

Joint Meeting:
YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, August 31 2015

The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners met in Joint Session with the Yadkin County Board of Education on Monday, August 31, 2015 at 6:30pm in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Yadkin County Human Services Building located at 217 East Willow Street, Yadkinville, NC. The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners was the host for today's meeting.

Present for the meeting:

Representing the Board of Commissioners

Chairman Kevin Austin
Vice Chairman David Moxley
Commissioner Gilbert Hemric
Commissioner Frank Zachary
Commissioner Marion Welborn

Representing the Board of Education

Chairman Howard McKnight
Vice Chairman Rex Baity
Joe Dezern
Tim Weatherman
Lynn Allred
Sam Crews
Jennifer Hemric

Yadkin County Personnel

Lisa Hughes, County Manager
Tanya Gentry, Clerk to the Board

Yadkin County School Personnel

Dr. Martin, Superintendent
Tammy Miller, Secretary to Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kevin Austin called to order the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners at 6:36pm.
Chairman Howard McKnight called to order the Board of Education at 6:36pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

JOINT AGENDA ITEMS

Report from County Manager

County Manager Hughes addressed those present. She introduced Gary Groce as the new Finance Officer. He has worked for the County since 2012. He became Deputy Finance Officer when Lisa Hughes became the County Manager and he became the Finance Officer effective July 1st. Construction on the Agricultural and Educational Building is moving along. Cinder block walls are up and work has begun on the second floor of the building. Construction should be at least substantially completed by the end of April. The County has submitted another PARTF grant application for Phase II funds for the Memorial Park. The funds, if awarded to the County, will be used to put in more trails, add some primitive camping sites, and add some restroom/shower facilities. The County has signed a contract with Spectrum to help determine what services should be provided at the Hospital facility. The County needs to know what services will benefit the citizens the most. The County has signed a contract with Criterion to look at the structure of the Hospital facility and determine if the building is going to match up to the services that need to be provided there.

Chairman Austin spoke with Wayne Matthews last week. Wayne Matthews has a timeline for moving the Yadkin Early College into the new Agricultural and Educational Building. The mobile classrooms will be removed from the Yadkin Center of Surry Community College when the classes are moved into the new building.

Report from Superintendent

Dr. Martin addressed those present. Students came back last week and it was the smoothest start he has ever experienced. Everyone did a fantastic job. There is no State budget yet so the School System is still in limbo

when it comes to teacher's assistants and driver's education. He has spoken with all of the teacher's assistants (TAs) about the proposed cut in funding from the State. His intention is to keep all the TAs, or as many as is possible, employed. If the School System does receive the cut in funding, he talked with the TAs about possibly reducing the number of hours they would work. Reducing the number of hours they work would enable the School System to keep the majority of them, if not all of them, employed with benefits. This will depend though on how big of a cut in funding the School System receives. He remembers a time when schools had TAs up to third and fourth grade. Those days are gone. Now TAs work in kindergarten and some first grade classes. They have four vacant teacher positions that they are not planning to fill right now. They want to wait to see what cuts they receive in the State budget before considering whether or not the positions should be filled. If those vacancies are not filled, hopefully it will help absorb some of the costs of the cuts. At this time it is not known whether or not they will receive any driver's education funding. He thanked the Commissioners and the County Manager for their help with the School System's budget. The County budget being passed early helped them tremendously. Knowing what local funding they will receive has allowed them to plan accordingly. They have been able to complete several capital projects and have some other projects in the works. Currently the School Calendar law has not changed. It states that school is to start the Monday closest to August 26th and end no later than the Friday closest to June 11th. Next year is going to be interesting because this will mean that school will not start until August 29th. That is a late start to the school year that could cause them problems. They started working on a weather waiver request today. He believes that after what occurred in the past year that the Yadkin County School System may qualify for a weather waiver. If the waiver is granted, school could start earlier. They would like to start school around August 22nd. Their high school graduation rate is at 89.9 percent and that is the highest that is has ever been. The Early College individually had a 100 percent graduation rate for the second year in a row. They have the LEGO robotics program is up and running again this year. They had an open house for it last week and approximately 100 people came to find out about it. He thanked Commissioner Welborn and Chairman Austin for their support. The middle school LEGO League robotics teams are preparing for a scrimmage that will be held on October 19, 2015. The County tournament will be held on October 29, 2015 in the Starmount Middle School gym. The robots should start running around 3:30pm.

Other

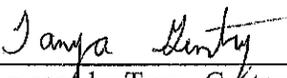
The Board of Commissioners and Board of Education discussed legislative issues. The Medicaid issue may be one of the biggest causes for the delay in passing the State budget. The legislature is also negotiating possible changes to the sales tax distribution. The distribution is based 75% on point-of-sale and 25% percent on per capita. They are discussing changing the distribution to 50% point-of-sale and 50% percent per capita. The urban counties and the counties that have a big tourism trade are fighting that change because they don't want the amount of sales tax they get lessened. With the bigger issues being discussed, the legislature hasn't really talked much about the school calendar issue.

Motion to Adjourn

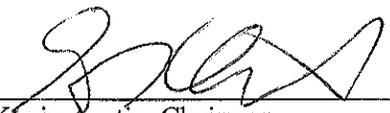
The Board of Education adjourned.

Commissioner Zachary made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Welborn second.

Vote: 5/0.



Prepared by Tanya Gentry
Clerk to the Board



Kevin Austin, Chairman
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners

9/21/15

Date approved by the
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners