

**MINUTES**

**November 23, 2004**

The Davidson County Board of Commissioners met at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 23, 2004, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington for a regularly scheduled meeting.

**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, Assistant County Manager Zeb M. Hanner, Finance Director Jane Kiker, Public Works and Services Director Bill Clutter and Assistant Director Scott Rickard, Purchasing Director Dwayne Childress, EMS Director Doug Lowe, Register of Deeds Ronnie Callicutt, Senior Services Director Kathryn Gentry, Thomasville City Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Cockman, Thomasville City Manager Roger Bryant, Economic Development Director Steve Googe, Thomasville Mayor Joe Bennett, Assistant Superintendent of Thomasville Schools James Carmichael, Social Services Director Catherine Lambeth, Parks and Recreation Director Charles Parnell

**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 Meredith Smith, representing Davidson County Council of Chambers.

Chairman Sink then recognized Register of Deeds Ronnie Callicutt, Commissioner Billy Joe Kepley, and Commissioner Priscilla Hege for their years of service to Davidson County and presented plaques to each.

Commissioner Kepley presented Oliver, a ventriloquist's dummy, and introduced him to Deputy Clerk to the Board Anne M. Burkhart, the Board of Commissioners, County Manager Robert C. Hyatt,

County Attorney Robert C. Hedrick, Assistant County Manager Zeb M. Hanner, and members of the Press in an enjoyable ventriloquist exhibition.

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 following amendments:

Add: Mental Health Update from Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare by Commissioner Hege.

Delete: Attorney/Client from Closed Session. (Exhibit 1)

G. PUBLIC ADDRESS

H. ITEMS FOR DECISION/INFORMATION

Consent

On a motion by Commissioner Walser and a second by Vice Chairman Watford the Board voted 6-1 to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Kepley voted "No."

1. Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of November 4, 2004 and November 9, 2004 Commissioners' meetings and the September 13, 2004 Planning and Zoning public hearing.

2. Tax Report of Refunds by Joe Silver, Tax Administrator

The Board approved the Tax Report of Refunds for October 2004. (Exhibit 2)

3. Budget Amendments by Zeb M. Hanner, Assistant County Manager

The Board approved budget amendments as follows:

- Cooperative Extension Service – Establish 4-H account #110-4905 for pass through money at \$6,000.
- Health – Accept \$1,300 for Child Service Coordination Program from NC Dept. of Health and Human Services.
- Health – Accept \$2,379 for prenatal program from NC Dept. of Health and Human Services.

- Health – Accept \$3,800 from NC Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources – Division of Environmental Health.
  - Health – Line item transfer of \$4,020 from Capital Outlay to Department Supplies.
  - Emergency Services – Appropriate \$31,626 to Medical Supplies and \$23,831 to Capital Equipment.
  - Sheriff – Accept \$432.03 and \$1,870.64 in commissary funds. (Exhibit 3)
4. Additions to NC Secondary Road System by Guy Cornman, Planning and Zoning

Director

The Board approved the following additions to the NC Secondary Road System for maintenance:

- Extension of SR#29210 Noralin Drive (Midway Township)
- Garden Valley Drive (Midway Township)
- Bent Oak Drive (Midway Township)
- Loblolly Lane (Midway Township)
- Prospector's Way (Silver Hill Township) (Exhibit 4)

Deliberation

5. Resolution – Support Friedberg Elementary School Effort for Barbecue Festival by

Commissioner Priscilla H. Hege

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adopt the resolution in support of passing a bill that will adopt the Lexington Barbecue Festival as a North Carolina Official Food Festival and the resolution to that effect from Friedberg Elementary School. (Exhibit 5)

6. Expansion of Thomasville Middle School by Commissioner Don Truell

Commissioner Truell noted the need for expansion of the Thomasville Middle School and introduced Dr.

Dan Cockman.

Dr. Cockman presented and reviewed a cost sheet for the expansion.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Hege, Akins, and Kepley spoke in favor of the proposal.

Vice Chairman Watford spoke in opposition to the proposal and noted that there would be need for a tax increase of at least three cents.

Commissioner Walser noted that he is willing to vote for a tax increase in order to build schools.

