

YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MINUTES
Monday, March 16, 2009

Prior to the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00pm, the Board of Commissioners attended a “Report to the People” sponsored by the Yadkin Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension. Extension staff outlined the programs, goals, and outcomes of Cooperative Extension. The following Board and staff were in attendance:

Chairman Chad Wagoner
Vice Chairman Kevin Austin
Commissioner David Moxley
County Attorney Jim Graham
County Clerk Gina Brown

The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, March 16, 2009, in the Yadkin County Human Services Building (Commissioners’ Meeting Room), 217 East Willow Street, Yadkinville, NC.

Present were:

Chairman Chad Wagoner
Vice Chairman Kevin Austin
Commissioner Tommy Garner
Commissioner David Moxley
Commissioner Brady Wooten

Staff present: County Attorney, James Graham; County Manager, Stan Kiser; and Clerk to the Board, Gina Brown.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Wagoner at 7:00pm.

INVOCATION led by James Graham.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Claire Maske of Boonville Elementary. Ms. Ellen Reece, AIG teacher at Boonville, introduced Miss Maske and reported that Miss Maske had recently portrayed Cinderella in a school production.

ADJUSTMENTS TO/ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

County Manager Kiser informed the Board that due to a scheduled meeting on March 25, 2009 to discuss the hospital transition, a recess would be necessary at the end of today’s meeting.

Commissioner Wagoner would like to add the setting of a public hearing for the 2009-2010 Budget as Section VIII. (3) of the agenda.

Commissioner Wooten has a resolution that he would like to introduce in Section XV. of the agenda.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the agenda with noted adjustments. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Wagoner reminded the audience of the rules and procedures for public comment. Chairman Wagoner read those rules in their entirety:

“The Public is asked to limit comments to no more than 5 minutes. There is a limit of no more than 2 speakers “for” and 2 speakers “against” any particular issue. All speakers understand that comments to the Board must be made in a civil and calm manner. Any issue requiring an actual vote of the Board may not be considered, at the earliest, until the next regular meeting. All regular speakers to the Board under this section are limited to 1 appearance (on the same topic) within a 4 week period. Finally, the Chairman has the prerogative to amend these rules as unique circumstances may arise and if altering these procedures will advance policy discussions and debates, as well as decisions, by the Board.”

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to suspend the rules of public comment for today’s meeting. Vice Chairman Austin second. Vice Chairman Austin remarked that the Board exists to interface with the public and feels that the Board could find value in hearing from the people.

Vote: 4/1 (Wagoner against)

Public Comments portion of the meeting opened at 7:12pm.

Leon Casstevens of the Center Road Community had the following comments:

- Board was provided a copy of the Republican Principals.
Board needs to study these principals and stop moving in a different direction.
- Board is forcing citizens to pay for revaluation and a tax increase in the same year.
- County budget increased by \$7 million in 2 years.
- Budget concerns are a result of poor management.
- Citizens did not vote on spending for schools, 5D, jail, or hospital.
- If a public vote were held, citizens would not have approved this spending.
- Middle schools were planned too quickly without proper financial consideration.
- A jail can be built cheaper in downtown.
- Attorney Graham should collect the back taxes listed on 2 ½ pages in The Yadkin Ripple.

Jeanette Loggins of East Bend had the following comments:

- Attorney Graham should focus on collecting the back taxes.
- Ms. Loggins completed a random analysis of 5 tax accounts. One account had not been paid since 2005. There were \$4410 of taxes owed. Another account indicated that taxes were unpaid from 2003-2008. The property owner paid taxes just for the property they lived on and no other.
- Is there a penalty or interest assessed to delinquent accounts?
- Why do people continue to get by with not paying their taxes?
- Why doesn't the County garnish wages or foreclose?

