



REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
106 HILLCREST DRIVE  
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA 27330

FEBRUARY 16, 2009

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The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Lee, State of North Carolina, convened at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room, First Floor, Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, North Carolina, on said date. Commissioners present were Amy M. Dalrymple, Richard B. Hayes, James C. Kelly, Larry "Doc" Oldham, Nathan E. Paschal, Robert T. Reives, and Linda A. Shook.

Chairman Richard Hayes presided and called the meeting to order. The following business was transacted:

County Attorney K. R. Hoyle delivered the invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The Board considered additions/changes to the agenda. With no changes made, Commissioner Kelly moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook  
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Oldham moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following items:

- Minutes from the February 2, 2009 regular meeting;
- Tax Releases and Refunds for January 2009 (copies attached);
- Appointment of Dr. Bud Marchant to the Mid-Carolina Work Force Development Board;
- Program Manual and Administrative Policies for the FY 2008 CDBG Scattered Site Project (copies attached);
- Donation of a treadmill to the Hillcrest Youth Shelter valued at \$1,000;
- Proclamation to proclaim the week of February 15-21, 2009 as JAYCEE WEEK (copy attached);
- Audit contract with Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009; and

- Amendments to the Lee County Personnel Policy for Sections A-1, B-3, D-3, F-1, F-2, F-3, and F-4

Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook  
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Shook read the Proclamation for JAYCEE WEEK and introduced Jaycee representatives that were in attendance for the meeting.

The following signed up to speak during the *Public Comments* section of the meeting:

1. Mr. Eugene Barufkin, 376 Kittery Point, Sanford

The Board considered appointments to the Board of Equalization and Review. Tax Administrator Dwane Brinson stated the Commissioners had previously adopted a resolution establishing a separate Board of Equalization & Review to hear tax property appeals. Mr. Brinson stated that several regular and alternate appointments have expired and need to be reappointed or new members selected. Two applications were submitted for consideration. Mr. Brinson further stated that once appointments are finalized the resolution establishing the new Board will be amended for approval. After some discussion, Chairman Hayes moved that alternate member Herman Morris be moved into the vacancy created by Johnny Mack Burns and Herb Hincks be moved into the unexpired term of Jack McNeill, and advertise for three alternate positions that will be considered at the March 16, 2009 meeting, along with the two applications submitted on this date. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook  
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Shook discussed the *Employee Free Choice Act* that would make it easier for unions to be formed and shared her concerns of future liability to small businesses in North Carolina should this be passed in Congress. During her presentation Ms. Shook asked that the Board take action to oppose the Act, write letters to our congressional leaders sharing our concerns, and for the County Manager to communicate with surrounding counties to let them know Lee County has taken a proactive approach against the Act. No action was taken.

Finance Director Lisa Minter presented the *Monthly Financial Report* for month ending January 2009. Ms. Minter stated that revenues had fallen behind from last year and fees and investment earnings are down. Sales numbers are also down approximately 13% from this time last year. December sales figure numbers will be available around the middle of March. The Tax Office should have some indication on property taxes within the next 60 days.

County Manager John Crumpton discussed the top five issues facing Lee County at this time which include the following:

(1) Current Financial Situation. November sales tax revenues were down considerably from the previous year; overall reduction is 8% when Medicaid swap is factored in; running 6% below budget through November 2008.

(2) FY 2009-10 Budget. Departments and outside agencies continue to work on their 2009-10 fiscal year budget requests. The Department of Labor's cost of living adjustment number in January (the index used to figure COLA amounts) was a negative .5 percent; therefore, employees will not receive a COLA in next year's budget. All Departments have been asked to prepare budgets at their current level of funding and have plans ready to reduce spending by 2% - 4%. Should be ready to discuss preliminary numbers in late March or early April with the Board.

(3) Community College - Jonesboro Campus. The Health Department is considering closing the Dental Clinic at the W. B. Wicker Campus. CCCC has been contacted and is interested in taking over the space Lee County currently rents and possibly using the dental equipment that will no longer be needed. CCCC has an interest in this as well as an interest in renting other parts of the facility. This would allow the college to transfer some classes from the Jonesboro Campus to the Wicker Campus. Discussions will continue as the budget process continues.

(4) Mid-Carolina Work Force Development Board. Lee County is part of a four-county group that handles funds disbursed by the Federal Government under the Workforce Investment Act. These funds are used to retrain or prepare displaced workers for other jobs that are open in these counties. The other counties involved are Sampson, Harnett and Chatham. The funds disbursed on behalf of Lee County go to the Employment Security Commission here in Sanford. Our system appears to be working well; however, the other three counties appear to have issues with the funding. Their funds are handled by internal departments to County Government in Sampson and Harnett and the Employment Security Commission for Chatham. The other counties have raised concerns about how the money is allocated by the Mid Carolina Council of Governments who handles the funds and disburses them to the appropriate agencies. The Board will be kept updated as developments go forward.

(5) 911 Agreement with the City of Sanford. Chairman Hayes and Vice-Chairman Oldham continue to work on this agreement with City representatives and are making progress. It is hopeful that a beneficial agreement to both parties will be in place before the State's 911 Board meets on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Reives moved to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook  
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Richard B. Hayes, Chairman  
Lee County Board of Commissioners

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Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk