

## Commissioners Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2009

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, Haywood, Kemp and Lanier were present. Rev. Marion Smith, retired DSS Director, gave the invocation, and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Public Comment Period

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 153A-52.1, Chairman Holmes opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

### Recognition of Retiree

Chairman Holmes recognized Susan McNeil for 22½ years of service to Randolph County and presented her with an engraved clock. Ms. McNeil was an employee at the Day Reporting Center and worked previously at DSS.

### Recognition of Award Recipient

Chairman Holmes recognized Ron Williams, County Safety and Training Officer, who had recently been presented with an Award of Excellence for his outstanding Workers' Compensation claim reporting practices from the NCACC Risk Management Pools.

### Changes to Consent Agenda

Chairman Holmes announced the following addition to the Consent Agenda: Add Item I. *Resolution of Support of Continuation of CJPP Funding.*

### Approval of Consent Agenda

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

- *approve minutes of regular meeting and three sets of closed session minutes of March 2, 2009 and Retreat of March 18, 2009;*
- *appoint Heather Ritter to fill unexpired term of Sandy Key and appoint Chad Long to fill vacant business community member slot on Juvenile Crime Prevention Council;*
- *appoint April Thornton to TDA to fill unexpired term of George Gusler;*
- *approve Budget Amendment #31 for Public Library (Gates Foundation Grant), as follows:*

| <b>2008-2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE</b>   |                 |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND- Amendment # 31</b> |                 |                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                     | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Miscellaneous</i>                | \$ 11,700       |                 |
| <b>Appropriations</b>               | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Public Library</i>               | \$ 11,700       |                 |

- *approve Budget Amendment #32 for Public Library (State Aid to Public Libraries), as follows:*

| <b>2008-2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE</b>   |                 |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND- Amendment # 32</b> |                 |                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                     | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Restricted Intergovernmental</i> |                 | \$ 7,906        |
| <b>Appropriations</b>               | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |

|                |  |          |
|----------------|--|----------|
| Public Library |  | \$ 7,906 |
|----------------|--|----------|

- approve Budget Amendment #33 – Supplemental Aging Program, as follows:

| <b>2008-2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE</b>   |                 |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND- Amendment # 33</b> |                 |                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                     | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Restricted Intergovernmental</i> | \$ 69,618       |                 |
| <b>Appropriations</b>               | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Other Human Services</i>         | \$ 69,618       |                 |

- approve Budget Amendment #34 – ROAP Grant, as follows:

| <b>2008-2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE</b>   |                 |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND- Amendment # 34</b> |                 |                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                     | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Restricted Intergovernmental</i> | \$ 47,881       |                 |
| <b>Appropriations</b>               | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Other Human Services</i>         | \$ 47,881       |                 |

- adopt Resolution Opposing SB758 (Transferring State Roads System to Counties), as follows:

**Resolution Opposing Transfer of Secondary Road Program to Counties**

**WHEREAS**, Randolph County, on May 5, 2008, adopted a resolution opposing 1) the transfer of the Secondary Road Program funding to the Primary Road Program or any other program that would reduce funding for secondary road construction, improvement and maintenance; 2) any efforts by the General Assembly or NCDOT to shift any transportation costs formerly paid by the State to Counties; and 3) any efforts by the General Assembly to appropriate local revenues, whether property tax, sales tax, or any other local revenue for State transportation programs or any other State programs; and

**WHEREAS**, legislation has now been introduced (Senate Bill 758) that would transfer responsibility for and maintenance of secondary roads from the State to Counties beginning in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, according to statistics compiled by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in 2008, there are 1486.69 miles of secondary roads in Randolph County; and

**WHEREAS**, without the continuation of existing State revenue streams to pay for road upkeep and construction, Randolph County would be forced to raise the property tax rate by 7 cents in order to keep up the current level of funding needed to maintain our existing secondary roads; and

**WHEREAS**, Randolph County does not have the equipment or capital to take on this massive additional responsibility.

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

1. Strongly oppose SB 758, which, if ratified, would transfer responsibility for and maintenance of secondary roads from the State to Counties.
2. Strongly urge all Counties to contact their legislative delegation to solicit their support in defeating this proposed legislation.
3. Direct that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the N.C. General Assembly representing Randolph County with each Commissioner's heartfelt concern about the transfer of this and future State costs to Counties.

4. Direct that a copy of the resolution be sent to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and all other North Carolina Counties.

- adopt Resolution of Support of Continuation of CJPP Funding, as follows:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUATION OF  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDING**

**WHEREAS**, since 1995, the State of North Carolina and County Governments have been partners in providing effective and necessary community supervision of adult criminal offenders; and

**WHEREAS**, the CJPP funding programs of Randolph County are meeting the goals for the programs as stated in the General Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Randolph County CJPP diligently carries out its charge of establishing and delivering competent, effective and necessary program assistance to augment community supervision of adult criminal offenders; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of CJPP services in Randolph County will result in the loss in rehabilitative services for offenders and additional costs of incarceration due to higher failure rates for offenders; and

**WHEREAS**, Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) funding has been removed from the continuation budget and is now subject to continuation review, and

**WHEREAS**, the non-recurring status of CJPP funding and subsequent continuation review will delay the annual appropriation and may result in the loss of qualified professional personnel or county government's discontinuation participation due to uncertain funding; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners strongly endorses full reinstatement of funding for Criminal Justice Partnership Program to the continuation budget.

**Changes to New Business Agenda**

Chairman Holmes announced the following additions to the New Business Agenda: Add Item L. Update on Archdale Satellite office for WIC and DSS Programs and item M. Approve Budget Amendment—Settle of Medicaid Swap for 07-08.

**Update on Realignment of Mack Lineberry Rd.**

David Townsend, III, Public Works Director, reminded the Board that the purchase of properties to allow for realignment of Mack Lineberry Rd. was discussed at the March Planning Retreat. There were concerns as to whether the State Department of Transportation would have the funds available in their upcoming budget to fulfill their obligation to the project. He was asked to bring it before the Board at the April meeting.

Mr. Townsend said that \$200,000-\$300,000 would be needed to purchase the land and install sewer connections to the affected owners and \$500,000-\$600,000 would be needed from the State to realign and pave the road.

Chairman Holmes said he had spoken with G.R. Kindley, who indicated that State funds will be available for this project, if not this year, maybe next year.