Alma Griffin of East Bend had the following comments:

- Ms. Griffin is against the 'tax hike.'
- Yadkin County people are losing their jobs and suffering foreclosures. Families are worried if they will be able to provide for their children.
- There must be some incentives to bring jobs to Yadkin.
- There is no middle class. There are those that have and those that do not.
- Tax burden will force people to move from Yadkin County.
- All of the burden should not be on the property owners.

Bryan Wyatt of Jonesville had the following comments:

- Yadkin County has a lot of elderly folks.
- Elderly folks can hardly afford their medicine and must choose between paying their taxes or having the medicines they need.
- A family member has a 1996 trailer that was appraised at \$17,860. A new, furnished trailer could be purchased for less.
- Mr. White does not put all blame on the Commissioners, but the Commissioners should do what's right for the people.

Wayne Todd of Deep Creek Road had the following comments:

- Today's 6:00pm local news reported that housing was down 38%, yet his property value went up 30%.
- President, Congress, and the Media cannot all be wrong. Values are down across the country, but not in Yadkin County.

Lloyd Davis of East Bend had the following comments:

- Mr. Davis appreciates the motion by Mr. Wooten to allow more than 2 speakers and appreciates the opportunity to speak.
- As a former Commissioner, Mr. Davis understands the tough decisions to be made by the Board.
- Yadkin County does not want 'tent cities' like California.
- With 3 businesses in East Bend, Mr. Davis reported that making a living is getting harder.
- County loses when a business closes. The Sara Lee plant became 1/100 of its value when Sara Lee closed.

- Yadkin County does not have a printing press and cannot tax itself out of debt.
- Yadkin citizens are losing their jobs. Unemployment is up to 10%. The economy is not strong like it was in the '80s and will not be again for quite a while.
- The list of citizens who have not paid their taxes will continue to grow.
- As a Board member, Mr. Davis was forced to cut County jobs. It's not pleasant, but you do what you must to run a business.

Caroline Tolbert of Long Town had the following comments:

- Ms. Tolbert recently closed a business, not because of the economy, but for medical reasons.
- No assistance for her small business was ever offered.
- How are the elderly going to pay their taxes when they live on a fixed income. The elderly are not able to work or increase their pay.

Garland Hall of Shacktown Road had the following comments:

- Everyone in the room is aware of what's happening to property values throughout the nation.
- Mr. Hall's son lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The son bought a 19th floor condominium for \$750,000 that is now worth \$400,000.
- Houses were overpriced. Banks loaned more money than houses were worth and people paid more taxes.
- With the current economy, taxes should be lowered, not raised.

Vernon Matthews of the Enon Community had the following comments:

- Farmers received double taxation in the same year with farm use tax increasing 50% and revaluations increasing 30-35%.
- Mr. Matthews built his home 35 years ago at a cost of \$30,000. The home is now valued at \$220,000. He lives in a 35 year old house with the same plumbing, heating, and fixtures. This home cannot be worth what it would take to build a new one today.

Randy Jenkins of East Bend had the following comments:

- Mr. Jenkins built a new home in January 2008. A corrective appraisal was issued in March 2008 at a value of \$254,229. The reappraisal value is \$346,225 only 11 months later. This is a \$92,000 increase.
- Though it's a tough job, Commissioners cannot take it out on the poor people.
- Mr. Jenkins moved to Yadkin from Forsyth because taxes were reasonable. He is now considering moving back to Forsyth.

Grace McGee of Yadkin County had the following comments:

- Ms. McGee loves this country and the Constitution.
- The Constitution is not taught in schools and the Board does not know anything of its history.

- The Commissioners are accountable to the people that elected them.
- The Board should not give in to the ACLU.
- Illegal immigrants are taking over the facilities and using resources that Yadkin County cannot afford to offer.
- The Board is not taking any steps to fight illegal immigration and the fight must start at the local level.

David Billings of Jonesville had the following comments:

- Mr. Billings is a retired appraiser. Mr. Billings asked about the process for revaluation.
- The County should add a 1% sales tax to distribute the burden to all County residents and not just the homeowners.

