

Joint Meeting:

YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners met in Joint Session with the Yadkin County Board of Education on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 8:45am in the Multi-Purpose Room of West Yadkin Elementary School, 4432 Old US 421 Highway, Hamptonville, North Carolina. The Yadkin County Board of Education was the host for today’s meeting.

Present for the meeting:

Representing the Board of Commissioners

Chairman Kevin Austin
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
Ed Powell, County Attorney

Yadkin County School Personnel

Dr. Martin, Superintendent
Tammy Miller, Secretary to Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Howard McKnight called to order the Board of Education at 8:45am.
Chairman Kevin Austin called to order the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners at 8:45am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

JOINT AGENDA ITEMS

Report from County Manager

County Manager Hughes addressed those present. The construction of the Agricultural and Educational Building is expected to be completed in April. The County applied for two grants for funding to be used on trails at the Memorial Park. Unfortunately, we were not awarded either of the grants. The County will reapply for those grants when they open up again and will continue to seek other funding opportunities. A few years ago the County was awarded a Get Alarmed Grant. The grant funds were to be mainly used to purchase carbon monoxide/smoke detectors that the Fire Departments were to distribute, free of charge, to citizens who requested one. County Manager Hughes shared a story of how one of those detectors saved the lives of a family by alerting them to carbon monoxide in their home. She had received the story in an email sent to her by Dale Couch, the Chief of the Forbush Fire Department.

Chairman Austin shared Vice Chairman Moxley’s regrets for not being able to attend the meeting today. He had made plans to be out of town before the meeting was set for today.

Report from Superintendent

Dr. Martin addressed those present. They still have a LEGO robotics team that is active. The team from Forbush Elementary competed in the regional competition that was held at Watauga High School where they won in two categories. They will go on to compete in the State competition next and will have a chance to be able to go on and compete in the national championship that will be held in St. Louis. They are extremely proud of them. The Board of Education has approved the school calendar. The Yadkin County School System

was granted the weather waiver they requested from the State. School will start on August 24, 2016. If they had not been granted the weather waiver, the earliest school could have started would have been August 29, 2016. The weather waiver process and the school calendar were discussed by the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education.

The Yadkin County School System will be offering some online courses for high school juniors and seniors in 2016 through a program called the Yadkin Virtual Academy. They will initially offer six courses. Dr. Martin went over what the six courses are expected to be. Teachers who work for the Yadkin County School System will be teaching the courses. They will teach the online courses outside of their normal school workday. Having online courses could give students more freedom during the day to work, either at a regular job or as an intern. Some students could potentially come to school for half a day, go to work, and then take some online courses in the evening after they get off of work. He believes the online program will give students more options and flexibility and the parents will like that the courses will be designed and taught by Yadkin County teachers. If a student starts to struggle in an online course, the teacher can meet with the student to offer assistance. They are also working with Surry Community College so that more college transfer type courses can be offered at the Yadkin Center, including some courses in mechatronics. Mechatronics is a specialty field that combines mechanical engineering and computer science. The School System is trying to do some things that will encourage the students to live and work in Yadkin County once they graduate. They want to do things that will help supply local businesses and industries with qualified employees.

Chairman Austin spoke about how technical things like even farming have become. Offering more technical courses and courses like mechatronics is very important. He thinks the future of Yadkin County can be built right here in Yadkin County.

Facility Needs Survey

Every five years school systems are required to complete a Facility Needs Study/Survey. The Yadkin County School System has completed its required survey for 2015-2016. The Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education reviewed the Facility Needs Survey summary pages. They discussed the information contained in the summary pages and changes that are needed to some of the numbers. The School System will check the calculations for the numbers and make corrections as needed. The revised pages will then be given to the two Boards.

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

Vote: 4/0.



Prepared by Tanya Gentry
Clerk to the Board



Kevin Austin, Chairman
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners

12/21/15

Date approved by the
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners