

**YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 17, 2010**

The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, May 17, 2010 in the Yadkin County Human Services Building (Commissioners' Meeting Room), 217 East Willow Street, Yadkinville, North Carolina.

Present were:

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

Staff present: County Attorney, James Graham; Interim Manager, Jim Haynes; Deputy Manager, Aaron Church; 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 Paul Rogers of the Yadkin Early College.

Tracy Kimmer, Principal of the Yadkin Early College, introduced Mr. Rogers. Mr. Kimmer stated that Mr. Rogers was one of the first students of the early college and is now in his third year. It was noted that Mr. Rogers is considered a junior but will attend 2 more years to earn his high school diploma and Associates Degree. Mr. Rogers is the single Governor's School participant this year for Yadkin County. Mr. Rogers stated that he chose the Governor's School of Social Sciences because history and political science are his passions. Further, Mr. Rogers reported that his goal is not of individual achievement, but rather the strengthening of the community and the advancement of the next generation as leaders of this nation. Vice Chairman Austin asked Mr. Rogers if he were still the Student Body President. Mr. Rogers replied that he is not the president at this time but plans to run in the next election. Mr. Kimmer added that Mr. Rogers had achieved a perfect score on 3 of the High School EOCs. Mr. Rogers amended this statement by reporting his scores as 100% on English, 99% on Civics and Economics, and 99% on US History.

Chairman Wagoner thanked Mr. Rogers and Mr. Kimmer for their appearance and congratulated Mr. Rogers on all of his accomplishments.

ADJUSTMENTS TO/ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The following adjustments were requested:

Chairman Wagoner presented the following adjustments:
Section X – Dates for Budget Work Sessions
Section XI – New Hire for Sheriff's Office

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

Vote: 5/0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments portion of the meeting opened at 7:07pm.

Peggy Boose of Boonville appeared before the Board. Ms. Boose had 2 topics for discussion.

(1) Ms. Boose noted that May is Older Americans Month and that 20% of the Yadkin County population is senior citizens. Further, the Federal Government provides a Universal Service Fund to assist the elderly and those that are income - eligible in receiving a free cell phone with up to 200 minutes. Ms. Boose reported the income limits as follows:

Household of 1 - \$14,621

Household of 2 - \$19,670

Household of 3 - \$24,719

Household of 4 - \$29,768

Household of 5 - \$34,817

The limit increases by \$5049 for each additional household member.

Interested citizens may call 1-888-898-4888.

(2) During a recent Community Advisory Council meeting, Ms. Boose was introduced to a program called North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry. This program offers a variety of aid to elderly citizens. Aid may include repairs and modifications to the residence, transportation to medical appointments, and assistance with daily living. A representative of the ministry would like to make a presentation to the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners at the next regular meeting. Ms. Boose was advised to make the arrangements with Clerk Brown.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 3, 2010 and the Closed Session Minutes of May 3, 2010 as presented. Commissioner Wooten second.

Vote: 5/0

PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to set a public hearing for citizen input on the Proposed FY 2010-2011 Yadkin County Budget for Monday, June 7, 2010 at 7:00pm. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

There were no Board appointments at today's meeting.

BOARD REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

(1) Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor:

Commissioner Moxley introduced Helen Ruth Almond. Ms. Almond provided a PowerPoint presentation for the Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor (YVHC). The YVHC Partnership was developed to provide leadership among local governments, public and private partnerships, and various organizations to promote the heritage, cultural, and recreational activities in the Yadkin Valley. Ms. Almond discussed the importance of collaboration and the leveraging of resources throughout the valley. A series of maps displayed parks, wineries, greenways, byways, and historical sites. Ms. Almond reported that a regional connection will improve opportunities for economic development, recreation, conservation, and funding efforts. It was noted that Commissioner Moxley will represent Yadkin County in this partnership.

