

MINUTES

RETREAT

February 11, 2010

The Davidson County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 AM on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at the Davidson Academy facility for a budget planning retreat.

PRESENT

Commissioners: Chairman Max Walser, Vice Chairman Sam Watford, Cathy Dunn, Billy Joe Kepley, Fred McClure, Larry Potts, Don Truell

County Manager Robert Hyatt, Assistant County Manager Zeb Hanner, County Attorney Chuck Frye, Clerk to the Board Anne Burkhart, Health Director Layton Long, Social Services Director Keith Johnson, Human Resources Director Jim Tysinger, Planning and Zoning Director Guy Cornman, NCDOT Consultant Hannah Cockburn, Sheriff David Grice, Major Chris Coble, IT Director Joel Hartley, Library Director Ruth Ann Copley, Finance Director Jane Kiker, Senior Services Director Thessia Everhart-Roberts, Solid Waste Director Charlie Brushwood, Public Works and Services Director Rex Buck, Operations Manager Rick Prevette, Purchasing Director Dwayne Childress, EMS Director Doug Lowe, Register of Deeds David Rickard, Inspections Assistant Director John Latham

INVOCATION

Commissioner Billy Joe Kepley

ADOPT AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Potts and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adopt the agenda. (Exhibit 1)

BRAINSTORMING SESSION

The requested the following items for discussion:

- 1) Reservoir – Commissioner Kepley
- 2) Videoing Meetings – Commissioner McClure
- 3) Legislative Goals – Commissioner McClure
- 4) Poverty/Hunger in the County – Commissioner Walser
- 5) Rainbarrels/Moving toward Green – Chairman Walser
- 6) Advertising on Public Property – Chairman Walser
- 7) Recreation Programs by Robert Hyatt

STATUS REPORT OF 2009-2010 BUDGET (revenues/expenditure) by Zeb Hanner

Zeb Hanner presented information on the county's financial status, estimating that the County is \$600,000 behind in sales tax for the year. He presented the collection amounts for the departments and noted that a tax evaluation could be put off until the year 2015. Mr. Hanner then exhibited the five-year forecast and noted that the County has exceeded projections. He emphasized that the County has kept the tax rate down and the fund balance looks good. (Exhibit 2)

PROPOSED 2010 2011 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN by Zeb Hanner

Doug Lowe led the discussion on the EOC proposed for location at the NW EMS Base as a back up for 911.

Discussion continued on the plans for the Davidson Academy facility, to include Recreation, Senior Services, and Davidson Works.

Ruth Ann Copley noted that the Library has received a \$250,000 donation of shelving from High Point Library.

Robert Hyatt apprised the Board that the grant applied for to help with the repairs to the Historical Museum (Old Courthouse) was not awarded to the County.

The Board received information of the needs of renovation to the old (still current) Senior Services Building.

The Board was further informed that Transportation and Public Works and Services will be moving to the *Don Mays* building and Purchasing and warehousing will be located in the present Transportation and Public Works and Services building.

Vice Chairman Watford apprised the Board that the present downtown location of the courthouse and jail is being seriously studied by the architect firm for consideration of the new facilities construction in that area rather than an outlying area.

The Board received information that that the Optimist and Southmont ball fields are in need of renovations.

Rex Buck noted that there are sewer projects that will be under construction for the next five years. Vice Chairman Watford stated that the County efforts need to be concentrated on getting sewer to areas for retail activity. Commissioner Kepley commented on the requests from the Welcome area. Commissioner Dunn stated the need for sewer for retail growth in Southmont and the High Rock Lake area.

Discussion continued on school construction with mention of a Thomasville Pre-School and Lexington Senior High School renovation.

Charlie Brushwood noted the needs for several pieces of equipment at the landfill.

Zeb Hanner recapped the discussion and noted that the debt service is currently \$11,434,482. (Exhibit 3)

David Rickard stated the increase in revenue for the Register of Deeds is due to the increase in fees by the State.

2010-2011 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Early Retirement Plan by Jim Tysinger

Robert Hyatt shared information on the increases in retirement contributions. Discussion followed with reference to employee increases. Commissioner Potts expressed his concerns on maintaining a status quo so that if school employees get 3%, he felt County employees should get 3%.

Jim Tysinger presented options and savings of an Early Retirement Plan for the County. (Exhibit 4)

School Capital Expenditures by Zeb Hanner

Robert Hyatt and Zeb Hanner presented information on schools capital expenditures and noted that \$17,000,000 has been spent on county school sewer. (Exhibit 5)

FACILITIES ISSUES

Jail/Courthouse Committee Report

Vice Chairman Sam Watford presented the plan of the Jail/Courthouse Study Committee to concentrate the jail/courthouse facility at the present campus.

Colonial Drive/Cecil School

Robert Hyatt presented the option of selling the Colonial Drive and Cecil School facilities. Discussion followed concerning historic status and usage.

Other Facilities

The Board received more information on the use of the Don Mays building by Public Works and Transportation, the Purchasing/Warehousing operations to the Old Transportation building.

Discussion followed on the use of the old Post Office/Arts Center building with reference to occupancy by the Board of Elections at a cost of approximately \$200,000 for renovations. It was noted that the old Board of Elections building could be used for Central Permitting.

The Board then reviewed the uses and occupancy of the Davidson Academy facilities.

New Name for Davidson Academy Property

It was decided that the facility would be named *Davidson County Government West Center Street Extension Campus*. (Exhibit 6)

Future Use of Senior Services Facility

It was noted that possible uses for the old (current) Senior Services building are for Agriculture/Soil and Water/Farm Service or Probation/Parole

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' RULES OF PROCEDURE by Chuck Frye

Chuck Frye informed the Board of certain amendments which should be made to the Rules of Procedure. The Board requested that the County Attorney draft a revised Rules of Procedure for consideration by the Board.

Ethics Policy/Training Review

Chuck Frye apprised the Board of the Ethics Policy and training required for the two-hour review of ethics. (Exhibit 7)

PLANNING by Guy Cornman

Property Maintenance/Code Enforcement

Guy Cornman presented the options for control. (See Exhibit 8)

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Guy then reviewed the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. (See Exhibit 9)

ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATION by Sheriff David Grice

Sheriff Grice appealed to the Board for another entity or department to take over the operation of the Animal Shelter. He stated that the Sheriff's Department would still transport the animals but he would like for the Board to pursue contracting it out for supervision or it would be better served under different County supervision.

BOARD DELIBERATION ON ISSUES IDENTIFIED AT BEGINNING OF MEETING

Reservoir - Commissioner Kepley expressed his concerns for water quality and noted the presence of pharmaceuticals in the water. He then emphasized the importance of a reservoir for the County.

Videoing of Meetings – Commissioner McClure commented on the number of citizens who cannot attend the meetings due to illness, handicaps, or age. He then suggested asking departments for PBB money.

Legislative Goals – Commissioner commented on the advantages of having legislative goals in early.

Poverty/Hunger/Unemployment – Chairman Walser expressed his concerns for the number of people that are unemployed (13%). He noted the need for funds for medical ministries.

Going Green – Barney Hill was invited to speak and he addressed rainbarrels and deleting fireplaces from tax cards for houses that do not have them.

Recreation - The Board discussed the requested County participation with Babe Ruth Programs.

Advertising - Chairman Walser noted the presence of advertisements on bridges in other areas.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Vice Chairman Watford and a second by Commissioner Potts, the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adjourn.



W. Max Walser, Chairman
Davidson County Board of Commissioners



Anne M. Burkhart, Clerk to the Board
Davidson County Board of Commissioners