

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 7, 2015 in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Billy C. Lockamy, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Albert D. Kirby Jr., and Harry Parker and Clark Wooten.

Chairman Lockamy convened the meeting and called upon Assistant County Manager Susan Holder for the invocation. County Manager Ed Causey then led the Pledge Allegiance.

The Chairman recognized members of the Chamber of Commerce's Junior Leadership Program attending as part of their coursework.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Item 1: Organization of the Board

County Manager Ed Causey conducted the election for Chairman. Commissioner Sue Lee nominated Commissioner Billy Lockamy. There were no other nominations, and the Board voted unanimously to elect Mr. Lockamy as Chairman. Chairman Lockamy then conducted the election for Vice Chairman. Chairman Lockamy nominated Sue Lee. There were no other nominations, and the Board voted unanimously to elect Ms. Lee as Vice Chairperson.

Roads

NC DOT Assistant District Engineer Keith Eason was present to address questions and concerns regarding roads. Mr. Eason reported that DOT had completed the shoulder work necessary to complete the Raleigh Road resurfacing project; with that, their resurfacing for the calendar year was complete. Chairman Lockamy reported water standing in the front yard at 1771 Old Raleigh Road, and Commissioner Parker commended the Department for their work on Hairr Lane.

Item 2: Reports and Recognitions

Recognition of Sampson County Cooperative Extension as Recipient of John L. Smith Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Award CES Director Eileen Coite and Extension Agent Della King were present to receive commendation from the Board for

their department's receipt of the John L. Smith Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Award.

Item 3: Action Items

Public Hearing - FY 2017 Community Transportation Program (CTP) Grant Funding Application The Chairman opened the hearing and called upon Department of Aging Director Lorie Sutton, who reviewed the application for grant funding, explaining the two areas of requested funding: administrative (\$192,924; local share \$28,939) and capital (\$137,148; local share \$13,716). The floor was opened for comments, and the following were received:

Ann Knowles: Wanted to speak on behalf of the good job they do and people they serve, especially on behalf of veterans. Thank you for keeping the vans rolling and funds coming.

There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the hearing. Upon a motion made by Chairman Lockamy and seconded by Commissioner Wooten, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the grant resolution authorizing the submission of the grant and making assurances and certifications regarding compliance with federal and state requirements. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page ____.)

Presentation of Budget Reduction Proposals County Manager Ed Causey reviewed three additional proposals for budget reductions: EMS 008 (Discontinue Clement Rescue RT Supplement); EMS 009 (Discontinue Contract w/Clinton-Sampson Rescue); and AGE 002 (County Assumption of Medicaid Transportation Contract). Mr. Causey noted that the Board had also received via email an alternate proposal from Clinton-Sampson Rescue requesting to continue their contract with a reduced contract amount of \$3,600 per year and with the transfer of a surplus ambulance to the squad. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____. Provided at the meeting was an acknowledgement by the EMS Director of his agreement to the alternate proposal. With regard to the proposal that the County assume the Medicaid Transportation contract, Mr. Causey noted that such action would not take place until the conclusion of the existing contract (July 2017).

The Board recognized Clinton-Sampson Rescue Squad Captain Jerry Bradshaw who explained that the call volume for the volunteer squad dropped with the addition of paid services years ago. He noted, however, that there were still opportunities for the volunteers to serve and requested that the contract not be terminated so that the squad would not lose its membership in the state rescue association which funds benefits for its members. EMS Director Ronald Bass noted that shortages of volunteers would face most volunteer organizations in years to come, and it was not the goal of Sampson EMS to put any volunteer organization out of business. He noted that the \$3,600 requested in the alternative proposal was less than a fire medic unit would be paid, and stated his

office would be ready to assist Mr. Bradshaw and his squad if his alternate proposal was approved. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the EMS 009 proposal (Clinton-Sampson Rescue's alternative proposal) as amended. (Savings for FY 2016-17 of \$29,928)

EMS Director Ronald Bass clarified that the Clement Rescue Captain concurred with discontinuing the duplicate RT services. Commissioner Lee moved that EMS 008 proposal be approved; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Parker and passed unanimously. (Savings for FY 2016-17 of \$6,000)