(2) Proposed FY 2010-2011 Yadkin County Budget:

Deputy Manager Church presented a summary of the Proposed FY 2010-2011 Yadkin County Budget as follows:

- The budget was completed according to the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.
- The proposed tax rate remains at \$0.74 per \$100 valuation.
- The budget is conservative and tight.
- The current budget is \$37.3 million. The requested 2010-2011 budget is \$38.8 million. The recommended budget is \$36.9 million representing a 1% decrease from the current budget and a 4.8% decrease from the requested budget.
- Property tax and sales tax make up 73% of the revenues.
- The proposed budget is balanced with a \$2.1 million appropriation from fund balance. A one-time capital project of \$500,000 represents 25% of this appropriation. Recurring expenses represent \$1.26 million.
- Frozen positions will result in savings of \$370,000.
- Projected property tax revenues equal \$20,016,485 representing a 2% decrease from the current budget.
- Interest income will be reduced from \$300,000 to \$75,000 representing a 75% decrease.
- Sales tax is projected to decrease from \$5,190,020 to \$4,665,020 representing a 10% decrease. At least \$200,000 will not be recovered.
- Education represents 20% of the County budget. Public Safety and Human Services account for 52% of the County budget.
- Yadkin County Schools will maintain the current level of funding.
- The average reduction by department was 1.2%.
- Of the 14 vehicles requested, only 3 are recommended.
- Technology requests totaled \$130,000 but only \$90,000 is recommended.
- Cell phones, air cards, and copier contracts have been reduced for a savings of \$16,000.
- A cost of living adjustment is not recommended. The increase in insurance rate is expected to be 10% or less. The recommended budget presents an increase in the HRA contribution from \$500 to \$600 per employee. The recommended budget also presents an increase in the supplemental retirement match from 1% to 1.5%.
- New positions were requested for Finance and Inspections. These positions are not recommended.
- The step and grade scale has been extended to include those employees with 30+ years of service.

If a reduction in force becomes necessary in the future, Deputy Manager Church pointed out those 13 frozen positions would allow the Board to exercise this reduction in force without eliminating any current employees.

The budget recommends that all vacant positions remain frozen during the budget year with the following exceptions...

- No more than 4 Sheriff's Office positions
- No more than 4 DSS positions
- No more than 4 EMS positions
- No more than 4 Health Department positions
- No department head or key positions

There are 3 organizational changes recommended:

- GIS moving from IT to Planning and focusing on addressing duties
- Health inspector will transfer to solid waste on a part-time basis
- Parks and Recreation will assume mowing duties for EMS

Deputy Manager Church presented a graph comparing the projected sales tax revenues of the upcoming fiscal year to the fiscal years of 2008 and 2009. Deputy Manager Church pointed out that the economy is in its worst state since the Great Depression. Sales tax revenues in December 2009 were at their very lowest. If the trend continues, Yadkin County will face serious issues.

It was noted that sales tax revenues are in the arrears approximately 2 to 3 months. Spikes in sales tax for March and April most likely indicate Christmas sales. Spikes in July and August most likely represent sales generated by tax refunds. Deputy Manager Church reported that sales tax disbursements will be received around June 10. Deputy Manager Church anticipates a \$1.2 million reduction in property and sales tax revenues combined.

In conclusion, Deputy Manager Church reported that the Board may have to consider a reduction in force, a raise in the property tax rate, or further depleting the fund balance if the economy does not improve by the next fiscal year.

(3) Proposed Dates for Budget Work Sessions:

Chairman Wagoner asked each Board member to provide a list to Clerk Brown of potential meeting dates between June 8 and June 22. The Clerk will determine 4 or 5 meeting dates and notify the members.

BOARD ACTION

(1) RESOLUTION Recognizing the Forbush High School Varsity Cheerleaders:

Vice Chairman Austin had been informed by the Chamber of Commerce that the Forbush High School Varsity Cheerleading Team had won the national championship. It was suggested that the team be recognized for its achievement. Chairman Wagoner read the following resolution in its entirety...

