of the contract.

Chairman Henning spoke to the options for partial approval until a full review of the contract was completed.

Marty Lawing, County Manager, noted that this is an opportunity for the County to review all contracts related to Therapy Courts, Jail Population Reduction and Pre-trial services, in conjunction with expansion of the Electronic Monitoring program.

Henning recommended a work session to review all programs thoroughly and holistically.

Coleman expressed concerns with the timing of the review of the contract.

Lawing agreed with her concerns and noted that the review of these programs coincided with the transition of a new Director into the Child Support department, and her evaluation of all related contracts.

Coleman stated that the Board has not been provided with information regarding the review of these contracts and programs and noted that the timing gives staff insufficient time to prepare for changes in service.

Henning echoed Coleman's concerns and discussed the decision to review Therapy Court contracts.

Commissioner Trapp spoke to the benefits of the Mental Health and Drug Therapy Courts. He noted the national trend to begin programs similar to those existing in Guilford County. He emphasized that Guilford County is a leader in this area.

Commissioner Cashion spoke in support of the specialty courts and discussed the lives saved, as well as, the funding saved as a result of assisting one person. She expressed her appreciation to the team of Superior Court judges who participate in Therapy Courts.

Phillips spoke in support of the program however, noted the need to perform due diligence to create efficiencies that will impact more lives in a positive manner. He asked the County Manager if County staff within the Court Services department could administer the program. Phillips requested a work session to review all contracts and programs related to jail population reduction.

Commissioner Branson spoke to the benefits of the program and noted the data received. He expressed concerns with the county funding the program in its entirety, and questioned if the Board could hear more information on funding, participation and staffing for the Therapy Courts.

Burch welcomed the opportunity to review the programs with the Board. She stated that the Guilford County Court programs are the best run programs in the state. Burch briefly reviewed the outcome statistics with the Board. She noted that Court Services staff currently do not have the training or certifications required to effectively run the program.

Henning encouraged the Board to hold a work discussion with the judges and staff to conduct a more detailed discussion on the topic.

Trapp recommended the Board visit a specialty court.

Cashion spoke to the efforts of the courts and her comfort with approving the contract as presented.

Commissioner Perdue spoke to the benefits of the program but encouraged ongoing program assessment and evaluation.

Commissioner Foster thanked the judges and staff for their efforts in the program and noted the difference she has seen with juveniles who have participated in the specialty court programs.

The Board discussed their interest in a work session.

The Board, by General consensus, scheduled a work session for August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 3:00PM.



Judge Burch reiterated the invitation to attend Specialty Court sessions that are being held in High Point.

County Attorney Mark Payne noted that staff can forward the court schedules to the Board members.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kay Cashion, and seconded by Commissioner Ray Trapp to approve UNCG contract, in substantial form, to provide case management staff to the Specialty Courts.

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

B. Approve the application for the release of \$4,799,500 from the PSBCF - NC Education Lottery to be used for FY 2015-16 school bond referenda debt service in accordance with the County's FY 2015-16 adopted budget. Joint approval by the Board of Education is required for funds to be released by the State. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS REQUIRED.

Reid Baker, Finance Director, introduced the item.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Jeff Phillips, and seconded by Commissioner Alan Branson to approve the application for the release of \$4,799,500 from the PSBCF - NC Education Lottery to be used for FY 2015-16 school bond referenda debt service in accordance with the County's FY 2015-16 adopted budget.

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

C. Designate Voting Delegate to NCACC Annual Conference, August 20-23, Pitt County.

Commissioner Trapp nominated Commissioner Cashion as the voting delegate to the NCACC Annual Conference.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kay Cashion, and seconded by Vice Chairman Jeff Phillips to designate Commissioner Kay Cashion as Voting Delegate to NCACC Annual Conference, August 20-23, Pitt County.

**VOTE:** Motion carried 9 - 0  
**AYES:** A. Branson, A. Perdue, C. Coleman, C. Foster, H. Henning, J. Conrad, J. Phillips, K. Cashion, R. Trapp

**NOES:               None**

Commissioner Trapp noted that the first day of the NCACC conference starts on the day of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. He asked if the meeting could be rescheduled to Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Board discussed availability and options to reschedule the August 20<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

Clerk to the Board Robin Keller discussed the option of scheduling two regular meetings in September or only having one regular meeting in August and one regular meeting in September.

By General Consensus, the Board cancelled the August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 regular meeting.

## **VIII.    HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **A.       Receive Health and Human Services update for the months of June/July. (Joe Raymond)**

Joe Raymond, DHHS Director, noted that the Board's DHHS Advisory subcommittee is prepared with a draft of several recommendations surrounding consolidation ready for review during the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. He discussed the role of the Human Services Sub-Committee and that several other counties in the Option 3 Model have had similar discussions on the role of the advisory committee.

Commissioner Conrad noted that any budgetary issues would remain the responsibility of the Board.

Commissioner Branson noted that direction of the department is moving forward, despite public perception.

Raymond stated that the Option 3 model is ready and DHHS staff are willing to perform as designed.