Commissioner Kemp asked if they were sure enough about the State funding that the County should proceed with purchasing the eight parcels.

Chairman Holmes stated that he spoke with DOT District Representative Tim Johnson prior to the meeting. Mr. Johnson said that this project had been submitted in the Federal Stimulus Package and felt sure that it would be included.

The Board asked Mr. Townsend for a timeline on proceeding. Mr. Townsend stated that he estimates that after parcels are purchased, it could take three months to bid out and follow the processes to do sewer connections. Reuben Blakely, DOT District Engineer was present and the Board asked him for his thoughts and comments. Mr. Blakely stated that with the Stimulus Package projects being considered for DOT, the authorities seem to be making allowances for projects that are ready to go. He said that DOT is still committed to funding the project even if it doesn't make the Stimulus Package; it just may take longer before it happens.

The consensus of the Board was to go ahead and have Commissioner Kemp and Mr. Townsend begin having contracts drawn to purchase the eight parcels.

### **Request from Duke Energy for Easement Across County Property**

David Townsend, III, Public Works Director reminded the Commissioners that the request by Duke Energy for a utility easement across property owned by Randolph County was deferred from the March meeting. The property in question is located at 5417 Old Greensboro Road (Level Cross Elementary School), and the easement is necessary for the upgrade of power lines across the property due to the Randleman Lake Water Plant project. Mr. Townsend stated that Jason Combs with Duke Energy was present if the Board had questions.

The Board asked Mr. Combs why Duke Energy wanted to cross the road to come onto school property instead of running a straight line. Mr. Combs stated that one property owner refused to give right-of-way. Commissioner Lanier asked if there was a plan "C" if "A" and "B" were both refused. Mr. Combs said they would have to go back and re-design. Mr. Combs also commented that during recent storms there have been power issues in that area and lines need to be updated to hopefully prevent some of the outages.

Commissioners Kemp and Frye discussed obtaining the owner's name and having Mr. Townsend to make contact with him to discuss the situation and options.

Mr. Townsend asked Mr. Combs if it would be a problem to delay a decision until early May, to allow him time to make contact with the owner and discuss with the Board prior to the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Combs replied that they want to start construction in May or June and asked the Board to please consider their request for approval at the May meeting if nothing can be worked out with the property owner.

The Board decided to postpone any action until May 4<sup>th</sup> to allow time for Mr. Townsend to negotiate with the property owner that has refused right-of-way to Duke Energy.

### **Approval of Ordinance Designating Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church as a Historic Landmark**

Hal Johnson, Historic Landmark Preservation Commission Chairman, stated that the Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church is the first actual historic landmark designation to come before the Randolph County Commissioners, since it is in their jurisdiction. Mr. Johnson commented on the required public hearing that the HLPC conducted on February 25, 2009, stating that a lady attending the meeting for another purpose that day made the comment that she drove by this site often and had no idea of the history involved with that little building.

Mr. Johnson stated Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church was founded in 1755 by Elder Shubal Stearns and is the oldest organized church in the United States and whose founding was the most significant landmark in Baptist history. Mr. Johnson continued with more history stating that Stearns immediately went to work and between November 1755 and January 1758, had baptized over 900 people, 590 of whom became members of Sandy Creek Church itself. In 1758, he formed the Sandy Creek Association, the oldest Baptist association in North Carolina and the fourth oldest in the nation. In 1769, a Sandy Creek Association meeting drew 1,200 people to the tiny church. Before Mr. Stearns' death in 1771, there had been 42 churches and 125 ministers that had branched out from his parent church. C.B. Hassell wrote in 1829 that, "as of now, more than a thousand churches are existing which arose from this beginning." The present log meeting house is the third on the site and, according to Sandy Creek minutes, was built around 1802. In 1835, the Sandy Creek Baptist Church split, with members who supported the missionary movement of the Southern Baptist Convention leaving and forming a church near a school known as Shady Grove. Members who opposed the "new institutions of the day," among which were the Baptist State Convention, the Missionary Society, the Sunday School and other societies, withdrew from the Sandy Creek Association and now stand independent as the Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church. The Primitive Baptists own and maintain the old log meeting house and have restored it much as it was in the early 1800's. It is the oldest surviving religious structure in Randolph County. It still houses the original stand or pulpit, pinned with wooden pegs and some original benches. The 1802 meeting house originally had raked balconies across each end of the structure which were said to have been used for slaves. The balconies were removed around 1936 but now have been restored by Hal Younts. There are now two doors and two windows. Even though the old church was weather boarded in 1870 and asphalt siding was added in 1953, today the siding has been removed to show the log construction. Wake Forest University called the founding of Sandy Creek "the most significant landmark in North Carolina Baptist history in the eighteenth century." This site is not only a Randolph County Historic Landmark, but is also a National treasure and one that deserves to be preserved for posterity.

Mr. Johnson recognized Hal Younts and asked him if he would like to say anything while pictures were being shown of the church.

Mr. Younts stated that only eight logs had to be replaced on the structure after the asphalt siding was removed. In 1979, the State wanted to recognize it as a National Landmark, but because of Registry restrictions, the Church declined, but commented that now that restorations are complete, "they can recognize it if they want." Mr. Younts stated that it was "a labor of love."

At 4:48 p.m., the Board adjourned to a duly advertised public hearing.

Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed.