RESOLUTION OF THE YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2009-2010 FORBUSH HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM

WHEREAS, Forbush High School has a rich tradition of exceptional academics and athletics; and

WHEREAS, Forbush High School has a history of championship teams; and

WHEREAS, the 2009-2010 Forbush High School Varsity Cheerleading Team committed to becoming a part of that history; and

WHEREAS, the Cheerleading Team; made up of Rian Anthony, Danielle Bowman, Nichole Byrd, Crystal Driver, Madison Faircloth, Samantha Foster, Ashley Hobson, Hannah Hobson, Kara Honaker, Kelly Hoots, Morgan Howell, Wendy Hutchens, Catherine Joyce, Kaitlen Mann, Tori Mathes, Kacy Millirons, Krendle Norman, Lyndsay Roberts, Savanna Royall, Anna Sale, Tiffany Varner, Heather Wagoner, Emily Waldroup, and Emily Winslow, and coaches; Christina Foster and Lark Williams, practiced long hours and dedicated themselves to becoming a nationally competitive team; and

WHEREAS, cheerleading is a skill that requires personality, enthusiasm, school spirit, and athletic ability; and

WHEREAS, the Cheerleading Team has excelled in local, state, and national competitions; and

WHEREAS, the 2009-2010 Forbush High School Varsity Cheerleading Team won the national cheerleading championship;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners recognizes the achievement of the 2009-2010 Forbush High School Cheerleading Team for their first place finish in the national high school cheerleading championship.

Adopted this 17th day of May 2010

Commissioner David Moxley made a motion to adopt the RESOLUTION OF THE YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING THE 2009-2010 FORBUSH HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM. Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

Attorney Graham reported that cheerleader, Crystal Driver, had been diagnosed with a brain tumor prior to the national championship. Miss Driver asked her physician to postpone her surgery so that she could participate in the competition. Miss Driver has since had the surgery and the tumor was benign.

The Board asked that each member of the team receive an official copy of the resolution.

(2) Budget Amendments:

As a member of the Board of Health, Commissioner Wooten reported that the budget amendments reflect 1) a correction from an earlier amendment and 2) transfers funds from one line item to another without additional County expense.

DATE: April 20, 2010
 SUBJECT: Health Department Budget Amendments

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended Budget
Revenue				
WIC-BFPC	104517044221	\$9051.00	(\$751.00)	\$8300.00
Expenditures				
WIC-BFPC Travel/Training	105517054010	\$1375.50	(\$500.00)	\$875.50
WIC-BFPC Supplies	105517052010	\$1176.00	(\$150.00)	\$1026.00
WIC-BFPC Capital Outlay	105517056010	0.00	\$650.00	\$650.00

*Original Budget Amendment from January 19, 2010 showed State BFPC allocations as \$1751--- Correct allocation is \$1,000---adjusting Budget accordingly.

*Moving \$650 from Travel/Training and Supplies to Capital Outlay for new computer for BFPC— No County dollars.

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended Budget
Revenue				
H1N1 Contract Services	10551205174	\$90,128	(\$10,000)	\$80,128
H1N1 Capital Outlay	105512056010	\$27,100	\$10,000	\$37,100

*Moving monies from Contract Services to Capital Outlay to cover ADT Expense for Dental/Environmental Health-no county dollars.

Approved by BOH: April 20, 2010

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the budget amendments for the health department. Commissioner Garner second.

Vote: 5/0

DSS Director, Eddie Wooten, reported that funds had been received through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the purpose of foster care and adoption. The budget amendments reflect the receipt and expenditure of those funds. Commissioner Wooten asked if a local match was required. Mr. Eddie Wooten replied that no County funds were involved and no local match was required.

**YADKIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
BUDGET AMENDMENTS
May 2010**

REVENUES

Line Item	Account	Budgeted	Increase/ Decrease	Amended
Daycare-ARRA	105532057802	48,100	38,747	86,847
Smart Start	105532057800	100,000	20,159	120,159
Special Adoption Fund	1045320 42255	81,000	45,000	126,000
TOTAL		229,100	103,906	333,006

EXPENDITURES

Line Item	Account	Budgeted	Increase/ Decrease	Amended
Daycare-ARRA	105532057801	48,100	38,747	86,847
Smart Start	105532057800	100,000	20,159	120,159
Special Adoption Fund	1053200 57820	81,000	45000	126,000
TOTAL		229,100	103,906	333,006

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the budget amendments for DSS. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

(3) DSS Agreement with Toby Outdoor Advertising:

In conjunction with the approved budget amendment for DSS, Mr. Eddie Wooten presented an agreement with Toby Outdoor Advertising to place billboards promoting the County's foster parent program. Mr. Eddie Wooten commented that there are not sufficient foster families in the County to serve the caseload. The billboards will hopefully encourage families to pursue becoming a foster home. The cost of the agreement includes the set-up and advertising for 2 billboards for a 1-year period.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the agreement between DSS and Toby Outdoor Advertising as presented. Commissioner Garner second.

Vote: 5/0

(4) County Agreements with Simplex Grinnell:

Deputy Manager Church directed attention to the agreements with Simplex Grinnell explaining that the agreements provide for the testing, service, and maintenance of fire alarm systems in the Courthouse and Planning and Permits Building. Commissioner Moxley asked why the cost for the Planning and Permits Building was slightly more than the other for the same service. Josh Arnder, IT Director, reported that the systems in the Planning and Permits Building are a more advanced technology which may explain the cost difference. Commissioner Garner asked if there were current staff that could complete these tasks, such as maintenance personnel, rather than contracting for the service. Chairman Wagoner noted the liability issues and feels that a professional service would be most appropriate.

Commissioner Wooten asked Attorney Graham if he had reviewed the agreements. Attorney Graham reported that he had reviewed the agreements and had no concerns. Commissioner Wooten asked that Attorney Graham attach his comments or concerns to the contract control form on all future contracts.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to approve the agreements between Yadkin County and Simplex Grinnell for the monitoring and servicing of fire alarms in the Courthouse and Planning and Permits Building. Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

(5) County Agreement with Global Compliance:

The Board reviewed the revised agreement with Global Compliance. Chairman Wagoner noted his ease with a definitive \$300 increase for foreign language interpretation as opposed to the original open-ended amount. The Board asked Deputy Manager Church how he intended to publicize this service. Deputy Manager Church reported that the phone number and web address would be posted on the County website and posted in a variety of settings throughout the County.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to approve the agreement between Yadkin County and Global Compliance for the establishment of a fraud reporting line and website. Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

(6) New Hire for Sheriff's Office:

Major Danny Widener of the Sheriff's Office appeared before the Board. According to State statutes, Major Widener is seeking the approval of the Board for the Sheriff to hire a relative.

Commissioner Garner made a motion to approve Sheriff Cain's hiring of relative, Heather Shew. Commissioner Moxley second. Much discussion followed.

Vice Chairman Austin asked if there was an open position. Major Widener replied that this receptionist position is open and is above the proposed 4-position freeze exemption. Commissioner Moxley pointed out that the freeze exemption for the Sheriff's Office is not yet approved policy. Interim Manager Haynes confirmed that this is a proposed policy that accompanies the budget for FY 2010-2011 and that the freeze policy applies to all departments equally at this time.

Chairman Wagoner stated that the Sheriff's Office operates within its budget parameters and is a unit of public safety. Further, Chairman Wagoner remarked that the Sheriff is an elected official just as members of the Board. As an elected official, the Sheriff must strive to do what the citizens put him in office to do. If the Sheriff is not exceeding his overall budget, Chairman Wagoner feels that the hiring freeze should not apply to the Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Wooten disagreed stating that the hiring freeze was put in place on March 1, 2010 and should be honored 'across the board.' Commissioner Wooten stated that a freeze applies to the position and the funding for that position.