Branson questioned why advisory committee meetings have been cancelled.

Raymond stated that he did not recommend cancellation of the meetings, and deferred to Commissioner Trapp to explain the reasons for cancelling.

Conrad responded that the structure of the DHHS Advisory Committee will be very similar to those of the Public Health and Social Services Boards prior to consolidation.

Commissioner Trapp explained that the meetings were canceled as there was no clarity on the role or structure of the advisory committee. As a result, the Board created a sub-committee to define those roles.

DHHS-Public Health Director, Merle Green, reviewed current updates and noted the need to continuously assess staff resources for each of the health divisions. She noted that they did not

expand any new programs this fiscal year, but will potentially expand certain services as a result of partnerships with local hospitals.

DHHS-Social Services Director, Heather Skeens, provided an update on Medicaid recertifications and discussed the movement towards same-day processing for expedited Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) walk-in applicants. She informed the board that the DSS Program Integrity unit had collected over \$450,000 claims during FY2014-2015, the highest amount since 2010.

Chairman Henning expressed his interest in quarterly meetings as the department continued its transition into consolidation.

Trapp spoke in favor of the quarterly meetings.

Raymond stated that the staff would be prepared to provide an overview of the divisions; however it would require a two to three hour time commitment, due to the volume of programs within the department.

Vice Chairman Phillips questioned if these meetings should occur more frequently than quarterly.

Lawing reminded the Board of the DHHS requirement to report on its strategic plan, goals and benchmarks by September 2015.

By general consensus, the Board scheduled a work session to discuss DHHS goals and the role of the advisory committee on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 2:00PM-5:00PM.

Phillips thanked Mr. Raymond, Ms. Skeens and Ms. Green on their efforts in reducing the backlog of Medicaid and FNS applications.

## **IX. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Branson expressed condolences to the victims and survivors of the day's shooting attack at a military recruiting center in Chattanooga, TN.

Commissioner Cashion provided an update on the NACo convention. She reviewed the activities of the Juvenile Justice Steering committee, which she chairs, and praised Family Justice Center (FJC) Director, Catherine Johnson's, presentation on Guilford County's FJC. Cashion discussed the issues surrounding shackling juveniles. She noted that although she has completed her six year term on the NACo national board, she was appointed to serve as an at-large member for the upcoming year.

Commissioner Foster shared that she attended her first NACo convention and expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to discuss local issues with other commissioners across the country. She also shared that she recently attended the EcoLab ground-breaking.

Commissioner Trapp echoed his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the NACo convention and discussed the need for larger counties to play an active role in these organizations and serve

as a voice for their communities. He spoke to new programs that he discovered during the conference and his interest in developing these within our community.

Commissioner Cashion agreed with Trapp's comments regarding county representation at the NACo and state conventions.

**X. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER**

Lawing noted that the NC State Agricultural Cooperative Extension had chosen Karen Neill as the permanent director for Guilford County.

**XI. HOLD CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSIDERING A BUSINESS LOCATION OR EXPANSION AND TO CONSULT WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY.**

By general consensus the Board approved to hold a closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S §143-318.11 for the purposes of considering a business location or expansion and to consult with the County Attorney.

The meeting went into recess at 7:34PM. The meeting was reconvened at 10:35PM. Commissioner Coleman was absent.

Chairman Henning presented a Resolution authorizing the advertisement of an offer to purchase County surplus property.

**WHEREAS**, the Guilford County Board of Commissioners desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the County.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Guilford County Board of Commissioners that:

1. The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the County:  

1.4 acres located on the north side of 201 N. Eugene Street (Parcel # 0001799) to be more precisely defined by survey.
2. Guilford County has received an offer to purchase the property described above; and
3. Guilford County proposes to consider acceptance of the offer unless a qualifying upset bid shall be made; and
4. County staff is authorized to enter further negotiations regarding the specific terms and conditions of the offer; and

5. Upon finalization of the offer terms, The Clerk to Board shall cause a notice of such to be published in accordance with G.S. 160A-269; and

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Jeff Phillips, and seconded by Commissioner Alan Perdue to approve a Resolution authorizing the advertisement of an offer to purchase certain property.

**VOTE: Motion carried 7 - 1**  
**AYES: A. Branson, A. Perdue, H. Henning, J. Conrad, J. Phillips, K. Cashion, R. Trapp**  
**NOES: C. Foster**

Motion was made by Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster, and seconded by Commissioner Kay Cashion to schedule a public hearing on an economic and educational grant during the August 6, 2015 regular meeting of the Guilford County Board of Commissioners.

**VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0**  
**AYES: A. Branson, A. Perdue, C. Foster, H. Henning, J. Conrad, J. Phillips, K. Cashion, R. Trapp**  
**NOES: None**

**XII. ADJOURN - NEXT REGULAR MEETING: AUGUST 6, 2015**  
**COMMISSIONERS; MEETING ROOM, OLD COURTHOUSE, GREENSBORO,**  
**NORTH CAROLINA**

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:38PM.

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Chairman

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Clerk