

MINUTES

September 27, 2011

The Davidson County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, at 7:00 PM, 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 Sam Watford, Vice Chairman Larry Potts, Cathy Dunn, Billy Joe Kempley, Fred McClure, Don Triell, Todd Yates

Others Present

County Manager Robert Hyatt, County Attorney Chuck Frye, Assistant County Manager Zeb Hanner, Economic Development Director Steve Googe, Planning and Zoning Director Guy Cornman, Fire Marshal Brad Needham, Clerk to the Board Anne Burkhart, Public Works and Services Director Rex Buck, Transportation Manager George Hodges, IT Director Joel Hartley, Health Director Layton Long, Thessia Everhart-Roberts, Social Services Director Dale Moorefield, Emergency Services Director Jeff Smith, Inspections Assistant Director John Latham

A. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Sam Watford called the meeting to order and welcomed guests.

B. INVOCATION

Commissioner Fred D. McClure, Jr.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. RECOGNITION

Chairman Watford recognized Davidson Council of Chambers representative Jeff Smith.

E. REGISTER FOR PUBLIC ADDRESS

Chairman Watford noted the register for public address.

F. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On a motion by Vice Chairman Potts and a second by Commissioner McClure the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to adopt the agenda with the addition of Closed Session for Economic Development.

(Exhibit 1)

G. PUBLIC ADDRESS

David Speight expressed concerns with economic development incentives.

Barney W. Hill spoke with concerns about grants and consultants.

J. Leigh Gill, of the Wallburg community, apprised the Board of a group that is opposing the construction of New Highway 109. He indicated that he is leading the group and that they are circulating petitions in opposition to the new Highway 109.

Tina York addressed the Board noting that animals from the Davidson County Animal Shelter are listed on the internet with pictures. She stated that it is a step in the right direction. She further stated that feral and wild animals do not have to be gassed. She offered other options.

Lynn Darnell spoke to the Board regarding the services at Guilford County Animal Shelter and the United Animal Coalition.

Matthew Nagem stated he has worked at an animal shelter previously and noted that lethal injections were given rather than using a gas chamber. He further noted that feral animals and wild animals were sedated first by placing a syringe on a long pole and injecting them while they were contained in a cage.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. 2011 CDBG Grant Application

Chairman Watford declared the 2011 CDBG Grant Application public hearing open to receive citizen input regarding the use of Community Development Block Grant funds from the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

County Manager Robert Hyatt explained that a public hearing for CDBG Grant applications must be held once each year.

Barney Hill addressed the Board in opposition to J.2. and the CDBG Grant public hearing.
(Exhibit 2)

2. Public Hearing on ROAP Grant

Chairman Watford declared the 2012 ROAP Grant Application public hearing open to receive citizen input regarding Rural Operating Assistance Program application for funds for operation from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

George Hodges reviewed the services that will be funded by the grant.

Barney Hill spoke in opposition to the grant.

Thessia Everhart-Roberts, Senior Services Director, spoke in favor of the grant and offered examples of the benefits of having the Transportation system for senior citizens in the County.

Catherine Warren of the Davidson County Health Department shared examples of benefits of the Transportation system to children and adults who need Health Department services.

Leigh Gill spoke in favor of the Transportation grant.

Martha Manness noted the needs for use of Davidson County Transportation for teenagers in the schools.

The Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

Commissioner Truell spoke in favor of the grant.

Commissioner Kepley stated that the service is beneficial to Crisis Ministry and for Job Training facilities.

On a motion by Commissioner Kepley and a second by Commissioner Truell the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the application for the ROAP grant funds. (Exhibit 3)

3. Economic Development Incentive to Project TAR

Chairman Watford declared the public hearing open to receive citizen input regarding the proposed economic development incentive to Project TAR.

Steve Googe reviewed the incentive to Project TAR, noting that it is a manufacturer of plastic industry.

Barney Hill spoke in favor of the economic development incentive to Project TAR.

The Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Potts and a second by Commissioner McClure the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the economic development incentive to Project TAR entitling the Company to a grant each year for five (5) years provided the Company meets the requirements of the Contract as to investment, jobs and wages. The grant will begin January of the first full year of operation following the investment. The calculation for payment of the grant will be .0027 times the total investment in plant, machinery and equipment. The grant will not exceed \$4,100.00 per year. The County will fund the

payments with available revenues in the County's General Fund. The Company plans to invest \$1,500,000.00 and provide 25 jobs with an average hourly wage about that of the county average.

(Exhibit 4)

4. Economic Development Incentive to Project Grasshopper

Chairman Watford declared the public hearing open to receive citizen input regarding the proposed economic development incentive to Project Grasshopper.

Steve Googe reviewed the grant. He stated that Project Grasshopper is a manufacturer of textiles.

Barney Hill spoke in favor of the economic development incentive to Project Grasshopper.

On a motion by Commissioner McClure and a second by Commissioner Dunn the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to approve the economic development incentive to Project Grasshopper entitling the Company to a grant each year for five (5) years provided the Company meets the requirements of the Contract as to investment, jobs and wages. The grant will begin January of the first full year of operation following the investment. The calculation for payment of the grant will be .0027 times the total investment in plant, machinery and equipment. The grant will not exceed \$3,000.00 per year. The County will fund the payments with available revenues in the County's General Fund. The Company plans to invest \$1,000,000.00 and provide 38 jobs with an average hourly wage about that of the county average.

(Exhibit 5)

I. ITEMS FOR DECISION/INFORMATION - CONSENT

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

1. Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of September 13, 2011 Board of Commissioners' meeting and August 9, 2011 Planning and Zoning public hearing.

2. Budget Amendments by Zeb Hanner, Assistant County Manager

The Board approved budget amendments for Social Services, Sheriff's Office, Senior Services, County Manager's Office, EMS, and Emergency Management. (Exhibit 6)

3. Reappointments

The Board approved the reappointment of Charles Stout to the Jury Commission for a two-year

term and the reappointment of Brent Elliott to the Zoning Board of Adjustments for a three-year term.

(Exhibit 7)

4. Pyrotechnics Permit by Brad Needham, Fire Marshal

The Board approved the Pyrotechnic Permit for a wedding located at Salem Glen Country Club on October 8, 2011. (Exhibit 8)

J. ITEMS FOR DECISION/INFORMATION – DELIBERATION

1. Barbecue Festival Proclamation

On a motion by Vice Chairman Potts and a second by Commissioner McClure the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to proclaim October 2011 as Barbecue Festival Month in Davidson County.

(Exhibit 9)

2. Call for a Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant Building Reuse Pre-application by Michael Walser, Consultant

Michael Walser addressed the Board stating the procedures to be followed in the pre-application.

On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Commissioner Yates the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to schedule a public hearing for October 11, 2011, at 7:00 PM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room in the Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington, North Carolina to receive public comment on the pre-application for reuse of the CDBG Graham Building at 1120 Piedmont Drive, Lexington, North Carolina. (Exhibit 10)

K. CLOSED SESSION – Economic Development

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

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

On a motion by Vice Chairman Potts and a second by Commissioner Yates the Board voted unanimously 7-0 to return to Open Session and amend the agenda to call for a public hearing.

County Attorney Chuck Frye reported discussion of an economic development matter which would be addressed by Steve Googe, Director of Davidson County Economic Development.

Steve Googe requested the scheduling of a public hearing for an economic development incentive to Project H. Mr. Googe stated that Project H plans to invest \$4,000,000.00 and create 60 jobs. He further

stated that the calculation for the incentive would be .0027 times the investment, not to exceed \$11,000 per year for five years.


On a motion by Commissioner Truell and a second by Commissioner Yates the Board voted unanimously 7-0 schedule the public hearing for October 11, 2011, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Governmental Center, 913 Greensboro Street, Lexington, North Carolina at 7:00 PM.

K. ADJOURNMENT

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



Sam L. Watford, Chairman
Davidson County Board of Commissioners



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