Luther Vanhoy of Hamptonville had the following comments:

- Mr. Vanhoy had worked for Junior Johnson and is now retired. A new race shop was built on Highway 421 and a \$15 million sponsor was found. Of 35 employees, only 1 lived in Yadkin County because they could not afford to live here. The sponsor moved his shop to Statesville where he could employ and keep local workers.
- Mr. Vanhoy asked where he could get a copy of the budget.

Peggy Boose of the Center Road Community had the following comments:

- Yadkin County has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.
- Yadkin County budget has increased from \$30 million to \$37 million in just 2 years.
- In February 2009, there were more bankruptcies in the United States than has ever been recorded.
- Mother of Ms. Boose owns a home that is 3/10 of a mile off of Wesley Road with no road frontage. The property value increased 52.46%. No other home on Wesley Road increased by that amount, even with road frontage.
- Janice Burke, formerly of the LGC, is paid based on the number of loans she is able to get for the County. Ms. Burke has reported on several occasions that the County is in sound financial shape. Ms. Burke would not say otherwise for fear of hurting her chances at making more money.
- The County Manager and certain Board members reported to the LGC that the County was financially sound. Commissioner Wooten and Vice Chairman Austin tried to stop the jail loan by explaining that Yadkin County could not afford any more debt.
- The citizens of Yadkin County deserve to be heard. Ms. Boose appreciates the opportunity for all of those in attendance to speak on this issue.
- There are 7000 elderly citizens in Yadkin County on a fixed income. The Board should consider those citizens and consider the economy.
- Property values of 2005 through 2007 have nothing to do with today's market since the economy dropped in 2008.

J.D. Caudle of Fall Creek had the following comments:

- Mr. Caldwell has lived here all of his life and paid taxes faithfully.
- Mr. Caldwell has never attended a Commissioners meeting until now. This should indicate how important this issue is.
- Mr. Caldwell exercised his right to vote. The public voted against the middle schools twice. Yadkin County built middle schools anyway.
- Mr. Caldwell knows plumbers that could repair the existing jail and contractors that could make additions.
- Yadkin County is building a country-club jail.

Michael St. John of the Forbush Community had the following comments:

- Mr. St. John graduated from high school in Yadkin County and left for college education.
- Mr. St. John decided to settle in Yadkin because he grew up here and thought it was the smart thing to do. Mr. St. John has co-workers that reside in Forsyth, Davie, and Guilford. These co-workers receive public water and sewer services and still pay less tax.
- What services does Mr. St. John or any resident of East Bend get for their tax dollars?

George Rouchard of East Bend had the following comments:

- Mr. Rashard moved to East Bend after retirement 18 years ago. At one time, Mr. Rashard had lived in Delaware. There were no financial concerns in Delaware because there was a tax for everything.
- The Board should think outside of the box and come up with alternative taxes that would take the burden off the property owner.

Dean Reavis, lifelong resident of Yadkin County, had the following comments:

- Yadkin County was a good place to grow up.
- The County cannot be small and have low taxes.
- The County must have growth and industry.
- It is unjust to put all of the tax burden on the property owner.
- Yadkin County should consider a sales tax of 7% or 8%. This would be more fair.

Pat Weston of East Bend had the following comments:

- Ms. Weston is a widow on a fixed income.
- Housing values are declining all over the country, but have gone up in Yadkin.
- When more money is needed, the middle class tax payer is hit.

Diane Doub of East Bend had the following comments:

- Who are the County's tax appraisers and what training do they have?

Leon Casstevens readdressed the Board:

- The Yadkin Ripple shows 17 entries for Wiley and Shelby Shore for delinquent taxes. There is a listing for the Milk House with 27 entries.
- These same names were on the delinquent list when Mr. Casstevens was on the Board.
- If back taxes were collected, there would be no need to raise taxes now.

