

MINUTES

May 13, 2003

The Davidson County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington, North Carolina for a regularly scheduled meeting and four public hearings.

PRESENT

Commissioners: Chairman Fred Sink, Vice Chair Priscilla Hege, Cindy Akins, Billy Joe Kepley, Don Truell, Dr. Max Walser, and Sam Watford

County Manager Robert Hyatt, County Attorney/Clerk to the Board Stephen Holton, Budget Officer Zeb Hanner, Finance Director Jane Kiker, Health Director Diane Crouse, Planning and Zoning Director Guy Cornman, EMS Interim Director Doug Lowe, Mental Health Director Billy West, Human Services Representative Carol Black, Reservoir Committee Chairman Wayne Wilkins, Economic Development Director Steve Gooze, Solid Waste Director Charlie Brushwood, Recycling Coordinator Steve Swaim, Interim Public Buildings Director Scott Rickard, JTEC Director Pat Everhart, Library Director Nancy Bates, LEPC Chairman Greg Stabler

A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Fred Sink called the meeting to order and welcomed guests.

B. INVOCATION

Commissioner Don Truell

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. RECOGNITION

Chairman Sink recognized Lewie Phillips of the Davidson County Council of Chambers and also Larry Potts, former chairman of the Davidson County Board of Commissioners.

Vice Chair Hege recognized the Teachers' Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee members Secretary Lynn Taylor, Vice Chairman Wayne Swicegood, and General Public Representative Joyce Hines. Vice Chair Hege then presented scholarship awards to Dana Hedrick Dishmon, Matthew Joseph Dunn, and Suzanne Nicole Shoaf. Brittany Nicole Hartsell was the recipient of the fourth scholarship but due to an academic commitment was unable to be present to receive it at the meeting. (Exhibit A)

E. REGISTER FOR PUBLIC ADDRESS

Chairman Sink noted the register for public address.

F. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adopt the agenda with the additions of the following:

I.12. Schedule Public Hearing for Secondary Roads Program

I.13. Memorandum of Understanding In Support of Three-County Regional Greenway

Solid Waste Advisory Board Appointment to I.11.

Personnel to Closed Session

(Exhibit 1)

G. PUBLIC ADDRESS

Harry Saunders, resident of the Badin Lake area and fire fighter, spoke in support of extending Badin Lake Fire District and the collection of taxes from the Davidson County residents being served. Mr. Saunders noted that he did not receive notification of the issue or the previously held public hearing.

Sandy Durham, lake resident and volunteer fire fighter, emphasized the need of the tax for funding the service district and noted that she had not received notification of the issue or the public hearing.

Hans Moser, resident of Denton, spoke in support of tax collection from the previously proposed Badin Lake Fire District. Mr. Moser noted that he had not received notification of the issue or the public hearing.

Chairman Sink noted that the issue may be reconsidered at a later date.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Teaching Scholarship Requirements

Vice Chair Hege discussed the proposal from the Davidson County Teachers' Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee to amend **Section 7: Initial Eligibility Requirements** in the 2nd sentence on the fifth line of the section, page 8 of the **Amended Ordinance to Establish and Regulate a Scholarship Program for Students Pursuing a Course of Study and Career in the Teaching Profession** in order to

lower the required Grade Point Average from 2.8 to 2.5 for applicants. Vice Chair Hege noted that the committee felt that a lower GPA requirement would attract more applicants. Vice Chair Hege further noted that many of the applicants are employed while in college and have a variety of responsibilities and the lower GPA would allow some very good prospective teachers to have a chance at the scholarships.

Commissioner Akins questioned the lowering of standards.

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to open the public hearing to receive input on the proposal.

Larry Potts spoke in support of keeping the 2.8 GPA requirement and not lowering it to 2.5. Mr. Potts further noted that the scholarships should attract the best of applicants for teachers to teach Davidson County children and; therefore, standards should not be lowered.

Barney Hill spoke in opposition to the amendment as well as the teachers' scholarship program.

Commissioner Walser, Commissioner Truell, Commissioner Akins, and Commissioner Watford spoke in opposition to the amendment and the lowering of standards to attract more applicants.

Commissioner Kepley stated that there is more merit in the 2.8 GPA requirement.

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to close the public hearing.

