

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

Greensboro, North Carolina
May 18, 2017

The Board of County Commissioners met in a duly noticed regular meeting on May 18, 2017 at 5:30PM, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 301 W. Market St., Greensboro; North Carolina.

PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Phillips, presiding; Vice Chairman Alan Branson, Commissioners Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, and Melvin "Skip" Alston

ABSENT: Commissioner Carolyn Q. Coleman

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Marty Lawing; County Attorney Mark Payne; Deputy County Manager Clarence Grier; Robin Keller, Clerk to Board; Scott Baillargeon; Budget; Michael Halford; Risk Management Director, Yvonne Moebs; Environmental Health Division, Ken Carter and David Foust; John O Harper Senior Center, Heidi McBride; Roy B. Culler Senior Center, Christie Hyman Shine; Senior Resources of Guilford, Ashlyn Martin; Mary Lou Blakeney.

I. INVOCATION

Chairman Jeff Phillips offered the invocation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Phillips led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:34PM

IV. SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Bobby Baskins, Pleasant Garden resident, spoke in support of Guilford County Project One. He stated that the program's goal was to improve the number of school health nurses; one nurse per 750 students.

Jillian Angel, Greensboro resident spoke in support of Project One. She shared that there were only 33 nurses serving 125 schools in Guilford County.

Ryan Blackledge, Government Affairs Director for Cone Health spoke in support of improving school health nurses in the community.

Mary Lou Blankley of High Point spoke in support of Older Americans Month. She expressed concerns regarding the proposed legislative cuts that would impact senior citizens, and encouraged the Board to continue advocacy on behalf of the County's aging population.

Deb Green, Guilford County Schools, teacher spoke in support of arts and culture programs in the county school systems. Green stated that she disapproved of any cut of said programs, and expressed her displeasure with the Board regarding its alleged role in them.

Commissioner Conrad thanked the speaker for her passion and addressed the email sent to parents and teachers regarding alleged cuts. He explained that the Board had not discussed cutting school programs, and does not have responsibility to fund programs; rather the County funds capital costs.

Commissioner Henning thanked the speakers and emphasized the email's author. He echoed Commissioner Conrad's comments and noted that no commissioner has had any discussions regarding the school budget either among themselves or with the School Board. Henning expressed frustration for the misleading communication.

Chairman Phillips closed the speakers from the floor portion of the meeting at 5:50PM

Chairman Phillips called attention to the Addendum in the agenda. There were no objections to the addendum and it was approved by general consensus of the Board.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. 2017-145 PROCLAIM MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Legislation Text

Vice Chair Alan Branson read the proclamation, and welcomed from John O. Harper Senior Center, Heidi McBride, Roy B. Culler Senior Center, Christie Hyman Shine, and Senior Resources of Guilford, Ashlyn Martin.

Christie Hyman Shine is an employee of the Roy B. Culler Jr. Senior Center in High Point, North Carolina. She invited commissioners to come and visit their senior center.

Mary Lou Blankley thanked the board for recognition of senior citizens.

Michael Halford, Budget Director introduced the Guilford County the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Fellows.

Commissioner Cashion shared her experiences hosting the Fellows and their attendance of the North Carolina County Assembly Day.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Phillips offered the Commissioners an opportunity to pull any consent agenda items for separate consideration. No items were pulled.

Motion was made by Alan Perdue, and seconded by Melvin "Skip" Alston to ADOPT VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Carolyn Coleman

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. 2017-139 DHHS - DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS

Increase Federal/State Revenues by \$1,000,000 and increase Health and Human Services - Social Services FY 2016-17 budget by \$1,000,000 to reflect actual Federal/State funds awarded for FY 2017.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Copy of Copy of April 2017 Funding Authorization](#)

B. CONTRACTS

1. 2017-125 LEASE AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF JAMESTOWN

Approve lease agreement, in substantial form, with the Town of Jamestown in the amount of \$3,600 to be effective July 1, 2017 for a term of 1 year with the option for one year renewals.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Town of Jamestown EMS contract revised 4-13-17.pdf](#)

2. 2017-126 APPROVE CONTRACTS FOR GUILFORD COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL SERVICES IN THE TOWNS

Approve standardized Fire Marshal Contract, in substantial form, with Town of Summerfield, Town of Oak Ridge, Town of Stokesdale, Town of Gibsonville, Town of Whitsett, Town of Sedalia, Town of Jamestown, and the Town of Pleasant Garden to be effective July 1, 2017 for a term of 1 year, and subject to annual renewals.