Commissioner Garner disagreed with Commissioner Wooten's position on this matter. Commissioner Wooten commented that there cannot be special rules for one particular department. Chairman Wagoner stated he understood how his position on this matter may be perceived, but it is not his intention to favor a particular department.

Commissioner Garner called the question. Vice Chairman Austin felt that more discussion was in order.

Commissioner Wooten had contacted the School of Government on the matter of a hiring freeze. Commissioner Wooten reported that, according to the SOG, a hiring freeze applies equally to all departments. However, the Board of Commissioners has the discretion to apply exemptions in any case it feels necessary.

Vice Chairman Austin made a substitute motion to approve a hiring freeze policy on all vacant positions with the following exceptions: no more than 4 Sheriff's Office positions, no more than 4 DSS positions, no more than 4 EMS positions, no more than 4 Health Department positions, and no department head or key positions. Commissioner Moxley second. It was noted that the Sheriff's Office currently has 6 open positions and DSS has 5.

To accept the substitute motion – Vote: 3/2 (Garner and Wooten against)

To approve the motion – Vote: 4/1 (Wooten against)

Commissioner Moxley made a motion to approve the hiring of Heather Shew for the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Garner second. It was noted that the Sheriff currently employs 4 relatives.

Vote: 4/1 (Wooten against)

CALENDAR NOTES

Chairman Wagoner reviewed the calendar events. There were no additions.

MANAGER REPORTS

(1) Interim Manager Haynes stated that he had been an advisor only on the budget and that the credit belongs to Deputy Manager Church. Interim Manager Haynes further remarked that Deputy Manager Church had studied the revenues and expenditures and has a thorough knowledge of the recommended budget.

(2) Interim Manager Haynes presented a resolution regarding legal counsel for the members of the Board of Commissioners.

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to suspend Robert's Rules of Order so that this resolution may be considered at this time. Commissioner Wooten second.

Vote: 3/2 (Moxley and Wagoner against).

Motion failed as a 67% affirmative vote is required on this action.

Commissioner Moxley stated that he would like more time to review this document and suggested that it be placed on the agenda for the June 7, 2010 meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Austin had this additional comment:

Vice Chairman Austin stated that he was glad to see Gilbert Hemric and Marion Welborn, Commissioner Elects, in attendance for today's meeting.

Commissioner Garner had this additional comment:

Commissioner Garner had recently represented the Board of Commissioners at an annual reunion of Vietnam Veterans. This particular group of veterans worked with a canine unit during the Vietnam War. Mr. Walter Joseph Marm, a canine trainer of war dogs, is a Medal of Honor recipient.

Commissioner Moxley had this additional comment:

Commissioner Moxley had recently attended the 50 Year Celebration of the Forbush Volunteer Fire Department. Commissioner Moxley reported that the department has abundant community support and has grown considerably since its beginning. The department has added a monument dedicated to all past firefighters that are now deceased.

Commissioner Wooten had this additional comment:

Commissioner Wooten would like to discuss the I-77/Highway 421 waterline and economic development possibilities at the next meeting. Commissioner Wooten will provide the necessary documents for the agenda.

Chairman Wagoner had this additional comment:

Chairman Wagoner noted his appreciation for Commissioner Moxley representing Yadkin County in the Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor Partnership.

Attorney Graham had no additional items for discussion.

Chairman Wagoner called for a recess at 9:12pm. Meeting resumed at 9:28pm.

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to enter a closed session per North Carolina General Statutes 143.318-11(a)(3) for consultation with attorney and 143.318-11(a)(6) for the discussion of various personnel issues. Vice Chairman Austin second.

Vote: 5/0

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to end the closed session.

Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

Vice Chairman Austin made a motion to approve the creation of a position titled Assistant to the County Manager/Human Resources Officer.

Commissioner Moxley second.

Vote: 5/0

Commissioner Wooten made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Garner second.

Vote: 5/0

Meeting adjourned at 10:37pm.

Prepared by Clerk to the Board

Date Approved by the
Yadkin County **Board** of Commissioners