

Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Hertford County Board of Commissioners  
Multi-Purpose Room – Judicial Center  
Monday, June 20, 2016  
7:00 P.M.

Present: Ronald J. Gatling, F. Garry Lewter, Curtis A. Freeman, Sr., and William F. Mitchell, Jr.

Absent: Johnnie R. Farmer

Also Present with the Board: Loria D. Williams, County Manager; Maria Jones, Interim County Attorney; M. Ray Wiggins, Assistant County Manager; and Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Ronald J. Gatling called the meeting to order. Commissioner William F. Mitchell, Jr., provided the invocation, including a special prayer for Commissioner Farmer.

**COMMISSIONERS**

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Lewter, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to add Memo #8512-B to make a board appointment to the Hertford County Social Services Board.

Chairman Gatling took this time to recognize the elected officials in attendance from the Board of Education and the Town of Murfreesboro.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Lewter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented with the following items:

- (1) Acceptance of Reports
  - (a) Tax Releases (May, 2016)
  - (b) Vehicle Tax Releases (May, 2016)
  - (c) Tax Collection Percentage Report

The approved tax releases are as follows:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (2015 LEVY)           | 19,495.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (2015 LEVY)             | 166.68    |
| TOTAL VALUE APPROVED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)          | 63,109.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (PRIOR LEVY)            | 512.72    |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2015) | 150.00    |

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|--|--------|
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2015) | 150.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2014)       | 130.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2014) | 130.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2013)       | 130.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2013) | 130.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2012)       | 125.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2012) | 125.00 |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W01 COLL/RECYCLE 2011)       | 26.61  |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2011) | 26.61  |
| 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)       | 00.00  |
| TOTAL TAX RELEASED THIS REPORT (W02 LANDFILL OPERATION 2006) | 00.00  |

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Board of Education Member David Shields spoke during Public Comment Period. At a recent Commissioners' Meeting, a Capital Outlay request from Hertford County Schools had been approved. Hertford County Schools had proceeded with the project without prior approval from the Commissioners. Mr. Shields explained some of the projects were pressing issues and apologized for not following the pre-approval process. The Board of Education realizes how important it is to follow procedure and will make a better effort to do that in the future.

### **MURFREESBORO BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Ms. Geri Bradshaw, Chairwoman of the Murfreesboro Beautification Committee, was present requesting financial assistance with a beautification project through the North Carolina Department of Transportation. This enhancement project would provide plantings at the following locations coming into the town of Murfreesboro: Intersections along Hwy. 158; at Hwy. 258, Chowan University, Spring Avenue, and Powell Road. These areas would be planted and then maintained for three years by D.O.T. at no cost. At that time, the Town of Murfreesboro would take over maintenance at their expense. If not, D.O.T. would continue maintenance and charge the Town. Hertford County is being asked for assistance since these project areas are located in the county.

Ms. Pat Mansfield, Division Roadside Environmental Engineer with N.C.D.O.T., will come at a later date to make a Power Point Presentation detailing these project areas to both boards together – the County Commissioners and the Town Council Members. Ms. Bradshaw was instructed to coordinate a meeting with the Clerk.

Mr. Craig Dennis, Murfreesboro Town Councilman, was in the audience and thanked the Board for their consideration and spoke in favor of this project.

### **CONTRACTS/SOCIAL SERVICES**

Mrs. Brenda Brown, Social Services Director, presented the FY 2016-2017 DSS Contracts for Board approval. There are ten contracts up for renewal with no rate increases.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the FY 2016-2017 DSS Contracts as presented.

### **PERSONNEL/TAX**

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Gay Sumner as Tax Collector and Tammy Eason as Deputy Tax Collector for four-year terms to expire June 30, 2020, as per G.S. 105-349(a).

At this time, the County Manager shared that due to the efforts of Ms. Sumner and Mrs. Eason, the tax collection rate is at 96%, higher than it has been in quite some time.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

On a motion by Mitchell and a second by Freeman, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Vice-Chairman F. Garry Lewter as the voting delegate at the 2016 NACo Conference in July.

### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Hertford County Social Services Board**

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Lewter, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Renee Fleetwood-Tann to the Hertford County Social Services Board for a three-year term to expire on June 30, 2019.

### **AMBULANCE**

Ambulance Franchises normally expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. But since the Medical Services Transportation Advisory Council had not been able to get a quorum to meet, these franchises need to be extended for 90 days. This request needs to be presented to the Commissioners at two separate meetings, and this is the second required reading.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to extend the Ambulance Franchises for 90 days.

### **COUNTY MANAGER'S UPDATE**

- Renovation of County Office Building #1 is moving forward

## **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

- Commissioner Freeman questioned Ms. Williams about getting into the E-911 Center. July 12<sup>th</sup> is still the cutover date. The dispatchers coming from the Towns of Ahoskie and Murfreesboro will become employees of the County on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Chairman Gatling updated the Board on the Recreation Committee Meetings

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Lewter, the Board voted unanimously to recess Regular Session to go into a scheduled Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2016-2017 Hertford County Budget per the following advertisement:

### **LEGAL NOTICE HERTFORD COUNTY BUDGET HEARING**

Pursuant to N. C. General Statute 159-11, notice is hereby given that the proposed 2016-2017 Hertford County Budget has been filed and is open for public inspection in the Office of the County Manager - Clerk to the Board - Hertford County Government Center –115 Justice Drive - Winton, NC, from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. A public hearing will be held by the Hertford County Commissioners on June 20, 2016, at 7:30 P.M. in the Multi-Purpose Room – Judicial Center – Justice Drive – Winton, NC, to receive public comments on the proposed budget. By order of the Hertford County Board of Commissioners.

Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman, Hertford County Board of Commissioners  
Shelia W. Matthews, Clerk to the Board

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

The County Manager shared that the budget included \$1.2 million budgeted for the Schools in Capital Outlay. There are increased appropriations, requested by the Board, to rural fire departments, Law Enforcement salary increases, Animal Control salary increases, and Elections Director salary increase.

There were no public comments made.

On a motion by Freeman and a second by Lewter, the Board voted unanimously to return to Regular Session.

## **REGULAR SESSION**

### **COMMISSIONERS**

On a motion by Lewter and a second by Mitchell, the Board voted unanimously to recess the meeting until 5:00 P.M. on June 29, 2016, at which time the FY 2016-2017 Hertford County Budget will formally be adopted.