[Legislation Text](#)

[GIBSONVILLE TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract.pdf](#)

[JAMESTOWN TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract - 7-1-2017.pdf](#)

[OAK RIDGE TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract.pdf](#)

[PLEASANT GARDEN TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract - 7-1-2017.pdf](#)

[SEDALIA TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract - 7-1-2017.pdf](#)

[STOKESDALE TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract - 7-1-2017.pdf](#)

[SUMMERFIELD TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract - 1-1-2017.pdf](#)

[WHITSETT TOWN OF - FIRE MARSHAL Contract - 7-1-2017.pdf](#)

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. 2017-137 TAX COLLECTION AND BEVERAGE LICENSE REPORTS FOR MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2017

Accept and approve the tax collection and beverage licensing reports for month ending April 30, 2017.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Bev 04-30-17 Detail](#)

[401-C All Guilford 04-30-17](#)

2. 2017-138 PROPERTY TAX REBATES AND RELEASES FOR MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2017

Accept and approve property tax rebates and releases for the month ending April 30, 2017.

[Legislation Text](#)

[April 2017 NCVTS Rebates & Releases](#)

[April 2017 Rebates and Releases](#)

3. 2017-140 BUDGET AMENDMENT REPORT FOR BUDGET AMENDMENTS PROCESSED UNDER THE AUTHORITY GRANTED TO THE COUNTY MANAGER IN THE FY 2016-17 BUDGET ORDINANCE

Receive Budget Amendment report for budget amendments processed under the authority granted to the County Manager in the FY 2016-17 Budget Ordinance.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Budget Amends Report 2017-05-18.pdf](#)

4. 2017-144 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the following sets of Minutes:

04/20/17 FJC Sub-Committee Meeting

04/20/17 Regular Meeting

05/05/17 FJC Sub-Committee Meeting

[Legislation Text](#)

[comFJC04.20.17.pdf](#)

[dm042017.docx](#)

[comFJC05.05..17.pdf](#)

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. 2017-141 PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 5, ANIMALS, OF THE GUILFORD COUNTY ORDINANCES

Hold public hearing for the purpose of considering and adopting proposed amendments to chapter 5, animals, of the Guilford county ordinances. The proposed amendments under consideration address the recommendation of revising the fee schedule to include a fee incentive for spayed/neutered pets cited for running-at-large and public nuisance and establish the fees in a separate fee schedule outside of the animal ordinance.

[Legislation Text](#)

[Chapter_5__ANIMALS - Redline of Existing Ordinance.docx](#)

[Proposed Fee Schedule - Appendix.docx](#)

Drew Brinkley, Animal Services Director, introduced the proposed amendments. Brinkley shared that the amendments were recommended by the Guilford County Animal Services Advisory

Board. He reviewed the two amendment proposals, and spoke to the changes in fees for animals captured due to running at large, providing a benefit for those who sterilize their animals prior to taking home.

Chairman Phillips opened the floor to the Public Hearing for proponents.

Libby Scandal, Greensboro resident spoke in support of the proposed amendments. She shared that the overall goal is to increase spay and neuter programs to reduce the homeless animal population.

Linda Stanton, Whitsitt resident and member of the Animal Advisory Board, shared her support of the changes to help incentivize spay neuter in Guilford County.

There being no further proponents, Chairman Phillips opened the floor for opponents.

There being no opponents, Chairman Phillips closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Conrad spoke to the motion to adopt the proposed changes, and noted several other entities that serve in the county's efforts to spay/neuter pets, and further indicated the County's continuous efforts to reduce animal over-population.

Chairman Phillips thanked the work of the Animal Advisory Board and staff for their work

Motion was made by Melvin "Skip" Alston, and seconded by Justin Conrad to adopt the proposed amendments to chapter 5, animals, of the Guilford county ordinances. Addressing the recommendation to revise the fee schedule to include a fee incentive for spayed/neutered pets cited for running-at-large and public nuisance and establish the fees in a separate fee schedule outside of the animal ordinance.