Vice Chair Hege noted the existence of several deserving applicants who have not received scholarships due to the requirement of a 2.8 GPA. Vice Chair Hege further stated that these applicants were students with jobs and other demands with GPAs' that were above 2.5 and just slightly below 2.8. Vice Chair Hege stated that the amendment was proposed by the Teachers' Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee to aid in recruitment of teachers.

Vice Chair Hege made a motion to amend the ordinance to lower the GPA from 2.8 to 2.5; the motion died for lack of a second. (Exhibit 2)

2. Solid Waste Management Ten Year Plan Three-Year Update

Recycling Coordinator Steve Swaim noted the requirement of three-year updates on the Ten Year Solid Waste Management Plan for Reduction as mandated by the State.

On a motion by Commissioner Kepley and a second by Commissioner Akins the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to open the public hearing.

Barney Hill spoke in opposition to the proposed resolution to be adopted in coordination with the other entities. Mr. Hill also questioned population figures and other calculations within the plan and proposed an amendment of his own to the plan.

Charlie Brushwood, Integrated Solid Waste Director, provided explanations concerning the purpose and advantages of a "holding pond."

On a motion by Commissioner Watford and a second by Vice Chair Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to close the public hearing.

On a motion by Commissioner Watford and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the updated Ten-Year Plan as proposed. (Exhibit 3)

3. Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$930,000 General Obligation School Bonds of the County of Davidson, North Carolina

Finance Director Jane Kiker explained the efforts to secure improved rates for the 2/3 bonds and noted that the plans are to use the funds for the Liberty Drive School renovation.

On a motion by Truell and a second by Vice Chair Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to open the public hearing to receive input and general comments from the public on the Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of not to Exceed \$930,000 General Obligation School Bonds.

Barney Hill stated his opposition to the bond order.

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to close the public hearing.

Commissioner Akins inquired about the validity of two bond orders being addressed in one resolution.

On a motion by Commissioner Walser and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted 6-1 to approve the Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$930,000 General Obligation School Bonds of the County of Davidson, North Carolina; Commissioner Akins voted "No." (Exhibit 4)

4. Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of not to Exceed \$17,600,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the County of Davidson, North Carolina

Jane Kiker stated that the purpose of the proposed refinancing is to take advantage of the low interest rates that can save the County approximately \$1,000,000.00.

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to open the public hearing to receive input and general comments from the public on the Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$17,600,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the County of Davidson.

Finance Director Jane Kiker explained that the resolution follows the correct form set up for the procedure.

On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Vice Chair Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to close the public hearing.

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted 6-1 to approve the Bond Order Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$17,600,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the County of Davidson, North Carolina; Commissioner Akins voted "No."

(Exhibit 5)

I. ITEMS FOR DECISION/INFORMATION

Consent

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Walser the Board voted 5-2 to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Kepley and Commissioner Akins voted "No."

1. Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of April 22, 2003.

2. Budget Amendments by Zeb M. Hanner, Budget Officer

The Board approved the following budget amendments:

Landfill and Sanitation – line item transfer from vehicle mileage to Gas/Diesel/Fuel Account, landfill \$18,406 and sanitation \$12,079.

Day Reporting – line item transfer of \$9,388 from contracted services to departmental supplies.

Recreation – line item transfer of \$5,055 from Maintenance Building & Grounds to Improvements Other for tennis courts at Denton Park; use \$7,200 of Recreational Fees to purchase bleachers for Tyro soccer field.

Library – appropriate \$13,342 in additional Telecommunications Discount (E-rate) funds for 9 Dell Computers (\$13,000) and \$342 to Departmental supplies to purchase printers and ink.

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Public Buildings – transfer \$6,600 from Maintenance & Repair Equipment to Capital Equipment to put utility bed on existing truck in Public Buildings Department.

Health - line item transfers for adjustment of actual expenditures of \$558 for Department 1945 Thomasville City Schools, \$1,080 for Department 1940 Davidson County Schools, \$1,700 for Department 1935 WIC, \$1,140 for Department 1925 Prenatal.

Sales Tax – appropriate \$8,232 sales tax received due to Dixon Odom’s tax reallocation services.

FEMA – appropriate \$21,569 FEMA funds received for the ice storm of 2002 for reimbursement to fire departments.

Davidson County Schools – appropriate funds to Category I and Category II projects.

(Exhibit 6)

3. Workers’ Compensation Insurance Premium by Keli Greer, Human Services Director

The Board approved the Workers’ Compensation Insurance Premium at an estimated annual premium total of \$771,097 for the fiscal year 2003-2004 and relationships with Zenith Insurance Company and Walt Rouse. (Exhibit 7)

4. Health Insurance for County Employees by Keli Greer, Human Services Director

The Board approved continuing health insurance for county employees under Option 2 with CIGNA for the 2003-2004 fiscal year at an additional cost of \$835,903 to the County. (Exhibit 8)

5. Health Department Fees for 2003-2004 by Diane Crouse, Health Director

The Board approved the fee schedule FY03-04 as approved by the Board of Health.

(Exhibit 9)

6. Resolution-Mental Health by Billy West, Mental Health Director

The Board adopted the joint resolution for Cabarrus County, Davidson County, Stanly County, Rowan County, and Union County for merger with Piedmont Behavioral Health. (Exhibit 10)

Deliberation

7. Reappointment and Renewal of Contract for Chemical Planner, Antony Shoaf

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted

unanimously 7-0 to approve reappointment and renewal of contract for the chemical planner, Antony Shoaf for the budget year 2003-2004 with the consultant fee to be paid in twelve monthly installments of \$2,500.00 and to equal and not exceed \$30,000.00. (Exhibit 11)

8. Reservoir Committee Report by Wayne Wilkins, Chairman of the Reservoir Committee

Wayne Wilkins presented the Reservoir Committee Report and recognized committee members present.

Following the report Commissioner Walser moved to amend the agenda to provide for the addition of a motion to accommodate funding for a study by HDR Engineering, Inc. to begin the process of developing a long-term water supply for all of Davidson County; Commissioner Truell seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 6-1; Commissioner Akins voted "No."

On a motion by Commissioner Watford and a second by Commissioner Walser the Board voted 6-1 to approve the plan, its submittal to the entities, and funding of \$10,000 for Phase I of the study in the 2003-2004 fiscal year; Commissioner Akins voted "No." (Exhibit 12)

9. Audit Contract by Jane Kiker, Finance Director

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Akins the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the contract with Dixon Odom for financial audit at \$43,500 and Single Compliance audit for \$20,000. (Exhibit 13)

10. Zoning Amendment Applications by Guy Cornman, Planning and Zoning Director

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted unanimously to set a public hearing for Monday, June 2, 2003, 7:00 P.M. for a rezoning application from James B. and John W. Crafford to have land in Arcadia Township rezoned from RS to RA-3. (Exhibit 14)

11. Appointments

Commissioner Walser nominated Owen Moore as citizen-at-large to the School Construction Committee.

Commissioner Watford nominated Zane Hedgecock for a citizen-at-large position on the School Construction Committee.

Commissioner Akins nominated Susan Fox to serve in a citizen-at-large position on the School Construction Committee.

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to appoint Owen Moore, Zane Hedgecock, and Susan Fox to the School Construction Committee to fill the three citizens-at-large positions. (Exhibit 15)

Commissioner Watford then nominated Joel Pierce to fill a vacancy on the Solid Waste Advisory Board.

On a motion by Commissioner Watford and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to appoint Joel Pierce to the Solid Waste Advisory Board.

12. Schedule Public Hearing for NCDOT Secondary Roads Program by Guy L. Cornman, III, Planning and Zoning Director

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to schedule a public hearing for the NCDOT Secondary Roads Program for 2003-2004 for June 16, 2003, 6:00 P.M., Commissioners' Meeting Room, Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington, North Carolina. (Exhibit 16)

13. Memorandum of Understanding in Support of the Three-County Regional Greenway System between Rowan County, Cabarrus County, Davidson County, City of Salisbury, Town of China Grove, Town of Landis, Town of Spencer, and City of Kannapolis

Commissioner Kepley presented the memorandum of understanding for the development of a connected infrastructure greenway that would provide for the creation of opportunities for mutual and shared environmental conservation and recreation. The Board agreed for placement on the May 27, 2003 agenda. (Exhibit 17)

J. CLOSED SESSION – Economic Development and Personnel

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Akins the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to go into Closed Session for matters of Economic Development and Personnel.

Return to Open Session

On a motion by Vice Chair Hege and a second by Commissioner Walser the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to return to Open Session.

County Attorney/Clerk to the Board Stephen Holton reported discussion of Economic Development and Personnel in Closed Session with no action taken.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Commissioner Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adjourn.

Fred C. Sink, Chairman
Davidson County Board of Commissioners

Stephen C. Holton, Clerk to the Board
Davidson County Board of Commissioners