Lee Hobson of Yadkinville had the following comments:

- A former Commissioner told Mr. Hobson that the County will not go against the ACLU for fear of being sued. If the ACLU were to sue Yadkin County, the citizens would rally behind the Board.
- There is no need to pray if not in the name of Jesus.
- A good Board would run the County with what they have; not increase the taxpayer burden.

Jimmy Steelman of Hamptonville had the following comments:

- The procedure for public comment should be changed.
- It would not hurt the Board to answer simple questions from the citizens during this time.
- Now is a good time to suspend the revaluation.
- Charleston, South Carolina imposes a 2% increase each year. This is considered a 'cost of living adjustment'. This type of taxation would be better than the County's current system.

Pat Weston readdressed the Board:

- Ms. Weston and her husband worked hard to raise themselves out of the poor class and she does not want to go back.

Gary Todd of Hamptonville had the following comments:

- Mr. Todd does not agree with the way the meetings are conducted. With no dialogue, the Board will listen to concerns of the citizens and then do what they want behind closed doors.
- The Board could cut the revaluation in half and satisfy the majority of the people.

Dot Wagoner of Hamptonville had the following comments:

- What other recourse is there for the citizens that do not appeal their revaluation?

Janice Freeman of Jonesville had the following comments:

- Ms. Freeman operates mobile home parks. Ms. Freeman has tried to sell the mobile homes and retire, but could not sell them at the old value. The new value will make it impossible to sell these homes.
- Ms. Freeman is opposed to the Household Solid Waste Fee. People are experiencing hard times and cannot pay their rent, much less a garbage fee.

Grace McGee readdressed the Board:

- Thomas Jefferson once said that if Congress stops paying attention to the citizens, it should abolish itself. Ms. McGee believes the Board should abolish themselves.

Tony Gallaurdi of the Forbush Community had the following comments:

- Mr. Gallaurdi has lived in Yadkin for 34 years and has paid taxes religiously.
- A trailer that was bought 5 years ago and was 12 years old at the time of purchase has been revalued 50% higher than its original cost.
- Mr. Gallaurdi's family experienced a \$20,000 difference in 2 pieces of property with the same acreage and equipped virtually the same.
- There is no logic in the revaluations.

Wayne Todd readdressed the Board:

- A 12' drainage ditch that is the result of a 45' right of way required by the Planning Board has been valued at \$4000. Mr. Todd hired Henry Shore to appeal the value. After an hour of debate between the Tax Administration Office and the Planning Department, Mr. Shore advised Mr. Todd to drop the appeal.

Neal Nichols of East Bend had the following comment:

- Rather than bringing the taxes to meet the budget, the budget should be brought down to meet the taxes.

James Madison of Jonesville had the following comment:

- Mr. Madison is a World War II Veteran who fought in Germany, Italy, France, and Austria.
- Mr. Madison's only income is social security.
- Property value increased from \$98,000 to \$168,000 for a 15 acre tract with no road frontage.

Jeff Groce of the Longtown Community had the following comments:

- Personally thanked the Board for allowing all visitors to speak if desired.
- Property value increased 26%. Barn value increased 32%. House and land on Longtown Road increased 28%.
- Has no clue where his tax dollars are spent. Mr. Groce receives a financial statement each week in his church bulletin and would like to see the County publish it's financial information.

Roger Groce of Hamptonville had the following comments:

- County needs to return to old fashioned common sense.
- Education without common sense is to no avail.

Tommy Matthews of Fall Creek had the following comments:

- There has been much talk about the housing market and foreclosures not hitting Yadkin County. An independent appraisal of a home in the Lone Hickory area was \$66,000. The asking price was \$65,000. The County reappraisal was for \$81,000 and the home actually sold for \$40,000.
- Mr. Matthews's property increased 26.9% in value.
- The County must 'tighten its belt' just as the citizens have done.

Glenda Hopkins of Yadkinville had the following comments:

- Yadkin County should have hired real appraisers to complete the revaluations.
- Two new doors purchased from the salvage yard were placed on Ms. Hopkins home causing the property value to increase \$37,000.

Greg Huffman, residing near The Austin Company, had the following comments:

- An independent appraisal valued Mr. Huffman's home and property at \$105,000. The County tax value increased from \$135,000 to \$169,000.
- The jail and other unwanted projects are being 'crammed down the throats' of the citizens.

- The Board holds back door meetings.
- This Board has too many ego problems.

Tom Horn of Yadkinville had the following comments:

- There are 8 banks in the area. Yadkin County should have hired loan officers from these banks to complete the reappraisals. Loan officers would have valued properties correctly based on the loan value.

Benny Phillips of Boonville had the following comments:

- Mr. Phillips grew up in Yadkin and went to college. Mr. Phillips has a farm in the Baltimore area and a home in Boonville. Mr. Phillips was in the newspaper business for 40 years and reads The Yadkin Ripple. Mr. Phillips does not understand how Yadkin County gets by with closed door meetings.
- Mr. Phillips thanked Commissioner Wooten for opening the meeting up to additional speakers.

Diane Doub readdressed the Board:

- Ms. Doub thanked the 4 members that voted for suspending the rules of public comment for today's meeting.

Norman Martin of the Forbush Community:

- There are inconsistencies in the revaluations and the County should audit their own records.

Leon Casstevens readdressed the Board:

- Building a jail outside of Yadkinville will cost more in transportation and deputies. State of North Carolina once offered the prison camp to the County at a cost of \$1. The County should see about making that deal now.

The Public Comments portion closed at 8:40pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Austin noted that Angela Brooks and Nicole Winkle of Senn Dunn did not attend the March 2, 2009 meeting of the Board as noted in the minutes of that meeting.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the March 2, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes with noted adjustment and the March 2, 2009 Closed Session Minutes. Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

PUBLIC HEARING

(1) Melanie Yates, Planning Technician, presented information regarding the rezoning request of Millard Ashley Jr. for 2 parcels in the Courtney area. The request is to change the parcels from RA to HB allowing commercial use of the property.

The Public Hearing was opened at 8:45pm.

Florence Garner reported that she is the closest neighbor to these parcels. Ms. Garner remarked that she is a widow. Her home was built in 1971 prior to her husband's death and she feels her home is her castle. Ms. Garner is mostly concerned for the effects of this rezoning on her property and what her rights are. Ms. Garner loves the land and does not want to see it commercialized.

The Board reviewed the maps provided by the Planning Department and asked Ms. Garner to locate her property on the maps.

David Barger stated that he lived diagonally behind the property and that his inlaws also own an adjoining piece of property to Mr. Ashley. Mr. Barger stated he had been in real estate development for 12 years and knows that the best way to devalue property is by adding a junkyard. Mr. Barger added that Mr. Ashley has said he intends to have a junkyard. Mr. Barger commented that Yadkin County needs to focus on commercial and industrial development and not allow yet another junkyard in Yadkin County. Mr. Barger further remarked that neighboring property owners were not aware that 7 acres total is involved. Neighbors believed that only a 1 acre tract was to be rezoned.

Mr. Barger reported that his brother-in-law has considered relocating to the area and starting a high-end horse-breeding operation. This brother-in-law will rethink his plans if a junkyard is allowed in the community.

Joan Holcomb echoed the statements of Mr. Barger. Her son and daughter-in-law would like to start a horse-breeding business on the family farm in this area. They will not open their operation next to a junkyard. Ms. Holcomb asked the Board not to devalue the farm or the neighborhood.

Florence Garner had additional comments. Ms. Garner reported that part of the land has already been cleared. Ms. Garner understands that cameras will be installed on the property and she is opposed to this action.

Ms. Yates confirmed that the Planning Board recommended this rezoning by a 5/0 vote. Property owner, Millard Ashley Jr., was the only one in attendance for that Planning Board meeting. It was noted that the property owner's intent for the property is not an issue in conventional rezoning. Further, Ms. Yates reported that an HB district has several uses but that a junkyard is restricted to MI-1. By definition, a junkyard is a storage facility for vehicles that are not operational and unlicensed. According to conversations between Mr. Ashley and

former Planning Director, Kim Bates, Mr. Ashley has plans for automotive services. An HB district would restrict the number of cars on the lot.

Millard Ashley, Jr. appeared before the Board. Mr. Ashley stated that he intends to tow and store vehicles for insurance companies until settlements are made. Further, Mr. Ashley reported that he has no part of his brother's business, 21 Motors, which houses junk cars and sells used parts. Mr. Ashley intends to install a barbed wire fence and cameras to deter theft.

Ms. Yates added that buffering would be required in a residential area. Commissioner Garner asked how long any one particular vehicle would remain in the lot. Mr. Ashley expects a 10-day turn-around on most vehicles.

There was much discussion on the definition of an impoundment lot and if this type of business is allowed in HB. Ms. Yates noted that an impoundment lot is not specifically defined in the table of uses.

Commissioner Wagoner suggested postponing this action until a clear definition of impoundment could be reviewed and if it's allowable under the HB zone. Vice Chairman Austin added that 'impoundment' is a very gray area. The Board agreed to postpone this action until the April 6, 2009 meeting.

The Public Hearing closed at 9:10pm.

(2) Ms. Yates announced the need for a public hearing on 2 potential rezoning actions.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to set a public hearing for the rezoning of Jimmy Tucker property from MI-1 to HB and a public hearing for the rezoning of Robby Matthews property from RA to HB for Monday, April 20, 2009. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

(3) Chairman Wagoner announced the need to set the public hearing for the 2009-2010 Yadkin County Budget.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to set a Public Hearing for the 2009-2010 Yadkin County Budget on June 1, 2009 at 7:00pm in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Human Resources Building. Commissioner Garner second.

Vote: 5/0

Chairman Wagoner called for a recess at 9:13pm. Meeting reconvened at 9:27pm.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

There were no Board appointments for today's meeting.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS

Tommy Hughes, Head Coach for the Forbush Elementary School Hunter Safety Team, appeared before the Board for updates on the new Hunter Safety Team firing range at Forbush Middle School. Mr. Hughes thanked the Board for allowing him to appear today and thanked the Board for their support of Yadkin County Schools in purchasing this much-needed property. Mr. Hughes announced that he does not visit today with any requests, only to keep the Board informed of the progress. Mr. Hughes reported that the work is being completed mostly by volunteers. The largest single expense will be gravel. The entry road will not be constructed until the middle school is complete. The Hunter Safety Teams, parents, and leaders will not take any action that will jeopardize the middle school. Leaders have contacted DOT and Carl Rose paving and have asked for excess ground asphalt materials from other local projects. With pledged funding and volunteer work, the shooting range should be functional for the high school and middle school teams by this summer.

Commissioner Garner asked Mr. Hughes to address possible liability issues in having volunteer work. Mr. Hughes explained that all the volunteers are, themselves, licensed contractors with their own insurance coverage. The National Rifle Association provided the oversight for the project.

Commissioner Moxley had questions regarding the entry drive. Mr. Hughes reported that he had been in contact with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Division of Water Quality. Permits have not yet been issued. Currently, the teams are using a farm road entrance from the northwest side. Ideally, the drive will be 20' on the far east side of the middle school property. Mr. Hughes feels this is the safer entrance. Teams are still practicing on the property of Drs. Keith and Kim Phillips. Attorney fees for the dispute continue. Mr. Hughes speculates the new shooting range will be ready for use by summer of 2009.

BOARD ACTION

(1) Criminal Justice Partnership Program

Wayne Matthews, Chairman of the Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) Board, appeared today to discuss CJPP funding for the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Matthews reported that the CJPP had been operating in Yadkin County for 8 years. The 2 components, pre-trial release and sentence defender program, help reduce the number of inmates in jail. CJPP is budgeting \$62,000 from the State and requesting \$20,000 in County funds. The CJPP must have County approval of these funds prior to submitting their budget to the State. At a cost of \$45 per day per inmate, it is estimated that \$200,000 of County funds have been saved through this program. Commissioner Wooten has served on this Board for 5 years and believes the program is worth funding. Chairman Wagoner noted the potential to save an even greater amount with the rising cost of housing inmates.

There was some discussion regarding the State's acceptance of the plan if approved contingent upon available funds. Mr. Matthews pointed out that the pre-trial release component of the program is the most cost-saving benefit. The pre-trial release program allows non-violent offenders who have been approved by the judge, magistrate, and district attorney to remain in their homes awaiting trial. This saves in transportation, inmate housing, and even unforeseen medical expenses.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the proposal and funding request of the Criminal Justice Partnership Program. Vice Chairman Austin second. Mr.

Matthews also added that very few additional dollars over last year's amount was requested.

Vote: 5/0

(2) Hoots Memorial Hospital

Attorney Graham announced that the Articles of Reinstatement and the Amended Bylaws are presented today as information only. The current Board of Trustees will take action on those items. The Board of Commissioners need only take action on the Membership Transfer and Corporate Reorganization and the Resolution adopting that document.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER AND CORPORATE REORGANIZATION. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vice Chairman Austin had questions concerning the bylaws and asked to whom those questions should be addressed. Attorney Graham stated he would take all questions to the current Board of Trustees. Attorney Graham noted 1 change on page 4, number 6. The phrase "for cause" will be removed. Vice Chairman Austin suggested a change on page 3, number 2 to read "seated Board of Commissioners." Attorney Graham will discuss these changes with the current trustees.

Vote: 5/0

MANAGER REPORTS/COMMENTS

County Manager, Stan Kiser, reported the following:

(1) Notification had been received from the Administrative Office of the Courts regarding new phone systems for the courthouse. The Yadkin County share of the cost will not exceed \$6750.

(2) Edison Foard has extended their construction bid to April 9, which is an additional 30 days from the date of the letter dated March 9.

(3) Budget estimates for the placement and operation of 8 mobile units on the campus of the Yadkin Center Early College is \$60,000.

(4) The Town of Yadkinville delivered a letter to the Manager's Office regarding the 2008 annual drinking water quality analysis. This letter must go out to all water customers and will include a cover memo.

(5) The management agreement with HMC/CAH required the signature of the President of the Board of Trustees. That title has been changed to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Signatures will be obtained once the new Board of Trustees has been seated.

(6) RBC is requiring an environmental report for the jail financing. Randy Darden of JJ&G will complete this document.

CALENDAR NOTES

Chairman Wagoner thanked the Board and staff of the Cooperative Extension for the great meal and presentation attended earlier by the Board.

Chairman Wagoner noted the March 25, 2009 meeting of the Board regarding Hoots Hospital. The meeting will take place at the hospital and will begin at 7:30pm.

Chairman Wagoner noted the schedule change for the joint meeting with the School Board. The BOC and the BOE will meet on April 27, 2009 at Forbush High School. A meal will be provided at 6:00pm with the meeting to follow. Chairman Wagoner suggested that the special budget committee meet prior to the joint meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Austin had no additional comments.

Commissioner Garner had these additional comments:

(1) Commissioner Garner had received an email from a citizen outlining the history of a complaint against a neighbor and possible violation of the zoning ordinance. The email indicated that no action had been taken to bring the residence into compliance. The property is located on Harry Road off Highway 601 just south of Yadkinville. Commissioner Garner offered this for information only and perhaps planning staff could look into this further.