VOTE:	Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES:	Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J.Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Carolyn Q. Coleman

B. 2017-142 HOLD PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER REPEAL OF BOARD OF HEALTH REMOTE SEPTIC WASTE WATER RULES

Approve rescind the Guilford County Waste Water rules regarding Remote Septic Waste Water Rules effective September 1, 2017.

[Legislation Text](#)

[BOH Waste Water Rules.pdf](#)

Ken Carter and David Foust with Environmental Health introduced the item.

Carter shared that staff were asking the Board to rescind the local Board of Health Wastewater rules effective September 1, 2017. Carter noted that since the creation of local rules of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) had passed legislation and now regulated wastewater and off site septic systems therefore the County regulation was moot.

Chairman Phillips opened the floor to public hearing of proponents.

Marlene Sanford, president of Trebic, spoke in support to rescind the ordinance, but voiced favor of the state ordinance. She noted that the State used the Guilford County local ordinance as best practices and the State as result has adopted state wide legislation.

There being no other proponents, Chairman Phillips closed the public hearing of proponents, and opened the floor to opponents. There being none the public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Kay Cashion, and seconded by J. Carlvena Foster to adopt Approve rescind the Guilford County Waste Water rules regarding Remote Septic Waste Water Rules effective September 1, 2017.

VOTE:	Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES:	Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Carolyn Q. Coleman

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2017-146 GUILFORD COUNTY CITY INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXCESS LIABILITY FUNDS

Authorize County to withdraw, effective 07/01/2017, from participation with Guilford City County Insurance Advisory Committee, Excess Liability Fund and Property Deductible Fund

[Legislation Text](#)

[Excess Liability Fund Fiscal Year 2016.pdf](#)

[GC Property Insurance Deducible Fund.pdf](#)

[Investment Maturity Schedule.pdf](#)

County Manager Marty Lawing introduced the item, and reviewed the history of the fund and its purpose. He noted that the program design had outlived its utility and purpose. He reviewed the

program's creation and he initial parties. He illustrated how the County could invest the funds and secure insurance policies to be used to save the fees contributed each year. And, stated that it was in the best interest of the County to withdraw from the committee.

Commissioner Cashion asked if the Board would disband the committee, and whether or not the Guilford Advisory Committee would continue to remain in place.

Lawing clarified that the committee would remain intact but the County would simply withdraw and no longer appoint representatives to the committee. Lawing reviewed how the County's funds were being invested.

Commissioner Alston inquired about the overall net savings to the County.

Lawing stated that the fees and contributions were around \$72K, for administration costs.

Commissioner Alston questioned investment alternatives; and the annual source fees.

Commissioner Foster asked for clarification of whether or not the committee would withdraw if the County withdrew.

Yvonne Moebs, Risk Management Director stated that the County had not contributed to the fund in several years.

Commissioner Alston asked if the County was considering to add additional funds and increase insurance.

Moebs stated that they were looking into securing additional insurance.

Chairman Phillips asked for staff to follow up with the amounts of the maturity dates.

Motion was made by Alan Perdue, and seconded by Alan Branson to adopt Authorize County to withdraw, effective 07/01/2017, from participation with Guilford City County Insurance Advisory Committee, Excess Liability Fund and Property Deductible Fund.

VOTE:	Motion carried 8 – 0
AYES:	Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Carolyn Q. Coleman

B. 2017-151 TOM & T. COOPER JAMES GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

Approve Memorandum of Understanding, in substantial form, between Tom. & T. Cooper James and Guilford County to implement Government Employment Improvement Awards Program.

[Legislation Text](#)

[MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING T. COOPER JAMES ASSOCIATES INC..docx](#)

[Tom and T. Cooper James Government Improvement Awards 5917.docx](#)

County Manager Lawing introduced the item, and shared that the County was approached by the Tom and T. Cooper Associates who offered to fund an awards program for County employees who contributed innovative ideas and exhibited good work. Lawing provided an overview of the program rules.

Chairman Phillips thanked the James family for providing this opportunity.

Commissioner Alston asked for more information about the donors.

Tom James spoke to the Board as longtime members of the Guilford County Community. He emphasized the efforts of County employees and the role they continue to play to make Guilford County a great place to live.

Commissioner Alston asked if staff had completed their due diligence on the program.

Staff confirmed that the program had been thoroughly vetted.