*On a motion of Lanier, seconded by Haywood, the Board voted unanimously to adopt an Ordinance establishing the 1802 Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church as a local historical landmark, as follows:*

***Ordinance Designating the Exterior of the 1802 Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church as a Local Historic Landmark in Randolph County, North Carolina***

***WHEREAS, Chapter 160A, Article 19, Part 3C of the North Carolina General Statutes provides for the designation of local historic landmarks; and***

**WHEREAS**, on June 2, 2008, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners adopted an Ordinance which established the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission to perform those duties of designating and regulating historic local landmarks pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Randolph has taken into full consideration all statements and information contained in the Landmark Designation Application for the 1802 Sandy Creek Baptist Church as submitted by the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office, has reviewed the Landmark Application, noting that the 1802 Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church possesses the requisite significance and integrity for local landmark designation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission and the County Board of Commissioners have held the required public hearings and published legal notices with mailings to adjoining property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission has adopted a unanimous resolution requesting the County of Randolph to designate the exterior of the 1802 Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church as a local historic landmark; and

**WHEREAS**, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners finds that the 1802 Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church, whose founding in 1755, by Elder Shubal Stearns, meets the following specific criteria outlined in the adopting Ordinance establishing the Commission: (1) Critical Part of the County's Heritage by having value as an example of the cultural, economic, historic, and social heritage of Randolph County; (2) Exemplification of an architectural type distinguished by overall quality of design, detail, materials, and craftsmanship; (3) The location of the 1802 Church provides a unique and distinctive structure representing an established and familiar visual presence in the County of Randolph; and

**WHEREAS**, this property is more specifically described as follows:

*The exterior of the 1802 structure located at 785 Sandy Creek Church Road, Liberty North Carolina, Tax PIN 8705958454.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Randolph, North Carolina, that:

1: *The property known as the exterior of the 1802 Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church, located at 785 Sandy Creek Church Road, within the planning jurisdiction of the County of Randolph, North Carolina, is hereby designated as a Local Historic Landmark pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 19, Part 3C, of the North Carolina General Statutes.*

2: *That the exterior of the 1802 Landmark Church may be materially altered, restored, remodeled, or demolished only following the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission.*

3: *That nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to prevent the ordinary maintenance or repair of any architectural feature in or on said property that does not involve a change of design, material or outer appearance thereof, after obtaining the necessary permits and official approval for said stated repair. Nothing herein shall prevent the construction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or removal of such feature when a building inspector or similar authorized official certifies to the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission that such action is required for the public safety because of an unsafe condition. Furthermore, nothing shall be construed to prevent the property owner from making any use of this property not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances, or regulations.*

4: *That a suitable sign may be posted indicating the designation as a Local Historic Landmark and containing appropriate information.*

5: *That the Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church, owner of the Historic Church, hereby accepts notice as required by the applicable law of this action, and directs that copies of this Ordinance*

*be filed and indexed in the office of the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners, the Randolph County Register of Deeds, the Randolph County Tax Department, and the County Planning and Inspections Departments as required by applicable law.*

### **Approval of Resolution Regarding Property Tax Discounts**

Debra Hill, Tax Administrator, stated that North Carolina General Statute 105-360 allows Counties to adopt a schedule of discounts to be applied to taxes paid prior to the due date. For a County to take advantage of this authority, the governing body must adopt a resolution or ordinance specifying the amounts of the discounts and the periods of time during which they are to be applicable. The resolution must be adopted no later than the May 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the due date of the taxes to which it first applies. After the adoption, the resolution must be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Revenue for approval. Upon approval by the Department of Revenue, the discount schedule must be published at least once in the newspaper. The Department of Revenue may approve or disapprove the resolution in whole or in part, but once it is approved, it remains in place until repealed.

Ms. Hill stated that Randolph County has had a discount program in place for some time offering a 2% discount on payments received during the period from when the bills go out (mid-July) until August 31<sup>st</sup>. She said that the Tax Department is currently in the process of converting the tax collections system to new software. The Tax Department wants to make sure that the new software is in compliance with the adopted resolution. Since the original resolution was adopted so long ago, we felt that now would be the perfect time to update the resolution. The new resolution does not change in any way the manner in which discounts have historically been handled in Randolph County. This is a simple housekeeping measure.

*On a motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to approve a resolution repealing the old resolution regarding property tax discounts and adopting the new schedule of discounts, as follows:*

#### ***A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SCHEDULE FOR PREPAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES AND REPEALING ANY PREVIOUS DISCOUNT RESOLUTIONS***

*WHEREAS N.C.G.S. § 105-360(c) authorizes a governing body to establish a schedule of discounts to be applied to taxes paid prior to the September 1 due date;*

*WHEREAS the Randolph County Board of Commissioners previously adopted a resolution applying such a discount and finds it desirable for said discount to continue;*

***BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the previous resolution establishing Randolph County's discount schedule is hereby repealed;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Randolph County hereby adopts the following schedule of discounts for the prepayment of property taxes:*

*That a two-percent (2%) discount be allowed for the prepayment of taxes beginning upon the issuance of the tax bill and continuing through August 31 for the tax year 2009 and each tax year thereafter until amended or repealed.*

### **Adoption of Proclamation for Litter-Sweep Week (April 18-May 2)**

David Townsend, III, Public Works Director, stated that the Public Works Department has cooperated with the Department of Transportation (DOT) since the beginning of the Litter Sweep Program. The DOT provides orange safety vests and gloves and orange trash bags to all groups of volunteers. Volunteers can obtain supplies from any of the DOT's main offices in each county.

Mr. Townsend stated that the program is a biannual event which will extend for two weeks in April and September. Once the volunteers collect the litter along the county's roads, they bag litter in

orange bags, then the DOT roadside maintenance vehicles collect these bags and deliver them to the Randolph County Solid Waste Facility where they are weighed at the scale house. There is no charge for disposal of these bags.

Mr. Townsend reminded the Commissioners that on March 12, 2001, this Board gave blanket approval for waiver of tipping fees at the Solid Waste Facility for the Department of Transportation as they bring in debris collected during any of their future spring or fall cleanup programs. Mr. Townsend stated that it is important to publicize this event, requesting the media's assistance and asked that the Board adopt the proclamation proclaiming April 18 through May 2 as "Litter Sweep" time in Randolph County.

*On a motion of Frye, seconded by Lanier, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a proclamation for Litter-Sweep Week, as follows:*

***Spring Litter Sweep April 18 – May 2, 2009***

***WHEREAS***, the North Carolina Department of Transportation organizes an annual spring statewide roadside cleanup to ensure clean and beautiful roads in North Carolina; and

***WHEREAS***, the spring 2009 LITTER SWEEP roadside cleanup will take place April 18 – May 2, 2009, and encourages local governments and communities, civic and professional groups, businesses, churches, schools, families and individual citizens to participate in the Department of Transportation cleanup by sponsoring and organizing local roadside cleanups; and

***WHEREAS***, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Department of Transportation employees, Department of Correction inmates and community service workers, local government agencies, community leaders, civic and community organizations, businesses, churches, schools, and environmentally concerned citizens conduct annual local cleanups during LITTER SWEEP and may receive certificates of appreciation for their participation; and

***WHEREAS***, the great natural beauty of our state and a clean environment are sources of great pride for all North Carolinians, attracting tourists and aiding in recruiting new industries; and

***WHEREAS***, the cleanup will increase awareness of the need for cleaner roadsides, emphasize the importance of not littering, and encourage recycling of solid wastes; and

***WHEREAS***, the spring 2009 LITTER SWEEP cleanup will celebrate the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the North Carolina Adopt-A-Highway program and its 5,750 volunteer groups that donate their labor and time year round to keep our roadsides clean; and

***WHEREAS***, the LITTER SWEEP cleanup will be a part of educating the children of this great state regarding the importance of a clean environment to the quality of life in North Carolina;

***WHEREAS***, Governor Beverly E. Perdue proclaimed April 18 – May 2, 2009 as "LITTER SWEEP" time in North Carolina and encourages all citizens in all 100 counties to take an active roll in making their communities cleaner; and

***WHEREAS***, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners on March 12, 2001, voted unanimously to give blanket approval for waiver of tipping fees at the solid waste facility for the Department of Transportation as they bring in the debris collected during any of their spring or fall Litter Sweep Roadside Cleanup programs;

***NOW, THEREFORE***, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners join with the Governor and Department of Transportation and also proclaim April 18 – May 2, 2009 as "LITTER SWEEP" time in Randolph County and urge all citizens to participate.

**Approval of the 2009-2010 Budget Meeting Schedule**

*On motion of Kemp, seconded by Haywood, the Board voted unanimously to set the following dates for their budget sessions: June 1 (4:00 p.m.), June 2 (5:00 p.m.), June 8 (5:30 p.m.), June 15 (2:00 p.m.), and June 22 (6:00 p.m.) including a public hearing on the budget at 7:00 p.m. on June 15.*

## **Adoption of Resolution to Increase Room Occupancy Tax to 5%**

Tammy O'Kelley, TDA Director, stated that she made a report to the Randolph County Tourism Development Board of Directors on March 18, 2009, in which she presented a request for support to increase the County's occupancy tax collections from the current three percent (3%) to the full five percent (5%) allowable under House Bill 337, An Act to Authorize Randolph County to Levy a Room Occupancy and Tourism Development Tax.

Ms. O'Kelley suggested target marketing of Asheboro and Archdale and specific attractions, because the hotel industry is centered in these two towns and the bulk of our visitors are either leisure travelers visiting the NC Zoo or business travelers working in the furniture industry or attending the bi-annual High Point Furniture Market.

Ms. O'Kelley reviewed strengths and weaknesses, as follows:

### **STRENGTHS:**

#### High Point Furniture Market –

- It showcases the most comprehensive product selection, including more new products, than all other markets combined – both nationally and internationally;
- Studios for staging and photographing are all located in the Archdale/High Point area;
- Professional photographers trained in furniture industry are located and working in the area;
- Professional furniture designers are by and large living and working in the area;
- Trade magazines and furniture-related publications that support the industry are located here; and
- American Home Furnishings Association is headquartered in High Point – so for the furniture industry, coming to High Point is like coming home.

#### North Carolina Zoo –

- Average size of Zoos in the US is 50 acres – the NC Zoo is 500 acres and growing;
- The Zoo spends as much or more money supporting the Horticulture Department's efforts to make its exhibits look beautiful, natural and scenic than any other Zoo in the country and the result is a beauty that is unmatched in urban zoos;
- The Zoo has a design staff of sculptors and painters that are second to none in Zoo exhibit design, i.e. rock formations, scratching pots/fallen trees that stand out in a way that visitors, due to the design and scope, really get immersed into the habitats in a way that isn't possible in an urban zoo; and
- NC Zoo's art collection, a varied collection of outdoor art, is hailed as one of the best in the state and is currently valued at approximately \$2 billion

#### Asheboro Hotels

- 7 hotels/571 rooms
- Average age is 18 yrs. old

#### Archdale Hotels

- 6 hotels/440 rooms
- Average age is less than 10 yrs. old
- High Point has 12 hotels/1,000 rooms – 58% of them are more than 10 yrs. old

**WEAKNESS:** Ms. O’Kelley stated that our weakness is that we don’t understand the value of our strengths.

Ms. O’Kelley commented that collecting an additional two percent (2%) in occupancy taxes would generate the addition of approximately \$200,000 in occupancy tax revenues that would be spent in the two municipalities that are home to the County’s hotels: Archdale and Asheboro. Of the \$200,000 in additional funds, approximately \$40,000 would be retained for additional staffing and operating costs to the Tourism Development Authority, leaving \$160,000 in funding to be split between Archdale and Asheboro.

In Archdale, the addition of approximately \$80,000 in marketing dollars would be used to:

- *Dedicate a staff person as a full-time Visitor Services Coordinator with temporary office in Archdale providing on-site visitor services during High Point Furniture Market;*
- *Work with Archdale City Council to design a plan that enhances the High Point Market Authority’s ability to provide transportation between the Furniture Market and the Archdale Hotels (the most convenient overnight hub) and expand transportation services to Asheboro Hotels;*
- *Further promote tourism by expanding public amenities and services that increase Archdale’s market share; and*
- *Other appropriate and affordable marketing and promotional efforts as recommended by the Director of Tourism and approved by the TDA Board of Directors.*

In Asheboro, the addition of approximately \$80,000 in marketing dollars would be used to:

- *Dedicate a full-time staff person as Visitor Services Coordinator to manage all collateral inventory, visitor fulfillment, formal visitor center with retail space in Historic Courthouse in Asheboro – allowing Bureau to be open over the weekend when visitors are in town;*
- *Work with Asheboro City Council to implement public relations, print, internet, radio and TV marketing campaigns that reach potential visitors in the Piedmont Triad, Fayetteville/Jacksonville, Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill, and Charlotte/Hickory/Statesville area markets working outwards across North Carolina and beyond to promote Asheboro as the home of the North Carolina Zoo;*
- *Further promote tourism by expanding public amenities and services that increase Asheboro’s market share; and*
- *Other appropriate and affordable marketing and promotional efforts as recommended by the Director of Tourism and approved by the TDA Board of Directors.*

On behalf of the Tourism Development Board of Directors, Ms. O’Kelley requested that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners vote to raise occupancy tax collections from three percent (3%) to the full five percent (5%) allowed by House Bill #337 beginning with the new fiscal year on July 1, 2009 and that the Tourism Development Authority use the additional funds for target marketing of the Archdale/High Point Furniture Market and Asheboro/North Carolina Zoo.