(2) Commissioner Garner stated he views the revaluation a little differently than most. No one buys or builds a house in anticipation that the value would go down. Property owners hope and expect that their values will increase. Further, Commissioner Garner stated he would be willing to entertain the idea of reducing the tax rate if the County's needs can be met. Funds were set aside for the middle schools and jail. The 5D project and the hospital were unplanned expenses but critical nonetheless. Commissioner Garner paid \$18,200 for his home and it is now valued at \$107,000.

Commissioner Moxley had these additional comments:

A blood and bone marrow donor drive will be held in honor of Whitley Todd at Starmount High School on Friday, March 20, 2009 from 8:00am until 2:00pm. A similar event was held recently at Forbush High School with an overwhelming response. Blood donors were actually turned away. An amazing number of bone marrow swabs were taken. Commissioner Moxley encouraged all to attend.

Commissioner Wooten had these additional comments:

(1) Commissioner Wooten had been contacted by a homeowner on Virgil Hodges Lane. There is a DOT safety issue on this road. Commissioner Wooten asked Attorney Graham to research the Board's options in addressing this issue.

(2) Commissioner Wooten introduced a RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A NEW I-85 BRIDGE OVER THE YADKIN RIVER IN DAVIDSON COUNTY. North Carolina is to receive a stimulus package between \$735 million and \$909 million for highway and clean water infrastructure. This represents a one-time grant and does not effect other stimulus funding.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to approve the RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A NEW I-85 BRIDGE OVER THE YADKIN RIVER IN DAVIDSON COUNTY. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

(3) The Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) is considering building a hub in Greensboro. The cost will be recovered by grant at 90%. The remaining 10% would be assessed to the counties. There are plans to petition the State Legislature to allow counties to raise sales tax 0.25% for transportation issues.

On a side note, Commissioner Wooten reported that ridership is self-sustaining.

Chairman Wagoner had these additional comments:

(1) Chairman Wagoner's comments regarding the reevaluation can be found in the minutes of the last meeting. Those minutes are available online.

(2) Chairman Wagoner and Finance Director, Sheron Church, had recently attended a workshop held by the Rural Center regarding President Obama's clean water stimulus funds. In order to receive any further Rural Center funds, a County representative was required to attend.

The focus of the stimulus package is to create jobs using clean water infrastructure projects. There were several questions raised that Rural Center staff could not answer. Randy Darden of JJ&G will continue to work with the Rural Center to get the answers.

For each job created by a clean water infrastructure project, the County will receive \$10,000. Chairman Wagoner offered that if the arrangement with Aramark creates new jobs, the County could potentially receive grant money for waterlines to the new jail. New jobs created must be in the private sector. The issue is that Aramark would be operating from a County facility. Randy Darden will address this issue and the potential for grant funding with the Rural Center. Vice Chairman Austin asked if the funding applied only to new businesses or industry. Chairman Wagoner noted that the funding would apply to additional jobs created in an existing business. Chairman Wagoner also reported that there are several stipulations for qualification.

Vice Chairman Austin asked if Yadkin County's municipalities were represented at this meeting. Chairman Wagoner stated that even though the majority of the representatives were of municipalities, no Yadkin municipality was present.

Vice Chairman Austin commented that this infrastructure grant could potentially be applied to East Bend in assisting with sewer lines.

Attorney Graham had no additional comments.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- (1) Mark Brandon and Tommy Brandon of WN Ireland Insurance presented information regarding their insurance services.
- (2) Vincent Gallo of Vincent Gallo & Associates appeared before the Board for a presentation on insurance services.
- (3) Randy Taylor, Larry Rowland, Jay Haldeman, and Drake Evans of Senn Dunn Insurance appeared before the Board to present information regarding insurance services.
- (4) Rusty Crissman and Van Shore of Crissman, Mendenhall, Steelman Insurance presented information regarding insurance services.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to recess until 7:30pm on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at Hoots Memorial Hospital. Chairman Wagoner second.

Vote: 5/0

Meeting recessed at 11:45pm.

Prepared by Clerk to the Board

Date approved by the Yadkin County
Board of Commissioners