With regard to the proposal for Aging to assume the contract for Medicaid Transportation services, Commissioner Kirby noted that there were previous concerns that assumption of the contract would mean additional personnel/benefits. Finance Officer David Clack and Aging Director Lorie Sutton reviewed their calculations, explaining that the revenues generated would offset the cost of added personnel and benefits and result in net savings of \$465,249 as well as augment the County's existing transportation services and ability to serve a greater population. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to approve proposal AGE 002. (Savings for FY 2017-18 of \$465,249)

Approval of Tax-Exempt Loan (First Citizens Bank) to Salemburg Fire Department for Purchase of Fire Truck Salemburg Fire Chief David Hairr explained that the department was seeking approval of the tax-exempt financing they were obtaining from First Citizens Bank for the purchase of a fire truck which would replace an older 1981 model engine (which would be sold). Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the resolution approving the tax-exempt financing. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

Renewal of the Scrap Tire Contract Purchasing and Contracting Officer Juanita Brewington reported on additional staff research to determine if there were any other companies who would collect, purchase and haul the County's scrap tires. She explained that she had contacted NCDENR, who had advised that the County could still receive the tax credit funding if the tires were sold and that they knew of no agencies who would purchase the tire. Ms. Brewington explained that she had contacted three companies referred by NCDENR, and none were interested in purchasing the tires. She explained that she had also contacted Goodyear Tire & Rubber, and they were also not interested and they were not aware of any companies in close proximity to North Carolina that purchased scrap tires for recycling, reuse or retreading (they paid for disposal as well). She noted that the Assistant County Manager and the Environmental Health Director had contacted other scrap tire recycling vendors who serve North Carolina and had determined that the proposed contract rate (which has remained the same for a number of years) was the lowest

available. Commissioner Kirby questioned if the service had been bid, and Ms. Holder explained that quotes had been solicited from the only companies whom it had been determined would pick up tires in Sampson County (per NCDENR, who maintains records of certified scrap tire vendors). To allay Commissioner Kirby's concerns, Ms. Holder noted that the contract could have a termination clause should a vendor become available at a lower cost, and County Attorney Joel Starling reviewed recommendations for contract revisions regarding termination clauses. Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Wooten, the Board voted 4-1 (with Commissioner Kirby voting nay) to approve the contract for scrap tire recycling with Central Carolina Holdings as amended by the County Attorney. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

Scheduling of Work Session Regarding Water System Opportunities The County Manager requested the Board schedule a meeting with the County's engineering firm to discuss opportunities for enhancement of the County's water system. The Board determined it would recessed the meeting to reconvene on December 15th at 10:00 a.m. in the County Administration Building.

Appointments - Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Upon a motion made by Vice Chairperson Lee and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Tara McPhail Williams, Allen Cannon, Amanda Bradshaw, and Clark Honeycutt and to appoint James Grimes to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Item 4: Consent Agenda

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Chairman Lockamy, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- a. Approved the minutes of the September 28, 2015; and November 2, 2015 meetings
- b. Adopted a resolution supporting the Sampson County Sexual Assault Response Team (SCSART) efforts to eliminate the rate of sexual assault in Sampson County (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- c. Approved the Department of Aging's submission of an application for United Way funding for construction of wheelchair ramps (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- d. Adopted a resolution authorizing the lease of agricultural tracts adjacent to the Detention Center for the period January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016 to Kenneth Mac Sutton for farming purposes (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- e. Approved Health Department fee revisions as requested by the Sampson County Board of Health (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- f. Awarded the bid for replacement of copiers (as current leases expire) to Office Value for a period of five (5) years with approximate annual cost of \$53,500
- g. Approved the contract between Sampson County Social Services and The Magnolia Adult Care Home for Medicaid transportation services for their residents (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- h. Approved the revised Registration and Lending Policy; Fines, Fees, and Replacement Policy; and Inter-Library Loan Policy for the Sampson-Clinton Public Library system (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- i. Certified receipt of Clinton City School’s 2015-16 DPI Facility Needs Survey based upon projected enrollments through the 2020-21 school year (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- j. Approved the following tax refunds:

