

Randolph County Commissioners Minutes

May 1, 2006

The Randolph County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, County Office Building, 725 McDowell Road, Asheboro, NC. Commissioners Holmes, Frye, Kemp, Davis, and Lanier were present. Rev. Dale Kennedy, First E& R United Church of Christ, Asheboro, gave the invocation and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation of Outstanding County Program Award

Ed Wooters, NCACC, presented an Outstanding County Program Award to Annette Crotts, Computer Services Director, for the “Thinking Outside the Box for Strategic Technology Funding” program.

Recognition of Retirees

Chairman Holmes presented an engraved clock to Ruby Councilman, who is retiring from the County with 26 years of service with Randolph Public Library.

Public Comment Period

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 153A-52.1, Chairman Holmes opened the floor for public comment.

Carolyn Langley, Cooperative Extension Director, distributed brochures on *Nickels For Know-How*, which is a self-help program for farmers. On May 25, all users of feed and fertilizer in North Caroling, along with family members, will have an opportunity to vote to renew this program and assess themselves 3 nickels for each ton of feed and fertilizer they purchase.

Ms. Langley also reminded the Board about the Cooperative Extension Annual Report and Luncheon for Elected Officials, which will be held on May 15 at Victory Junction Gang Camp.

Robin Clifton, owner of Blue Mist Restaurant, spoke about the water contamination in the area around the restaurant from the leaking of in-ground fuel storage tanks from nearby service stations. She said that the State has been involved with getting the contamination cleaned up but appears to be procrastinating in making the service stations take the next step in the clean-up process. She said that State officials told her that County water would be available soon. She also asked when sewer lines would be run. Chairman Holmes told her that the County has no plans for county-wide sewer infrastructure in the foreseeable future—it’s just too costly.

Addition to Consent Agenda

Chairman Holmes announced that *Item D. Adopt Proclamation for Older Americans Month in May* would be added to the Consent Agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda

On motion of Frye, seconded by Davis, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- *approve 4/03/06 regular and closed session meeting minutes;*
- *approve Health Department Budget Amendment #37—Federal Pandemic Influenza Funding, as follows:*

2005-2006 BUDGET ORDINANCE—GENERAL FUND—AMENDMENT #37		
Revenues	Increase	Decrease
<i>Restricted Intergovernmental</i>	<i>\$13,175</i>	
Appropriations	Increase	Decrease
<i>Public Health</i>	<i>\$13,175</i>	

- approve Asheboro City Schools Capital Project Ordinance Budget Amendment #3, as follows:

ASHEBORO CITY SCHOOLS CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE— AMENDMENT #3		
Revenues	Increase	Decrease
<i>Proceeds from Debt Financing</i>	\$1,225,000	
Appropriations	Increase	Decrease
<i>Professional Services—Architect</i>		\$197,612
<i>Construction</i>	\$1,257,228	
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$ 165,384	

- adopt Proclamation for Older Americans Month in May, as follows:

WHEREAS, Randolph County, North Carolina is home to 21,214 older adults; and

WHEREAS, the older adults in Randolph County, North Carolina are among millions helping to redefine aging in America; and

WHEREAS, older adults are entitled to live healthier lives through a combination of independence and choice; and

WHEREAS, older citizens need the assistance of their communities to thrive, including the understanding and support from their friends and family; and

WHEREAS, coordinated efforts to provide support on issues as diverse as housing, transportation, and health care can be vital to healthy aging and long-term living; and

WHEREAS, the aging population is growing and offering more wisdom to succeeding generations than ever before.

NOW THEREFORE, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of May 2006 as Older Americans Month in Randolph County.

Presentation on “Communities in Schools (CIS)”

Keith Lambeth, Communities in Schools of Randolph County Board of Directors, said that CIS is a national organization that has operated in the Archdale-Trinity attendance area since 1998. CIS works with students that have been identified as having academic, social or behavioral problems, are usually performing below grade level and are at risk of not being promoted and eventually dropping out of school. CIS takes several approaches to working with these students. The largest focus is matching a trained, caring adult with the identified child, who then spends at least an hour per week helping with academic work, discussing personal issues, counseling, and being a positive influence in his life. Other programs that CIS offers in Randolph County include a mentoring program, Celebration in Song, Fill the Bus School Supply Drive, Job Shadowing, High Jump to High School, Adopt a School, GAP (Girls and Power), Kool 2B Kind (Anti-bully program), Health Fairs, ATMS Golf Clinic, Get Smart About Credit Day, and Braxton Craven Attendance Incentives. Mr. Lambeth said that CIS is making a difference in the lives of young people, improving attendance, grades, drop-out rates, and their overall outlook on life.

Mr. Lambeth said that the CIS Board would like to expand to all areas of Randolph County and asked the Commissioners to consider funding the salaries for the new positions needed at a total cost of \$171,240.

Sandi Norman, Executive Director of CIS, and Candace Call, Principal of Archdale Elementary School, spoke in support of this request.

The Board said that they would consider this request during their budget process.