On a motion by Commissioner Hege and a second by Commissioner Kepley the Board voted 6-1 to approve the proposal to:

- 1) Allow Thomasville City Schools to proceed in the expansion of the Middle School with the cost not to exceed \$4.9 million dollars.
- 2) Issue a reimbursement resolution for Thomasville City Schools to proceed as soon as possible.
- 3) In 2005, borrow the funds to finance the project when the County becomes bank qualified.
- 4) In the 2004-2005 budget, fund Debt Service from the School Capital ADM fund.

Vice Chairman Watford voted "No."

(Exhibit 6)

7. Revisions to the Agreement Creating the Lake Thom-A-Lex Recreation Authority by Robert C. Hyatt, County Manager

On a motion by Commissioner Walser and a second by Commissioner Akins the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the proposed change in membership for the Lake Thom-A-Lex Recreation Authority to allow each governing body to have one appointed citizen. (Exhibit 7)

8. Mini-Van for Social Services by Zeb M. Hanner, Assistant County Manager

On a motion by Commissioner Hege and a second by Vice Chairman Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the request from Social Services for the purchase of a mini-van to be used for transporting children who have been placed in the custody of the County. (Exhibit 8)

9. Lease of Ambulance Units by Dwayne Childress, Purchasing Director

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Commissioner Hege the Board voted

unanimously 7-0 to approve waiving the bid process, to approve the lease of three ambulance units from Wheeled Coach of North Carolina under the Florida Sheriff's Association cooperative procurement program at \$89,827 each, or \$269,481 in total. (Exhibit 9)

10. Revisions to Sewer Policy Prompted by Tyro Sewer Project by Bill Clutter, Public Works & Services Director

Bill Clutter suggested modifying the current existing Sewer Resolution at Section 15 and proceeded to review the provisions and offer clarifications. He further suggested that costs for any sewer provided by the County be recaptured.

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Vice Chairman Sam Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the revisions to the sewer policy prompted by the Tyro Sewer Project.

(Exhibit 10)

11. Maintenance of County Grounds by Bill Clutter, Public Works and Services Director and Scott Rickard, Public Works and Services Assistant Director

Bill Clutter provided history of the privatizing of the maintenance of county grounds and also the more recent quotes. He noted that the in-house maintenance would be more economical.

Scott Rickard noted that Public Works and Services Department has the funding available and would only need \$12,000 to finish out the year.

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Vice Chairman Watford the Board voted 6-1 to approve the proposal for mowing county properties including a fulltime employee in the supervisor status at pay grade 60 (\$32,876 per year) and two fulltime employees as grounds workers at pay grade 52 (\$47,790 per year) for a total of \$80,666 per year; Commissioner Hege voted "No."

(Exhibit 11)

12. Boone's Cave Security Report by Zeb M. Hanner, Assistant County Manager

The Board received a report from the Boone's Cave Security Committee by Zeb M. Hanner with suggestions for two phases, with the first phase being short term and the second phase being long term. Mr. Hanner apprised the Board of the hours observed by surrounding parks in other counties. He also

noted the suggestions offered for provisions at the park. He noted that the general consensus of the group is that there will have to be physical presence at the park to deter the vandalism.

The Board agreed by consensus to suggestions in the short term phase. (Exhibit 12)

13. Mental Health Update from Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare by Commissioner Priscilla Hege

The Board received an update on the administration of Mental Health in Davidson County from Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare by Commissioner Hege. Commissioner Hege noted the completion of plans, policies, and projects. She further noted that by April 2005, Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare will have a \$140,000,000 budget.

I. CLOSED SESSION

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

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

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

County Attorney/Clerk to the Board Robert Hedrick reported discussion of economic development with no action taken in Closed Session. Attorney Hedrick noted that it would be in order for the Board to amend the agenda to set a public hearing for an economic development incentive.

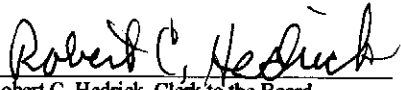
AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Vice Chairman Watford the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to amend the agenda to set a public hearing for an economic development incentive.

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Commissioner Hege the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to schedule a public hearing to receive public comments on an economic development incentive for December 14, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington.

J. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Akins and a second by Commissioner Hege 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