Commissioner Kemp stated that the Zoo has been in Asheboro for 25 years and the State has not done well at promoting it, and Randolph County hasn’t either. He said he was glad to see that we would be paying more attention to promoting our assets.

Ms. O’Kelley stated that a couple of bills are in the House for some funding for the Zoo and that State Secretary of Commerce Keith Crisco has been making a great effort at promoting the Zoo.

At 5:12 p.m., the Board adjourned to a duly advertised public hearing

**David Jarrell**, Mayor of Asheboro, spoke in support of the increased tax by stating that, “the Zoo is a diamond in the rough.” He said that when the City of Asheboro began developing their strategic plan, the Zoo was on it. Now when they promote Asheboro or the Zoo, the two are always stated together: “Asheboro: Home of the N.C. Zoo.” He continued by comparing surrounding areas and pointing out that 5% is still a bargain. Mayor Jarrell encouraged the Commissioners to approve the resolution.

**Eddie Causey**, Archdale City Council member, spoke on behalf of Mayor Bertha Stone, and also encouraged the approval of the resolution.

Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Frye thanked Commissioner Kemp for his representation on the Tourism Development Authority Board.

*On motion of Haywood, seconded by Frye, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution to Increase Occupancy Tax Levy to 5%, as follows:*

**RESOLUTION TO LEVY A ROOM OCCUPANCY TAX FOR THE  
COUNTY OF RANDOLPH (Increase rate to 5%)**

*WHEREAS, the General Assembly of North Carolina enacted House Bill 337 on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1997, which authorized Randolph County to levy a room occupancy and tourism development tax (up to a maximum of 5%) after a public hearing was held following a ten-day public notice of said public hearing; and*

*WHEREAS, pursuant to House Bill 337 of the N.C. General Assembly, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners, on September 2, 1997, levied a room occupancy and tourism development tax of three percent (3%), which was effective November 1, 1997 and continues to be in effect; and*

*WHEREAS, notice was published on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009 and a public hearing held at 5:00 p.m. on April 6, 2009 in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Randolph County Office Building, Asheboro, North Carolina, to consider whether Randolph County should increase the room occupancy and tourism development tax to the maximum of five (5%), to be effective July 1, 2009.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners does hereby levy a room occupancy and tourism development tax at a rate of five percent (5%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the county that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under N.C.G.S. § 105-164.4(a)(3) and which tax shall be subject to all of the provisions of S.L. 1997-342 (HB 337) in addition to any State or local sales tax.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the new tax rate shall become due and payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2009.*

**Adoption of Resolution of Support of New I-85 Bridge Over Yadkin River in Davidson County**

Commissioner Frye stated that the I-85 bridge over the Yadkin River in Davidson County is critical to Randolph County’s commerce in and out. If anything was to happen to the bridge, a traveler would have to go many miles out of his way. He stated that there has been some opposition to certain routes being proposed as one affects a historical area. There was discussion regarding plans

to fund the project. Commissioner Frye stated that a toll road was discussed at one time but was denied.

Commissioner Haywood asked if the latest figures were out on the costs. Commissioner Frye stated the bridge and seven miles of eight-lane highway was estimated at 400 million dollars, but that Federal Stimulus funds were to be available from the State for projects deemed "ready."

*On motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a Resolution of Support of a new I-85 bridge over Yadkin River in Davidson County, as follows:*

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A NEW I-85 BRIDGE OVER  
THE YADKIN RIVER IN DAVIDSON COUNTY**

*WHEREAS, the multi-lane I-85 bridge over the Yadkin River is in need of total replacement at an estimated cost of \$300,000,000; and*

*WHEREAS, Interstate 85 passes through Davidson, Randolph, Guilford and Alamance counties and crosses the Yadkin River in Davidson County; and*

*WHEREAS, allocation of sufficient funds through statewide equity distribution formula would take all of the construction funds for all projects allocated to Division 9 for the entire seven-year Transportation Improvement Plan program, thereby making this action extremely burdensome.*

*WHEREAS, I-85 passes through Randolph County; and*

*WHEREAS, the I-85 corridor is vital to economic and industrial development in Randolph County.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners support Governor Beverly Perdue and the grant application in the amount of \$300,000,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Discretionary Fund for construction of a new I-85 bridge over the Yadkin River in Davidson County.*

**Approval of ADM and Lottery Applications for Public Schools**

Will Massie, Finance Officer, said that in February 2003, the County purchased the former Sir Robert Motel property for the Asheboro City Schools through an installment purchase agreement. In 2007, the County issued certificates of participation for construction of Wheatmore High School. 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 application is for \$1,863,203.89 to reimburse the County for principal and interest payments on debt for their schools. Grant funds of \$180,501.57 are requested for the Asheboro City School debt. Revenues are already included in the 2008-09 General Fund budget to partially offset the related principal and interest costs, so no budget amendment is needed. Both Boards of Education have approved their project applications for 2008-09 debt service. These applications also require the approval of the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Massie asked that the Board approve the two project applications to reimburse the County for 2008-09 debt service on the school debt.

Mr. Massie said in 2006, the County issued certificates of participation for the new Providence Grove High School and renovation to the Teachey Elementary School. The County's debt service requirements on this school related debt is being partially financed through grant funds available from the NC Lottery portion of the State Public School Building Capital Fund. The Randolph County Schools will apply for \$1,000,000 to reimburse the County for interest payments on their debt. Grant funds of \$ 290,786 are requested for the Asheboro City School debt. Revenues were already included in the 2008-09 General Fund budget to partially offset the related principal and interest costs, so no budget amendment is needed. Both Boards of Education have approved their project applications for 2008-09 debt service. The applications also require the approval of the Board of Commissioners. Mr.

Massie asked the Board to approve the two Lottery project applications to reimburse the County for the 2008-09 debt service on the school debt.