#7169	Urbina, Manuel Garcia	\$ 847.97
#7179	Canady, Tonya Marietta	\$ 186.16
#7188	Peak, Minnie D.; Gore, Doris; Starling, Annell	\$ 541.30
#7199	Nance, Donald Ray	\$ 186.17
#7214	Lamb, Patrick Ervin; Wilson, Melanie Denise	\$ 107.79

- k. Approved the following budget amendments:

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Cooperative Extension - 4H Juntos</u>	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	
04449500	526200	Departmental Supplies	250.00

<u>REVENUE</u>			
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	
04034950	403601	4H Juntos Program Revenue	250.00

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Social Services</u>	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	
13553100	531100	Travel	6,712.02
13553200	568400	Child Day Care	229,660.00
13553310	544000	Adult Day Care Contracted Services	183.00
13553320	544000	In Home Contracted Services	1,554.00
13554710	536030	Special Children Adoption Fund	3056.02
13554810	568413	CIP	5,706.00

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13535310	403354 CPS State		67.00
13535310	403362 IV-E CPS		157.00
13535310	403363 Adult Home Specialist	1,995.00	
13535310	403366 TANF CPS & Foster Care		271.00
13535310	403367 CCDF Administration	5,589.00	
13535310	403372 SSBG		2,677.00
13535310	403376 Energy Administration		539.00
13535320	403307 State Day Care Subsidy	229,660.00	
13535330	403305 State In Home	1,360.00	
13535330	403306 State Adult Day Care	160.00	
13535480	403313 CIP	5,706.00	

EXPENDITURE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Garland Fire Department</u> <u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
23243410	581025 Garland Fire Department	27,191.00	

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
23043425	499900 Garland FD Fund Balance Approp	27,191.00	

EXPENDITURE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Cooperative Extension - 4H United Way</u> <u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
04449500	526230 Departmental Supplies	3,000.00	
04449500	531130 Travel	3,000.00	
04449500	529930 Miscellaneous Expenses	500.00	

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
04034950	403602 United Way Revenue Account	6,500.00	

EXPENDITURE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Veterans Department</u> <u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11558200	544000 Contracted Services	1,796.00	

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11039999	409800 Fund Balance Approp Encumbrances	1,796.00	

EXPENDITURE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>403 Infrastructure Capital Project</u> <u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
67981700	558100 Contracted Services	275,000.00	

REVENUE

<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
67038170	403613 DOC Economic Development	500.00	
67038170	403614 Grant NC Dept of Commerce	274,500.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Health/Communicable Disease</u>	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>Decrease</u>
12551250	526200	Department Supplies	2,000.00

<u>REVENUE</u>			<u>Increase</u> <u>Decrease</u>
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	
12535125	404003	State Assistance STD	2,000.00

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Soil Conservation</u>	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>Decrease</u>
28349610	526200	Department Supplies	391.00

<u>REVENUE</u>			<u>Increase</u> <u>Decrease</u>
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	
28334961	409909	Fund Balance Approp State	391.00

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>CES Lagoon Management & Ag Programs</u>	
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>Decrease</u>
04449560	526200	Department Supplies	2,000.00

<u>REVENUE</u>			<u>Increase</u> <u>Decrease</u>
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	
04034956	404010	Lagoon Mgmt & Ag Programs	2,000.00

- Approved Clinton City School Budget Amendment No. 1 (Special Revenue); No. 1 (Federal); No. 1 (Local); No.1 (State); No. 1 (Capital Outlay) as submitted.
- Approved Sampson County Schools Budget Amendment No. 3 (Capital Outlay, Special Projects) as submitted.

