

MINUTES

September 14, 2004

The Davidson County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 14, 2004, at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington, for a regularly scheduled meeting and two public hearings.

PRESENT

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

County Manager Robert Hyatt, County Attorney/Clerk to the Board Robert Hedrick, Budget Director Zeb M. Hanner, Human Resources Director John Dean, Fire Marshal Perry Tyler, Purchasing Director Dwayne Childress, 911 Director Lisa Martin, Interim Health Director Diane Crouse, Soil and Water Director Bruce Wilson, Economic Development Director Steve Googe, Senior Services Director Kathryn Gentry, Sheriff David Grice, Officer Casey Tarleton, Chief Deputy Brian Grubb, Legal Assistant Debbie Harris

A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

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

B. INVOCATION

Chairman Fred C. Sink

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. RECOGNITION

Chairman Sink recognized Susie Truell, representing Thomasville City Schools, and Kayla Harris, East Davidson High School student and daughter of Davidson County Legal Assistant Debbie Harris.

E. REGISTER FOR PUBLIC ADDRESS

Chairman Sink noted the register for public address.

F. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Hege and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adopt the agenda with the additions of I.10. Soil and Water Vehicle Request and Closed Session for Attorney-Client and Economic Development matters. (Exhibit 1)

G. PUBLIC ADDRESS

Barney Hill addressed the Board concerning item #1.6. Public Safety Communications Consultant, expressing his opposition to contracting for a study and analyzing of the County's radio communications needs.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Economic Development Incentive to Furniture Company

Economic Development Director Steve Googe assisted the Board in conducting a public hearing to receive public comments and requested a resolution on the incentives proposed for Ploi and Company, a west coast furniture company that manufactures case-goods. Mr. Googe noted the interest by the company in locating in Davidson County which would render a total plant investment of \$4,000,000 and employment of 80-100 people within 12 months at an average wage of \$16 per hour and consideration of a five-year annual economic development incentive grant equal to .00265 times the value of the company's investment (\$10,600 per year or half the amount the company would pay in ad valorem property taxes).

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

Steve Googe spoke in favor of the proposed incentives and noted the opportunity for unemployed furniture workers.

Barney Hill spoke in favor of the incentives and noted the absence of the name of the company in the public notice in the newspaper.

Fred McClure spoke in favor and inquired about requirements for performance obligations and repayment.

County Attorney Robert Hedrick noted that the incentives are set up on a pay-as-you-go basis.

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

On a motion by Commissioner Walser and a second by Commissioner Akins the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the five-year annual incentive grant equal to .00265 times the value of the Company's investment.

(Exhibit 2)

2. Economic Development Incentive to Racing Technology Company

Steve Googe assisted the Board in conducting a public hearing to receive public comments and requested a resolution on the proposed incentives for Roehrig, a racing technology company that manufactures shock absorbers and racing equipment. The Company would invest \$1,000,000 in a building and equipment. The proposal consisted of a \$15,000 cash grant to assist with location and an incentive grant calculated at .00265 times that investment or \$2,650 per year for five years. The company would employ 14 to 16 employees now and grow to 20 to 25 employees within three years.

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

Steve Googe spoke in favor of the proposed incentives and resolution. Mr. Googe noted that Davidson County is a racing technology area and further noted that he is working on a site in the Lexington Business Center.

Barney Hill spoke in support of the first part and in opposition to the second part of the incentives proposed.

Steve Googe noted that the \$15,000 cash grant is payable after the Certificate of Occupancy is issued.

Scott McKinney inquired about the lack of mention of the \$15,000 cash grant when the public hearing was set on August 24, 2004 and requested that it be removed from the incentive package.

On a motion by Commissioner Hege and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Discussion followed.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Watford and a second by Commissioner Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the incentives consisting of a cash grant equal to .00265 times the company's investment for five years (not to exceed \$2,650 per year) and a \$15,000 cash grant to assist with location.

(Exhibit 3)

I. ITEMS FOR DECISION/INFORMATION

Consent

Commissioner Kepley requested the removal of I.2. Budget Amendments from the consent agenda.

On a motion by Commissioner Walser and a second by Commissioner Hege the Board voted 7-0 to approve the consent agenda consisting of I.1., I.3., I.4., and I.5.

1. Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of August 24, 2004 and September 2, 2004 Board of Commissioners' meetings.

3. Reclassifications by John Dean, Human Resources Director

The Board approved the reclassification of the Landfill Bailer Operator to Safety Coordinator, the reclassifications for the Sheriff's Department Sergeants, and the reclassification of the Detention Officer I to Sheriff Detention Sergeant (Grade 62 to Grade 64) to correct an error. (Exhibit 4)

4. Performance Management Guidelines Revision by Zeb M. Hanner, Budget Director

The Board approved the revision to the guidelines for the Performance Management Team as follows:

- (1) The discretionary bonus amount can be a maximum of \$500 before taxes and benefits instead of \$300.
- (2) The employee must be employed when the bonus checks are issued.

