

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Hertford County Board of Commissioners
County Commissioners' Meeting Room
Tuesday, January 20, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Present: William F. Mitchell, Jr., Johnnie R. Farmer, and Curtis A. Freeman, Sr.

Absent: Ronald J. Gatling

Also Present with the Board: Loria D. Williams, County Manager; M. Ray Wiggins, Assistant County Manager; Charles L. Revelle, III, County Attorney; and Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

Chairman William F. Mitchell, Jr., called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., provided the invocation for the meeting.

MINUTES

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following minutes as presented:

- (1) November 03, 2014 – Regular Meeting
- (2) November 17, 2014 – Regular Meeting

TAX

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Vehicle Tax Releases for the month of December, 2014.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to accept the following Tax Releases for December, 2014:

TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (2014 LEVY)	1,020.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (2014 LEVY)	28.57
TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)	1,770.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)	17.72
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2014)	1,950.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2014)	1,950.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2013)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2013)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2012)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2012)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2011)	00.00

TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2011)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2010)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2010)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2009)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2009)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2008)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2008)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2007)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2007)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2006)	50.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2006)	50.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2005)	00.00
TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2005)	00.00

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Tax Collection Percentage Report as presented.

PERSONNEL

Leah Craddock, Human Resources/Risk Manager, introduced the following County employees: Tiffany Tehnet and Earl Futrell, both with the E-911 Department.

CADA

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2015-2016 CSBG Anti-Poverty Work Plan as presented by Ms. Jacqueline Melton, Community Services Center Manager with CADA.

E-911

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agreement (Document A101-2007) with Cadet Construction Company with inclusion of the Digital Data Protocol Exhibit (Document E201-2007) for the construction of the E-911 Center as presented by Loria D. Williams, County Manager. The amount of this agreement totals \$2,636,300.

COURTHOUSE

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to approve Change Order Number 007 in the amount of \$40,000 for the Hertford County Courthouse and Government Center Project as presented by Loria D. Williams, County Manager.

On a motion by Farmer and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to award the Moving/Relocation Services Contract to New Day Office Products & Furnishings, Inc./Kloke Group, Inc. Relocation Moving Storage in the amount of \$123,088 as presented by M. Ray Wiggins, Assistant County Manager. The Kloke Group was the second lowest bidder on price alone, but had more experience with this type of move, and glowing recommendations.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a scheduled Public Hearing on the possible adoption of a Moratorium Ordinance regulating solar energy farms.

PUBLIC HEARING/PLANNING & ZONING

The Clerk to the Board read the following Notice of Public Hearing as published in the newspaper:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with NCGS 153A-340(h), that the Hertford County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 20, 2015, at 7:15 P.M. in the Commissioners Meeting Room, Office Building Number One, 704 North King Street, Winton, North Carolina. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comments on the possible adoption of a Moratorium Ordinance on the issuance of zoning permits for Solar Energy Farms in all districts regulated by Hertford County, and whether there should be limitations or restrictions on the sites available for use as Solar Energy Farms. At any time following the public hearing, the Board of Commissioners may adopt such a Moratorium Ordinance.

It was noted that a Moratorium Ordinance could not be adopted tonight because it requires all Board Members to be present.

Chairman Mitchell addressed the speakers who had signed up to make comments that the Board would not respond to any questions tonight. They were only listening to comments and that the comments were limited to 3 to 5 minutes.

Before public comments, Bill Early, Planning & Zoning Administrator, addressed the Board sharing there were 21 sites in development for solar energy farms and only four sites were known about before the December 15, 2014, meeting.

The following brief comments were made during the Public Hearing, and they all were speaking against a Moratorium Ordinance on Solar Energy Farms:

- Carson Harkrader with Carolina Solar Energy has a project in progress on the David Simons Property
- David Simons shared that a 40-acre site belong to himself and his father had been planned since 2013
- Mark Finkelstein with Smith Moore Leatherwood in Raleigh, NC, attorney representing David Simons
- Takiya Lewis, attorney representing Sampson Harrell, explained that Mr. Harrell's contract with Sun Energy had been rescinded, but that another company was interested. After some discussion, it was decided that this property may fall under the jurisdiction of the Town of Ahoskie's ETJ; and therefore, would not be subject to the possible moratorium.

- Chris Killenberg with Community Energy has two projects underway – one on Highway 11 and one outside of Winton. He discussed how delays may keep these projects from being completed by the end of the year to receive the tax credits.
- Libby Jones, local Winton resident, working with Community Energy
- Michael D. Neal, working with Sun Energy, at a site on River Road, shared the estimated potential benefits of these solar energy farms.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to leave the Public Hearing and return to Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATE

There was nothing to report under County Manager's Update.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- Commissioner Freeman recognized Terry Hairston, Scout Leader of Troop 129 in Ahoskie. He was present with his son, Hunter Hairston, and another Boy Scout, Devin Vaughan. They were observing the meeting working towards their Communications Merit Badge.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a scheduled Closed Session as allowed under G. S. 143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with the County Attorney and (6) to discuss personnel matters.

CLOSED SESSION

Minutes of Closed Session are on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Farmer, the Board voted unanimously to recess the meeting until Thursday, January 29, 2015, at 6:00 P.M.