The Board shared their thanks to the James family.

Motion was made by Melvin "Skip" Alston, and seconded by Hank Henning to adopt Approve Memorandum of Understanding, in substantial form, between Tom. & T. Cooper James and Guilford County to implement Government Employment Improvement Awards Program.

VOTE:	Motion carried 8 – 0
AYES:	Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J.Carlvana Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Carolyn Q. Coleman

C. 2017-153 RECEIVE MWBE PROGRAM UPDATE

Receive update from staff regarding County's MWBE procurement program.

[Legislation Text](#)

IX. APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

A. 2017-154 APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS GUILFORD COUNTY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Approve the recommended appointments and reappointments to the listed Guilford County Boards & Commissions.

[Legislation Text](#)

[ANIMAL BOARD PACKET.pdf](#)

Ann Cantrell was appointed to the Guilford County Animal Services Board effective May 18, 2017 and expires on May 18, 2019.

Brenda Overman was appointed as the Rescue Liaison on the Animal Services Board

Appointed Commissioner Melvin "Skip" Alston as the Board of County Commissioners Liaison to the Greensboro MPO

Motion was made by Justin Conrad, and seconded by Kay Cashion to adopt Approve the recommended appointments and reappointments to the listed Guilford County Boards & Commissions.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0
AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston
NOES: None
ABSENT: Carolyn Q. Coleman

X. HEAR COUNTY MANAGER'S BUDGET PRESENTATION

A. 2017-143 COUNTY MANAGER'S BUDGET MESSAGE

Hear Managers Budget Message, to be filed with the Clerk to Board for public inspection; and set a Public Hearing on the County Manager's Recommended Budget and proposed economic development incentive grants for June 1, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Commissioners' Chambers, located at the Old Guilford County Courthouse, 301 W. Market Street in Greensboro.

[Legislation Text](#)

County Manager Marty Lawing provided an overview of the recommended budget for fiscal year 2017-18 year. He spoke to several economic factors that impacted the budget, and emphasized that unemployment was down 5.1% from 5.7% in February 2016, which was close to the North Carolina State rate and lags the national rate of 4.7%. He stated that when people have more

disposable income, taxable retail sales increase locally to increase sales tax revenue. Fiscal taxable sales in Guilford County were \$4.77 billion in March 2017 compared to \$4.37 billion last year.

Lawing spoke to the County's permanent population growth that reflected an approximate 6.7% over \$521,000 since 2010. He stressed the growing increase of the County's Medicaid eligible population which places higher demands on the County's Human Services. And, due to these effects, required focus on high priority area groups such as: Healthy People, Public Safety, Economic Development, Education, Recreation & Culture, and Infrastructure. He stated further the goal of the high priority area groups was to provide efficient, effective, responsive government that meets the public's needs while maintaining a high performance workforce that provides exceptional services that support a high quality of life and sustainable economic growth.

Lawing recommended a general County tax of 73.05 cents per \$100 of assessed evaluation, where the rate is equal to the revenue-neutral tax rate calculated according to the state's statutory formula. And emphasized that the total revenues and appropriated fund balances were expected to increase by \$6.2 million in the next year where about 60% of the total General Fund revenues would come from property taxes; sales taxes would account for 14%; and revenues from the Federal and State government would generate 14% and 12% respectively. Taken together these three area groups would account for nine of every ten dollars of budgeted revenue in fiscal year 2017-18.

Lawing provided an overview of the County's 5% rise in property tax, and spoke to a 1% and 2%, respective, increase in both personal property and motor vehicle values.

Lawing elaborated the decrease in revenues by \$13.6 million to approximately \$70.5 million next year from Federal and State government, and further emphasized that the decrease was due to the State taking ownership to pay for child day care services and Medicaid-related transportation devices. The decrease in revenues would reflect a removal of approximately \$16.5 million of federal and State funds from the County's budget. And, stressed that the 2017-18 budget, however, did reflect the inclusion of \$4.8 million in lottery revenues earmarked for school debt repayment.

Lawing outlined revenues from sales tax, fees and charges, other revenues, and the General Fund Budget balance. He discussed the revenues from sales tax and emphasized a 9% increase over last year. He outlined the increase of fees and charges subject to increase over the next fiscal year by \$2.3 million. And, spoke to the anticipated fee revenue increase of \$880,000 from Human Services, Health and Education programs, Public Health Medicaid fees, and a \$1.7 million expected increase to other revenues.