(Exhibit 5)

5. Pyrotechnics Permit – Davidson County Agricultural Fair by Perry Tyler, Fire Marshal

The Board approved the application for a pyrotechnics permit from the Davidson County Agricultural Fair for September 20, 2004. (Exhibit 6)

Deliberation

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

Commissioner Kepley noted the number of appropriations from grants that he had observed in the budget amendments and commended the efforts of the Budget Director and Staff in securing grant monies.

On a motion by Commissioner Kepley and a second by Vice Chairman Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve Budget Amendments as follows:

- *Fire Marshal* – Accept Get Alarmed – North Carolina Smoke Detector Grant for 300 smoke detectors and \$3,800 to contract with Volunteer Fire Departments for installation of the smoke detectors.

- *Social Services* – Accept \$8,608 in Adult Day Care Funds and \$152,318 Day Care funds from the Department of Health and Human Services; adjust for carry over funds of \$10,555.70 in Public Assistance-Carolyn Phillips.
- *Health* – Line item transfer of \$29,771 to allocate WIC funding in order to utilize the funds; accept \$18,757 for Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program from the Susan G. Koman Cancer fund grant; accept \$15,564 for Family Planning Program from NC Department of Health and Human Services; line item transfer of \$1,958 from departmental supplies to Capital Equipment to purchase an additional laptop in Bioterrorism budget.
- *Library* – Accept \$16,645 in E-rate funds for 8 new computers and computer supplies.
- *EMS - Performance Management* – Appropriate \$25,220 to 911 Expansion Capital projects fund.
- *Humane Society* – Appropriate \$750 received from the State for the spay/neuter program for the Humane Society.
- *Projects* – Line item transfer to split the Projects and Risk Management cost center and allow Risk Manager control of his budget. (Exhibit 7)

6. Public Safety Communications Consultant by Dwayne Childress, Purchasing Director and Lisa Martin, 911 Emergency Communications Director

On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Commissioner Walser the Board voted 5-2 to approve the contract with CTA Communications at \$48,600 for professional consulting services to assist the County in preparing a Needs Analysis and the Development of a Requirements Definition of the County's current and future radio communications' needs for the next fifteen years, with \$30,000 of the funding to come from the budgeted amount and \$18,600 to come from the 911's Performance Based Management money saved; Vice Chairman Sam Watford and Commissioner Akins voted "No."
(Exhibit 8)

7. Budget Amendment for Addition of Nursing Positions by Diane Crouse, Interim Health Director

On a motion by Commissioner Hege and a second by Commissioner Akins the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the budget amendment for accepting \$295,890 from the State for 6 new nursing positions and the accompanying classifications in the Davidson County Health Department, to be schools nurses in the Davidson County, Lexington City, and the Thomasville City School Systems. Vice Chairman Watford noted that in two years from this date, if these positions are not supported by the State, he will vote against Davidson County having to fund them. (Exhibit 9)

8. Appointments

Vice Chairman Watford nominated L.G. Cashion, 704 Valley Drive, Thomasville, for appointment to the Davidson County Airport Authority.

On a motion by Commissioner Kepley and a second by Commissioner Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to appoint L.G. Cashion to the Davidson County Airport Authority for a term of four years.

Vice Chairman Watford then nominated Carl Garrison, Choctaw Drive, Lexington, for appointment to the Airport Authority.

On a motion by Commissioner Walser and a second by Commissioner Truell, the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to appoint Carl Garrison to the Airport Authority for a term of four years.

On a motion by Commissioner Hege and a second by Vice Chairman Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to reappoint Joe Dillard to the Airport Authority for a four-year term. (Exhibit 10)

9. Zoning Ordinance Amendment by Commissioner Billy Joe Kepley

Commissioner Kepley requested amendments to 3 divisions of the Zoning Ordinance:

- (1) Direct Planning Director and County Attorney to work on an amendment to have more control in the Zoning Ordinance regulations to eliminate citizens circumventing after an application has been denied.
- (2) Direct Guy Cornman to document a reservoir ordinance to protect potential sites and reserve them for future reservoirs.
- (3) Take planned development out of the ordinance or close the loop-hole for buffers due to circumventing that has occurred with clustering of homes.

On a motion by Commissioner Kepley and a second by Commissioner Walser the Board voted

unanimously to request Guy Cornman to do a study of the potential sites for reservoirs.

The Board then directed Guy Cornman to study the planned development and bring recommendations back to the Board.

10. Soil and Water Vehicle Request by Zeb M. Hanner, Budget Director

On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the request by the Soil and Water Department for one of the surplus vehicles coming off the line from the Sheriff's Department. (Exhibit 11)

CLOSED SESSION - Economic Development and Attorney/Client

On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Commissioner Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to go into Closed Session for matters of Economic Development and Attorney-Client privilege.


Return to Open Session

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

County Attorney-Clerk to the Board Robert Hedrick reported discussion of Economic Development and Attorney-Client matters with no action taken.

J. ADJOURNMENT

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


Robert C. Hedrick, Clerk to the Board
Davidson County Board of Commissioners


Fred C. Sink, Chairman
Davidson County Board of Commissioners