Report on Sandhills Mental Health

Michael Watson, Chief Executive Officer—Sandhills Center for Mental health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Services, said that the Center would not request an increase in County General funding from their 8 constituent counties for FY 06-07. He said that Sandhills is still experiencing the effects of all the

changes due to mental health reform and that they are still under pressure to find service providers for their clients. By June 30 they will lose 165 staff, most of whom will go to work for private providers.

Presentation and Adoption of Resolution Supporting the Land for Tomorrow Program

Missy Rankin and David Jones, NC Zoo Director, told the Board about Land for Tomorrow—Saving the Goodliest Land, which is an initiative to preserve North Carolina's land, water, history and future. He said that North Carolina is losing about 100 acres per year to development. They asked the Board to adopt a resolution of support urging the 2006 North Carolina General Assembly to enact legislation authorizing a November 2006 general obligation bond referendum to increase conservation spending in North Carolina by \$200 million per year for 5 years. Ms. Rankin also presented the book, Forever These Lands, to Richard Wells for display in the County Manager's Office.

On motion of Kemp, seconded by Frye, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Land for Tomorrow resolution of support, as follows:

***WHEREAS**, Randolph County is committed to protecting lands critical to the future of North Carolina's drinking water, economy, and quality of life; and,*

***WHEREAS**, North Carolina is losing more than 100,000 acres of those special places to population pressures each year; and,*

***WHEREAS**, North Carolina's population is expected to grow by 50 percent in the next 25 years; and,*

***WHEREAS**, the important tourism industry can only survive with natural beauty, clean water and scenic vistas; and,*

***WHEREAS**, there is inadequate funding for protecting stream banks and floodplains, legacy forests, prime farmlands, local parks and recreation, state parks, greenway and inactive rail corridors, game lands, natural, scenic and historic places; and,*

***WHEREAS**, there is no second chance to protect North Carolina's great resources and costs will only increase in the future; and*

***WHEREAS**, additional state funding will leverage twice as much funding from federal, private and local sources.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners urges the 2006 General Assembly to enact legislation authorizing a November 2006 general obligation bond referendum to increase conservation spending in North Carolina by \$200 million per year for five years.*

Update on Trinity High School Project

Donald Andrews, Randolph County Schools Superintendent, stated that in January 2005, the Board gave tentative approval for construction of a new high school for the Archdale-Trinity area to serve 800 students. Since then, Randolph County Schools has been working on the location and design of the project. Mr. Andrews requested that the Board approve increasing the capacity of the new high school from 800 to 1000 students in order to meet future growth. He also requested that the County advance funds for the project until permanent financing is obtained.

Will Massie, Finance Officer, stated that the Board had previously advanced monies for the Northeast High School and Teachey Elementary projects. A reimbursement resolution adopted in October 2004 allowed these advances to be returned to the General Fund, once debt proceeds are available. He suggested that if the requests for the Archdale-Trinity High School project are approved, the Board should adopt a reimbursement resolution to allow the County to recover monies advanced for this project. The maximum amount of expected debt stated in the resolution is \$100 million for various school projects, although they do not plan to obtain that much financing. The current plan is to issue approximately \$41 million in Certificates of Participation in August 2006 and \$34 million in July 2007. Also, the County Schools have some invoices for the preliminary testing and site selection work by their architects. Before we can reimburse these invoices, we will need to amend the County Schools Capital Project ordinance to include the Archdale-Trinity High School project, using the latest projections from the School Board's architect. The capital project ordinance will need to be amended again once final bids are obtained. Mr. Massie asked the Board to approve Amendment #3 to the County Schools Capital Project Ordinance.

On motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to approve the increase in school capacity for the new Archdale-Trinity high school from 800 to 1,000 students, approve advance of funds from the County to Randolph County Schools for the project prior to debt issuance, adopt a Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures, which follows, and to approve Amendment #3 to the County Schools Capital Project Ordinance, which also follows:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, North Carolina (the "Issuer") that the Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures attached hereto as Exhibit A be, and hereby is, approved.

EXHIBIT A
DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES

1. This declaration of official intent is made pursuant to Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2, or any successor or substitute Regulations which may be promulgated hereafter, to expressly declare the Issuer's intention to reimburse itself for certain expenditures heretofore paid or to be paid by the Issuer, such reimbursement to be made with the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the Issuer.

2. The Issuer has advanced and/or will advance its own funds to pay certain capital costs (the "Original Expenditures") relating to school improvements and facilities (the "Project").

3. The funds heretofore advanced or to be advanced by the Issuer to pay the Original Expenditures are or will be available only on a temporary basis, and do not consist of funds that were otherwise earmarked or intended to be used by the Issuer to permanently finance the Original Expenditures.

4. As of the date hereof, the Issuer reasonably expects that it will reimburse itself for such Original Expenditures with the proceeds of debt to be incurred by the Issuer, and the maximum principal amount of debt to be issued with respect to the Project is expected to be \$100,000,000.