Lawing reviewed the 2017-18 General Fund Budget balance that included a fund balance appropriation of \$33.43 million to assist balance the budget, which reflected a \$5.9 million increase from the budget adopted for 2016-17.

Lawing addressed the recommended expenditures for the General Fund budget to service high priority goals such as additional funding for Guilford County Schools (GCS), charter schools, Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC), and debt repayment. The recommended total was \$606,840,000.

Lawing discussed staffing and employee compensation. His recommendations reflected the inclusion of 16 new positions, with an overall 3.0% merit pool for employee compensation to be awarded. Effective the first full pay period in January 2018.

Lawing stated that the recommended budget for fiscal year 2017-18 would allow the County to maintain current service levels, but sought to make some progress on initiatives included in the Commissioner's Major Focus Areas. However, spoke to a projected economic downturn over the next 18-24 months where effort was made to limit new recurring expenditures.

Lawing stated that school facilities were a statutory responsibility of the counties; however, outlined the funding challenges that face the County regarding school districts and charter school operations. State mandated funding has resulted in charter schools to receive higher funding due to increased enrollment growth. He further emphasized that the retention of qualified educators paired with State mandated class requirements would increase pressure on local funding sources.

Lawing stated that with an improved economy and job market, there would be an increase of strong competition of talented individuals within both the private sector and among local governments such as the County has not seen since 2007. He stressed the need for the County to provide good benefits and reward excellent employee performance so to attract and retain a competent and high performing workforce.

Lawing thanked the Board for their leadership and vision, and noted the required public hearing on the budget and the required hearing on economic incentives would be set for June 1, 2017.

The board discussed work session dates.

Motion was made by J. Carlvena Foster, and seconded by Alan Perdue to adopt Hear Managers Budget Message, to be filed with the Clerk to Board for public inspection; and set a Public Hearing on the County Manager's Recommended Budget and proposed economic development incentive grants for June 1, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Commissioners' Chambers, located at the Old Guilford County Courthouse, 301 W. Market Street in Greensboro.

VOTE: Motion carried 8 - 0

AYES: Jeff Phillips, Alan Branson, Hank Henning, Kay Cashion, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad, Alan Perdue, Melvin "Skip" Alston

NOES: None

ABSENT: Carolyn Q. Coleman

XI. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY MANAGER

Lawing shared that they had scheduled a public meeting with the neighborhood that efforts were in process to secure the property for EMS.

XII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Branson thanked the Guilford County Parks and Recreation staff for hosting the 20th Annual High Lonesome Strings Bluegrass Festival over the weekend. Branson shared his attendance at the park ribbon cutting in memory of former Congressman Howard Coble. Branson thanked the budget staff for their hard work in preparing the initial proposal.

Commissioner Conrad shared his attendance at the Summerfield Founders Day parade with Chairman Phillips. He thanked Boy Scout Troop 600 for allowing him to participate in their events. He thanked the board for their support of the spay/neuter policies. He thanked the educators who took the time to come out and share their passion for the education of our children.

Commissioner Foster shared her attendance of the High Point Visitors and Convention Center meeting and the promotion of a future ballpark in High Point to serve as a catalyst for economic development. She spoke to the recent closing of a food lion off of MLK Jr. Blvd. in High Point as it created a food desert and some food scarcity for those who do not have cars in the vicinity of the store. Foster thanked those in attendance who were advocating for additional funding for the school system.

Commissioner Cashion echoed her appreciation for those speaking on behalf of the schools. Cashion reviewed the top goals for County Assembly day, with the top priority being school funding. Cashion provided an update from the Family Justice Center Steering Committee and that they had a potential site at the High Point Courthouse that would be a viable option for consideration.

Chairman Phillips shared his attendance at a local community hero award ceremony through Congressman Walker's office. He recognized Jodi Lorenzo-Schibley, Executive Director at the Sanctuary House for her work with the homeless who are struggling with Mental Illness. Phillips thanked the county staff and County Manager Lawing for all the work in preparing the recommended budget. He addressed staff and the ongoing stressors in County service needs.

XIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:00PM by general consensus.

Chairman, Jeffrey M. Phillips

Clerk, Robin Keller