

Joint Meeting:

YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

YADKIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, February 29, 2016

The Yadkin County Board of Commissioners met in Joint Session with the Yadkin County Board of Education on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 7:00pm 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

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
Gary Groce, Finance Officer

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 7:02pm.
Chairman Howard McKnight called to order the Board of Education at 7:02pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

JOINT AGENDA ITEMS

Report from the County Manager

County Manager Hughes addressed the Board. The County received a Parks & Trails grant from the State to expand our trails at the Yadkin Memorial Park. The County previously submitted an application for PARTF grant funding for Phase II of the Yadkin Memorial Park but the application was not approved. The County will be submitting another application for PARTF grant funds. A public meeting will be held in this room tomorrow night at 6:00pm to try and get more community support for the Park. The County wants to add a dog park at the Memorial Park. Budget time is here. With the way the NC Education Lottery funds are being distributed, the County has started seeing a decline in those funds. For the last several years the County has been able to draw down approximately \$750,000.00 a year to use to pay toward the existing debt service for the schools. This year it is anticipated that the County will only be able to draw down approximately \$360,000.00. The County intends to use some of the funds from the new sales taxes that will be coming in to offset the loss in lottery funds. Chairman Austin said a representative from the NC Lottery spoke at the last Association of County Commissioners Education Steering Committee meeting. The NC Lottery Commission is going to take a position on how lottery funds are used. They are going to argue that the way the lottery money has been diverted has hurt the overall health of the lottery and therefore the ability of the lottery to help children and education. The State has been taking lottery money and supplanted their regular budget with it. It would be nice to see the lottery funds being used for school construction, textbooks, technology, and supplies. Chairman Austin said there may be a compromise in the works on the school calendar issue. In the future the Statute may be changed to say the Monday closest to the 22nd instead of the 25th. The Association is pursuing putting something like that in place. The overall goal does still remain to align the community college calendars with the school calendars but they will take any improvements they can get to the calendar while they work toward that goal. County Manager Hughes said that the Yadkin County Agricultural and

Educational Building is anticipated to be finished in April or May. There will be a grand opening and open house when it is finished. The County is getting close to being able to hold the community meetings for the East Bend Waterline Project. The community meetings are for people to sign the easements that are needed for the waterline and to start the process of selling taps for the line.

Report from Superintendent

Dr. Martin addressed those present. Because the new Agricultural and Educational Building is going to be open next fall Surry Community College will be able to offer even more courses for the Early College. For the first time they will be able to offer the courses that will lead to a diploma in mechatronics. They are very excited that their students are going to start working on a mechatronics degree right here in Yadkin County. Along with five mechatronics courses, students will be able to take college history, English, sociology, and music. The Yadkin Virtual Academy will start in the fall. Students will be able to take online courses that can be accessed anytime, day or night. They will have their teachers teach the courses outside of the regular school day. If a student falls behind in an online course then the teacher will be required to meet with the student during planning periods. Having online courses will give their students more flexibility. Some students who would like to attend Early College can't because they don't have transportation to get there. They are working on a plan to provide bus transportation for students who attend Forbush and Starmount to go to Early College. The students will ride their regular bus to school and then a bus will take them from their school to the Early College. The Forbush Elementary Lego robotics team competed in the State competition and took 2nd place in the robot run and 1st place in robot design. They are very pleased with the efforts of these students. They are looking to expand the Lego robotics program into the high schools next year.

Lighting Project for Schools

Dr. Martin presented a plan to replace the lighting at the schools with new LED lights that will give off a better quality of light, put off less heat, be more energy efficient, and save money. Duke Energy is really promoting a switch to products that conserve energy and they are offering significant rebates to businesses who replace their old lights with LED lights. They have been looking at what it will cost to replace the lights in their schools and gyms. The replacement of the lights would be done in phases. The pricing they have is broken up into those phases. Phase 1 is the elementary and high schools. Phase 2 is the middle schools. The middle schools were kept separate because they are newer schools so they have newer lights. Phase 3 is the gyms. In Phase 1 there are 5,600 light fixtures that will need to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$952,000.00. Duke Energy will provide approximately \$560,000.00 in incentives so the cost of replacing the lights would actually be approximately \$392,000.00. They estimated the new lights will pay for themselves in 3 to 4 years due to energy cost savings. The two Boards reviewed the costs associated with Phase 2 and Phase 3. Dr. Martin asked the Board of Commissioners to consider assisting them with some funds for the project. The two Boards discussed the project. Board of Education Chairman McKnight said they would love to have the County's support on the lighting project. The new lights will help the students because of the better quality of light they will give off. There is also a monetary advantage to replacing the lights. He hopes the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education can join forces and get it done.

The Board of Education adjourned their meeting.

Chairman Austin called for a recess for the Board of Commissioners meeting. Chairman Austin called the meeting back to order at 7:51pm.

Chairman Austin made a motion to enter Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (1)(3)(4)(5)(6) to discuss Personnel Matters and to Protect Personnel Information that is Confidential under NCGS 153A-98, and to discuss the potential Location or Expansion of Industries or other Businesses in the County, to Establish the County's Negotiating Position for Acquiring Real Property and to Instruct the County Staff on that Position, and to have a Privileged Consultation with our County Attorney and Pursuant to NCGS 131E-97.3 to discuss Confidential Competitive Health Care Information. Vice Chairman Moxley second.

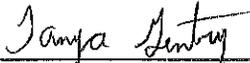
Vote: 4/0.

Commissioner Zachary made a motion to approve the agreement with Smith Moore Leatherwood to represent former County Manager Aaron Church. Vice Chairman Moxley second. .

Vote: 4/0.

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

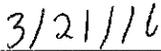
Vote: 4/0.



Prepared by Tanya Gentry
Clerk to the Board



Kevin Austin, Chairman
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners



Date approved by the
Yadkin County Board of Commissioners