*On motion by Haywood, seconded by Lanier, the Board voted unanimously to approve ADM and Lottery Applications for the County and City Boards of Education, as presented.*

**Approval of Budget Amendment for Settlement of Medicaid Swap for 07-08**

Mr. Massie stated the Department of Revenue has requested a check to cover the final settlement of the 2007-08 Medicaid Swap. He reminded the Board that there was a withholding of ADM Funds and Medicaid savings were to be used to replace a portion. However, our actual savings were greater than the amount of funds withheld from the ADM Fund. The Dept. of Public Instruction did not take any moneys out of the first 2007-08 payment, leaving too few dollars over the next three quarters to fulfill our Medicaid relief swap deal. For Randolph, per the August 2008 Medicaid hold harmless report, Medicaid savings = \$1,384,037. Based on the ADM receipts of \$1,412,913, Randolph's Medicaid swap of ADM receipts for the Medicaid savings should have been \$830,422 (60% of Medicaid savings). Since DPI did not withhold any of the first quarterly payment, Randolph's actual ADM loss was \$702,555, leaving the State losing \$127,868. These are the funds requested by the State.

*On motion by Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to approve the settlement of Medicaid Swap for 07-08, as presented, and to approve Budget Amendment #35, as follows:*

| <b>2008-2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE</b>   |                 |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND- Amendment # 35</b> |                 |                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                     | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Restricted intergovernmental</i> | \$578,990       |                 |
| <i>Appropriated Fund Balance</i>    |                 | \$454,122       |
| <b>Appropriations</b>               | <b>Increase</b> | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Administration</i>               | \$127,868       |                 |

**Closeout CDBG 2006 Scattered Site Housing Grant**

David Townsend, III, Public Works Director, stated that in 2006, Randolph County received funding for a Community Development Block Grant from the State. These funds were available to perform housing rehabilitation on approximately seven homes. The County received \$400,000 for this project with the Public Works Department receiving up to \$40,000 to administer the project.

Mr. Townsend credited the very close oversight by the Public Works staff for making it possible for the County to rehabilitate a total of nine homeowner occupied homes scattered over the county, instead of the originally proposed seven, with these funds.

Mr. Townsend stated the Public Works Department has already meet with the State staff that oversees these grant funds and has received a “clean bill” for the grant. The purpose of the public hearing is a procedural step to allow the County to close the project and be eligible for additional funding to be awarded later in this calendar year.

At 5:35 p.m., the Board adjourned to a duly advertised public hearing.

Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed.

*On motion by Kemp, seconded by Haywood, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign the closeout documents, as presented.*

**Approval of Amendments to Growth Management Plan & Zoning Ordinance**

Hal Johnson, Planning and Zoning Director, stated that beginning in the mid-1980's, Randolph County experienced rapid change in what were once rural areas. Although Randolph County adopted countywide zoning in 1987, the issue of major residential subdivision development created growing concerns among county residents about the patterns of residential growth and how it was affecting the Randolph County rural community. As a result of these concerns, Randolph County, in 1988, was one of the first counties in North Carolina to require major residential subdivisions to go through a rezoning/public hearing process.

As Randolph County entered the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the public process of accommodating new residential growth while preserving the county's resources and natural heritage became more difficult. As a result, in 2000, the Board of County Commissioners asked that a Growth Management Plan be developed that would provide guidance to citizens, developers, elected officials, development boards, and staff, as evaluations and decisions were made on rezoning and growth related issues. In 2002, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Randolph County's first Growth Management Plan. The Plan prepared broad policy statements that would, when combined with designated Growth Management Areas (Primary; Secondary; and Rural Growth), form an overall growth management strategy for Randolph County. This Plan has been very effective in providing guidance on issues related to major residential subdivision developments. However, the 2002 Growth Management Plan did not provide adequate policy guidance that took into consideration industrial/commercial activities normally requiring proximity to rural resources. As our economy continues to change with the loss of jobs and global competition, the characteristics of rural industry and commerce are also evolving. With proactive County Growth Management Policies, there could be opportunities for rural industry to be located within Rural Growth Areas without causing unacceptable disturbance to the rural community.

Growth Management standards currently utilized by Randolph County emphasize the separation of different land uses. This standard is applied to current Rural Growth Areas covering approximately 47% of the planning jurisdiction of Randolph County. However, the unique economic challenges faced by large counties in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century include the necessity to enhance rural economic development and rural employment opportunities by accommodating industrial/commercial activities that require proximity to rural resources.

The proposed amendments to the Growth Management Plan and Zoning Ordinance have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the County Planning Board. The proposals are specifically written to recognize that sustainable economic growth, environmental protection, and rural quality of life can be pursued together as mutually supporting growth management and public policy goals. One does not necessarily exclude the other.

Commissioner Frye asked if any options or variances were allowable. Attorney Darren Allen replied that it would be very difficult to get a variance on rural district or the changeable face signs.

Commissioner Haywood asked why five second intervals was recommended on the changeable face signs. Mr. Johnson stated that they had researched local zoning requirements and surrounding areas, and five seconds seemed to be the number all were using. Mr. Johnson also stated that no other changes were being made to the sign ordinance, only the change to the electronic changeable signs.

At 5:46 p.m., the Board adjourned to a duly advertised public hearing.

**Bonnie Renfro**, Economic Development President, spoke in favor of the changes saluting Mr. Johnson and the Planning Board for their efforts in making these changes that would add value to

what the Economic Development Corporations does. Ms. Renfro felt the changes were very well written and would appreciate the Randolph County Board of Commissioner's consideration in approving them.

Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

*On motion of Frye, seconded by Kemp, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed amendments regarding Rural Industrial Zoning Districts & Electronic Changeable Face Signs, as follows:*

***AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN  
Rural Resource Development (Change to Page 11 of Growth Management Plan)***

*Growth management standards currently utilized by Randolph County emphasize the separation of different land uses. This standard is applied to current Rural Growth Areas covering approximately 47% of the planning jurisdiction of Randolph County. However, the unique economic challenges faced by large counties in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century include the necessity to enhance rural economic development; rural employment opportunities; and the County's tax base, by accommodating industrial/commercial activities that require proximity to rural resources. The characteristics of rural industry and commerce are evolving continuously, and there are opportunities for rural businesses and industry to be located in Rural Growth Areas without causing unacceptable disturbance or substantial adverse impacts to the rural community. **Individual rezoning decisions will depend on the scale of the development and the nature of the site and its location.** Policies of the Growth Management Plan recognize that it is not always appropriate to separate rural industry and commerce from communities for whom they are a source of employment and services. In Rural Growth Areas, rezoning requests necessary to sustain a rural economy shall be weighed with the need to protect the area through the use of site specific and conditional zoning.*

***Interconnection of Development Decisions (Page 11 of Growth Management Plan)***

*A key principle of policies outlined in the Growth Management Plan is to encourage continued economic development in a way that is compatible with the quality of life and environmental concerns of county residents. Sustainable economic growth, environmental protection, and rural quality of life must be pursued together as mutually supporting growth management goals.*

***Specific Growth Management Policies utilized in Rural Growth Areas Should: (page 13 of Growth Management Plan)***

- *Recognize sustainable economic growth, environmental protection, and quality of life as mutually supporting goals in Rural Growth Areas.*
- *Enhance rural development and rural employment opportunities by providing districts where appropriate industrial/commercial uses requiring proximity to rural resources can be located.*

***Area 3: Rural Growth Area (page 18, Summary of Growth Management Areas of Growth Management Plan)***

*This specialized area is characterized by traditional agricultural operations, pasture land, forestry, rural lot residential subdivisions, and open space scattered non-farm residences on large tracts of land. Rural scenic vistas are a natural part of the landscape. There is normally a relative abundance of large, undeveloped tracts not experiencing significant development pressures. Rural growth areas contain scenic, historic, and other natural heritage assets that contribute to the unique characteristics of the land. Large lot residential subdivisions are anticipated in the Rural Growth Area with special designs to sustain groundwater recharge capacity, storm-water retention, and rural character. Individual rezoning decisions within the Rural Growth Area will depend upon the scale of the development, and the specific nature of the site and its location. In Rural Growth Areas, rezoning requests for industrial/business development requiring proximity to rural resources shall be weighed with the need to lesson substantial impacts to adjoining land uses. Sustainable rural economic growth, environmental protection, and rural quality of life shall be pursued together as mutually supporting growth management goals.*

### ***Industrial Development (Page 23, Policies of Growth Management Plan)***

***Policy 3.1*** Sustainable economic growth, environmental protection, and quality of life shall be pursued together as mutually supporting growth management goals.

***Policy 3.2*** Provide for sites in Rural Growth Areas where industrial activity requiring proximity to rural resources could locate, with the goal of increasing economic activity, job creation, and the tax base of Randolph County.

***Policy 3.3*** Individual rezoning decisions within Rural Growth Areas will depend upon the scale of the development, and the specific nature of the site and its location.

***Policy 3.4*** Site specific development plans shall be required that reduce storm-water impact by designing new industrial development in a manner that minimizes concentrated storm-water flow using vegetated buffer areas or retention ponds.

***Policy 3.5*** New rural industrial development shall be located in areas of the site that would lesson impact to adjoining residential and agricultural lands.

***Policy 3.6*** New rural industrial development should provide site specific development plans along with vegetated buffers or other landscaping designed to reduce substantial impacts to adjoining land uses.

### ***AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE (RURAL INDUSTRIAL)***

***Amend Article VII District Regulations, Section 1. Intent of Zoning Districts. to include:***

#### ***RURAL INDUSTRIAL OVERLAY DISTRICT (Purpose and Intent)***

*This overlay district is designed for Rural Growth Areas and in rare instances, Secondary Growth Areas as reflected on the Growth Management Plan where such a district would provide for the location of sites which would increase economic activity, job creation, and the tax base of Randolph County. This specialized district is intended to accommodate industrial activities and uses requiring proximity to rural resources where the use of site specific development plans, natural buffers and landscaping, would lesson adverse impact upon the general growth characteristics anticipated by the Growth Management Plan. Examples of permitted uses in this district are the processing and manufacturing of forest related products; agricultural goods; minerals and aggregates;*

*special trade contractors; maintenance and repair of mechanical equipment; agri-business research and development; alternative energy facilities; and similar activities requiring proximity to rural resources.*

***Amend Article VII, Section 3. Overlay Districts. New J.***

***RURAL INDUSTRIAL OVERLAY DISTRICT***

***Purpose and Intent.*** *This overlay district is designed for Rural Growth Areas and in rare instances Secondary Growth Areas as reflected on the Growth Management Plan where such a district would provide for the location of sites which would increase economic activity, job creation, and the tax base of Randolph County. This specialized district is intended to accommodate industrial activities and uses requiring proximity to rural resources where the use of site specific development plans, natural buffers and landscaping, would lessen adverse impact upon the general growth characteristics anticipated by the Growth Management Plan. Examples of permitted uses in this district are the processing and manufacturing of forest related products; agricultural goods; minerals and aggregates; special trade contractors; maintenance and repair of mechanical equipment; agri-business research and development; alternative energy facilities; and similar activities requiring proximity to rural resources.*

***PERMITTED USES:***

*The following uses which require proximity to rural resources shall be permitted in the Rural Industrial District:*

- 1: Production, processing, assembling, packaging, storage, treatment of farm or forest products*
- 2: Sawmills, lumber manufacturing, and processing of forest products*
- 3: Manufacturing of stone, clay, glass, and concrete products*
- 4: Mineral and aggregate materials manufacturing*
- 5: Asphalt and concrete plants*
- 6: Farm and forest related machinery repair, truck and incidental automobile repair, welding and service part facilities*
- 7: Special trade contractors, including excavating, septic installers, construction, concrete, distribution, trucking, and electrical*
- 8: Recycling facilities*
- 9: Alternative energy facilities (i.e. wind, solar, biofuels, geothermal)*
- 10: Research and development facilities (new products and technologies for farm, forest, and renewable products)*

***CONDITIONS:***

- 1: Minimum lot size 3 acres.*
- 2: Minimum State Road Frontage: 100 ft.*
- 3: Setback Standards - Front (Road Right-of-ways): 50 ft.  
Side: 20 ft.  
Rear: 40 ft.*

*Front setback areas shall only be used for driveways, landscaping, and screening - Side and Rear setback areas shall only be used for landscaping and screening.*