Item 5: Board Information

The following items were provided to the Board for information purposes:

- a. Announcement of Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet January 18, 2015

Consideration of Tax Appeals

County Attorney Joel Starling noted that the Board had previously approved the establishment of a business personal property compliance audit program and to date eighteen accounts had been selected for audit. Certain accounts were found to have delinquent listings and tax bills had been sent with regard to the taxes and penalties due as provided by law from these discoveries. Mr. Starling noted that three requests for appeal of these taxes and penalties had been received and reiterated information regarding the limited grounds for which the Board should release or refund taxes (including penalties and interest). The Board heard the following appeals (copies of written appeals filed in the Tax Office):

Michael Landon Autry (Tax \$11,453.74; Late List Penalty \$3,613.50 = \$15,067.24)
Mr. Michael Autry requested a waiver of a portion of the penalties. He noted that it was confusing as farming equipment is tax exempt, and because it had been a bad farming year. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted 3-2 (with Commissioners Kirby and Parker voting nay) to grant a release of 50% of the penalties due.

David Godwin Farms (Tax \$6,767.20; Late List Penalty \$2,297.97 = \$9,065.17)
Linda Stewart of Danny B. West, CPA requested a waiver of the penalty assessed on David G. Godwin Farms, Inc. as Mr. Godwin was unable to appear due to failing health. She noted that Mr. Godwin had for 30 years listed and paid his personal property taxes on time. The audit discovered that in 2008 and in 1999 he had inadvertently failed to list certain equipment. Due to his excellent record of listing and paying taxes and failing health, a waiver of the penalty was requested. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted 3-2 (with Commissioners Kirby and Parker voting nay) to grant a release of 50% of the penalties due.

Sandy's Hauling and Backhoe Services (Tax \$48,906.19; Late List Penalty \$12,830.25 = \$61,736.44) No one was present to make the request; thus the Board considered the written request which had been submitted by the taxpayer. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted 3-2 (with Commissioners Kirby and Parker voting nay) to grant a release of 50% of the penalties due.

County Manager Reports

County Manager Ed Causey reported that County Offices would be closed December 23-25 in observance of the Christmas holidays. He requested that the Board consider dates for a two-day planning session in February; one day in each of two consecutive weeks. Mr. Causey stated that in this introductory year of business personal property compliance audits, he had been front and center and tried to assist the Tax Office, which did a very good job, as well as having been very involved with the constituents and a resource for the Board. He stated he thought it had been a very smooth process. In visiting with those who had concerns, he took the packet of information that was used in the educational sessions, and typically, with that, he could answer most questions. He stated that many had suggested it would be helpful to have another training session, and one had been scheduled for January 5th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. He and the County Attorney will discuss how he might address citizen questions as to how future appeals would be handled.

Commissioner Parker asked for feedback on concerns raised by some as to the possibility of coal ash being deposited at the landfill. Staff indicated no known coal ash, but offered to follow-up on the information.

Public Comments

The floor was opened for comments, and the following were received:

Delbridge Peterson: I think this tax situation, the general public don't understand everything. Everybody got one of those slips stating what you need to list, and the way I read something in there, I am self-employed and anything I use to make income, I was to list. Is that correct, or am I supposed to list by wheelbarrow, and my bush axe and all these other things that I don't use for income? I went and listed, and they asked me what did I pay for these items, and I told them I've had them for 40 years and I don't remember. So we put a price on those few items and so when the \$400 items that I listed down, when I got my taxes they had it at \$1300 and some. I'm not complaining and I'm not going to go argue with them. But, I think the problem is that the public don't understand what we're supposed to list. Are we supposed to list our bed and our house, our dishes and everything? I think that is the biggest problem. The tax situation – like Mr. Parker brought out – about the landfill. I remember people were against the landfill, and they said that the landfill would bring enough money in eventually that property tax would be done away with. Nobody remembers that.

Closed Session

Upon a motion made by Chairman Lockamy and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board unanimously to go into Closed Session pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss industrial recruitment. In Closed Session, the Board met with Economic Developer John Swope who reviewed information on potential industrial prospects. The Board returned to the Auditorium. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to come out of Closed Session. Commissioner moved that the Board hold public hearings on proposed economic development prospects at their January 4, 2016 meeting.

Recess to Reconvene

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to recess to reconvene on December 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Administration Building.