RANDOLPH COUNTY SCHOOLS CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #3		
Revenues	Increase	Decrease
<i>Debt Issued</i>	\$34,400,663	
Appropriations	Increase	Decrease
<i>Land Acquisition</i>	\$ 915,200	
<i>Professional Fees-Architect</i>	\$ 1,229,375	
<i>Site Development Costs</i>	\$ 250,000	
<i>Construction</i>	\$30,100,000	
<i>Furniture & Equipment</i>	\$ 1,000,000	
<i>Contingency</i>	\$ 906,088	

Approval of ADM Grant Application for Public Schools Projects

Will Massie, Finance Officer, stated that in 1995, the County issued Certificates of Participation for 3 new elementary schools, a bus garage, and renovations to high schools. In February 2003, the County purchased the former Sir Robert Motel property for the Asheboro City Schools through an installment purchase agreement. The County's debt service requirements on this school-related debt is being partially financed through grant funds available from the State Public School Building Capital Fund (ADM). The Randolph County Schools will apply for \$1,707,845 to reimburse the County for principal and interest payments on their debt. This will reduce the amount of funds to be transferred from the Capital Reserve. Asheboro City Schools will request \$180,652 in grant funds for their debt. This revenue was already included in the 2005-2006 General Fund budget to offset the related principal and interest costs, so no budget amendment is needed.

Mr. Massie stated that both Boards of Education have approved their project applications for 2005-06 debt service. The applications also require the approval of the Board of Commissioners.

On motion of Frye, seconded by Lanier, the Board voted unanimously to approve applications for Public School Building Capital Fund (ADM) Grants for Asheboro City Schools and Randolph County Schools to reimburse the County for the 2005-06 debt service on the school debt and to approve Budget Amendment #38 to recognize the \$1,707,845 grant revenue, as follows:

2005-2006 BUDGET ORDINANCE—GENERAL FUND—AMENDMENT #38		
Revenues	Increase	Decrease
<i>Restricted Intergovernmental</i>	<i>\$1,707,845</i>	
<i>Interfund Transfers In</i>		<i>\$1,707,845</i>

Adoption of Budget Meeting Schedule for June

On motion of Davis, seconded by Lanier, the Board voted unanimously to set the following dates for their budget sessions: June 5 (4:00 p.m.), June 6 (5:00 p.m.), June 12 (5:30 p.m.), June 19 (2:00 p.m.), and June 26 (6:00 p.m.) including a public hearing on the budget at 7:00 p.m. on June 19.

July, August, and September Meeting Dates Set

On motion of Frye, seconded by Davis, the Board set Monday, July 10, 2006; Monday, August 14, 2006; and Tuesday, September 5, 2006 for its regular monthly meetings, due to conflicts.

Announcement of County Assembly Day/Legislative Reception

Chairman Holmes announced a County Assembly Day/Legislative Reception, which will be held on May 17 in Raleigh.

At 5:50 p.m. the Board recessed and reconvened at 6:00 p.m. in the Training Room

Special Presentation to Legislators Regarding Medicaid Relief

At 6:00 p.m. the Board reconvened in the Training Room. Interim County Manager Richard Wells welcomed State Representatives Arlie Culp and Harold Brubaker. Chairman Holmes presided and gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Medicaid Relief for counties and urged both Representatives to support legislation for a 6-year phase out of County participation in the costs of Medicaid.

On motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to approve a Resolution Calling for an End to the Medicaid Burden on the Counties of North Carolina, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Federal Medicaid program involves a huge cost over which counties have very little, if any, effective control; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is now the only State in the nation that forces its counties to pay a portion of the Medicaid bill; and

WHEREAS, this cost has become a great burden on North Carolina's counties, weakening the ability of counties to respond to an meet local needs; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid burden in Randolph County is estimated in FY 07 at \$7,079,950, or about 16% of all real property tax receipts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners does ask the members of the General Assembly to find a way to relieve all counties of the Medicaid burden; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board does direct that copies of this action be forwarded to all counties, asking each county to join in calling for an end to the Medicaid burden on North Carolina counties.

On motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to approve a Resolution Calling on the General Assembly to Adhere to a Non-Supplant Policy regarding the Use of the Pending Lottery Proceeds, as follows:

***WHEREAS**, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners have recently been presented with Five-Year Facility Needs Reports for the years 2006 through 2010 from the local Boards of Education; and*

***WHEREAS**, these school facility needs total approximately \$250,718,815 over this period of time; and*

***WHEREAS**, Randolph County will face a significant challenge to meet these needs and to finance these school facilities, which will require revenues from several initiatives and sources; and*

***WHEREAS**, lottery proceeds will be one of these essential sources in order to meet priority local school facility needs.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners does hereby ask the General Assembly to adhere to a policy of **NOT** allowing any lottery proceeds to be used to supplant revenue streams currently being provided to either local public schools or to county governments, so that the counties and boards of education will realize the full intended benefit of the lottery receipts as set forth at the time of its adoption.*

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

J. Harold Holmes, Chairman

Darrell L. Frye

Phil Kemp

Robert B. Davis

Arnold Lanier

Cheryl A. Ivey, Clerk to the Board