- 4: *The site shall have a minimum open space requirement of 30%.*
- 5: *The use shall not exceed the capacity of the site to provide adequate water and Waste-water absorption.*
- 6: *All areas shown on the site plan not devoted to development (i.e. building, storage, driveways, parking, etc.) shall include retention of natural growth or an approved landscaping plan.*
- 7: *New development shall be located in areas of the site that would lesson noise and operations impact to adjoining residential and agricultural land uses.*
- 8: *External lighting shall be directed and designed so as to reduce glare for adjoining residences.*
- 9: *Site specific buffers (i.e. vegetation, berms, fencing) may be required to lesson impact to adjoining land uses.*
- 10: *No new development is allowed within Class A Flood Zones or within 50 ft. of a perennial stream.*
- 11: *Site plans shall be submitted to reduce storm-water impact by designing new development in a manner that minimizes concentrated storm-water flows using as a minimum vegetated buffer areas.*

### **COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

*As a condition of final rezoning approval, the applicant shall agree to furnish the County Planning Department, on an annual basis, information showing that it is in compliance with all applicable state and federal guidelines pertaining to dust, noise, and related issues.*

### **MINIMUM SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS**

- 1: *Dimensions of the property and adjacent lots and streets*
- 2: *Location, use and ownership of all existing and proposed buildings, and there dimensions*
- 3: *Streets, traffic circulation and parking areas with spaces*
- 4: *Services areas, off-street loading facilities, service drives and dimensions thereon*
- 5: *Location of all proposed landscaping, with property buffers between other uses and open spaces*
- 6: *Location of all flood zones and streams*
- 7: *Storm-water drainage and sanitary sewer where applicable*
- 8: *Size and location of signs*
- 9: *Erosion and sedimentation control plan*
- 10: *Lighting plan*
- 11: *Signage*

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE (ADDING ELECTRONIC CHANGEABLE FACE SIGN)**

#### ***Amend Article 1. Definitions. to include:***

*Electronic Changeable Face Sign.* *A sign, display, or device, or portion thereof, which electronically changes the fixed display screen composed of a series of lights, including light emitting diodes, fiber optic, or other similar new technology where the message change sequence is accomplished immediately. Electronic Changeable Face signs*

*include computer programmable, microprocessor controlled electronic digital displays that show electronic, static images, static graphics, or static pictures. Electronic Changeable Face signs shall not dim, flash, fade, or scroll messages; has no moving, rotating, or flashing elements; no animation, video, audio pyrotechnic components, or similar technology. Electronic Changeable Face signs continuously show one message a minimum of 5 seconds in time before switching to another message.*

*Sign, Flashing. A sign that uses intermittent or flashing light sources or mechanically moved reflective material to attract attention is prohibited, except for those signs otherwise in compliance with this ordinance that show messages continuously a minimum of 5 seconds in time before switching to another message*

***Amend Article X. Signs, Section 3. General Regulations. (d) to read:.***

*d) No signs, other than electronic changeable face signs, shall contain flashing lights, except as used to display time and temperature.*

***Amend Article X. Signs, Section 4. Signs Permitted in All Districts, new paragraph N:***

*Section 4. Signs Permitted in All Districts.*

*N: Electronic Changeable Face Signs meeting the requirements of this section.*

### **Update on Archdale Satellite Office for WIC and DSS Programs & Approval to Purchase Lion's Club Building in Archdale**

Public Health Director MiMi Cooper stated that she had received concerns from the minister at the Archdale United Methodist Church. Ms. Cooper said that the County rents the church fellowship hall several days a month to provide office space for WIC and DSS services in the Archdale area. She stated that the church is not "kicking us out" but asking for help with keeping their building safe and clean. Due to the downturn in the economy, the number of applicants has increased. Ms. Cooper stated that the church has requested that soap dispensers be mounted in the restrooms and the restrooms and parking lot be cleaned and policed a lot more often. Ms. Cooper said she feels like those things can be accomplished with planning, but the number of people who need WIC and DSS services continues to increase. The Fire Marshal also has concerns as the area is often over capacity. The minister asked Ms. Cooper about the County's plans to purchase the Lion's Club building on Balfour Dr. for County services. Ms. Cooper asked the Board if she should start looking for another site in Archdale.

Commissioner Frye stated that, in February, the Board voted to delay the purchase of the Lion's Club building, but made a \$10,000 deposit with a 6-month option to purchase. He also commented that most likely no one would consider renting to the County because of the possibility of encountering the types of problems Ms. Cooper referred to. Mr. Frye asked James Chriscoe, County Maintenance Supervisor, how many square feet were in the Lions Club building. Mr. Chriscoe replied that it contained around 5,000 square feet and stated that the current Archdale Lions Club meeting room in the facility could be used for a waiting area by just moving chairs around. Mr. Chriscoe stated he also has surplus cubicle partitions and other supplies that could be used for immediate set up at any permanent location.

County Manager Richard Wells stated that the church has been very accommodating for many years, but that we were probably wearing out our welcome. He continued by explaining that DSS and WIC employees take applications by hand and then enter them into the computer when they return to the main office. Having a permanent location where cables are installed for phones and computers will allow workers to process applicants at a faster pace. Mr. Wells said there are other County facilities located near the Lion’s Club building where cables and connections can be pulled from, making it less expensive than having to start from scratch.

Ms. Cooper stated that they can continue handling paperwork manually in an open space for awhile, as connecting the lines and setting partitions doesn’t have to be done immediately. Just having more space to accommodate the numbers would be a first step to alleviate the overcrowding and the possibility of adding additional days would also help.

*On motion of Frye, seconded by Haywood, the Board voted unanimously to exercise the option to purchase the Lion’s Club building by making an immediate payment of \$100,000 in the current budget year, with the second \$100,000 being paid in August 2009 and each August of 2010 and 2011 and to approve Budget Amendment #36, as follows:*

| <b>2008-2009 BUDGET ORDINANCE</b>   |                   |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND- Amendment # 36</b> |                   |                 |
| <b>Revenues</b>                     | <b>Increase</b>   | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Appropriated Fund Balance</i>    | <i>\$ 100,000</i> |                 |
| <b>Appropriations</b>               | <b>Increase</b>   | <b>Decrease</b> |
| <i>Public Buildings</i>             | <i>\$ 100,000</i> |                 |

**Adjournment**

At 6:11 p.m., there being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Harold Holmes, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darrell L. Frye

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Kemp

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arnold Lanier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stan Haywood

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda W. Varner, Deputy Clerk to the Board