

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECEMBER 2, 2002, 9:00AM  
REGULAR MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Breeden Blackwell  
Vice Chairman Talmage S. Baggett, Jr.  
Commissioner Jeannette Council  
Commissioner Kenneth Edge  
Commissioner John Henley  
Commissioner Billy King  
Commissioner J. Lee Warren, Jr.  
James Martin, County Manager  
Cliff Spiller, Asst. County Manager  
Amy Cannon, Asst. County Manager/Finance Director  
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney  
Rhonda R. Britt, Deputy Clerk to the Board

INVOCATION: Commissioner Breeden Blackwell  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**1. Administration of Oath of Office:**

- A. Administration of Oath of Office to Talmage Baggett by E. Lynn Johnson, Senior Resident Superior Court Judge.
- B. Administration of Oath of Office to Dr. Jeanette M. Council by Cheri L. Beasley, District Court Judge.
- C. Administration of Oath of Office to Breeden Blackwell by Dougald N. Clark, Jr., District Court Judge.
- D. Administration of Oath of Office to Billy King by Edward A. Pone, District Court Judge.

Chairman Blackwell thanked his family for their support as a Commissioner and Chairman of the Board. He thanked his colleagues for a good year and for their support, kind words and for keeping their eyes on the mission. He thanked County Management staff as well as County employees through tough budget times. He also thanked the public for his re-election and the support he has received as Chairman of the Board. He urged his fellow Commissioners, the public and county staff to support the new Chairman and Vice Chair. He hopes everyone will continue to work together.

**2. Election of Officers:**

- A. Chairman

MOTION: Commissioner Warren moved to elect Commissioner Tal Baggett Chairman and that the motion be accepted by acclamation.

SECOND: Commissioner Edge  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

- B. Vice Chairman

MOTION: Commissioner Henley moved to elect Commissioner Jeannette Council Vice Chair by acclamation.

SECOND: Commissioner Blackwell  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**3. Presentation of Plaque to Outgoing Chairman.**

Chairman Baggett presented a plaque to outgoing Chairman Blackwell.

Chairman Baggett then offered the following remarks:

Ladies and gentlemen, honored guests and fellow Commissioners:

I am honored and humbled by your allowing me to serve as your Chairman for this year. This is a great privilege and I will strive to lead this commission in a fair and balanced manner to promote the best interest of Cumberland County.

Ladies and gentlemen, the fellow Commissioners on my left and right are an extraordinary gathering of talent and leadership. Each one of them brings a wealth of experience and skill to the table. They include professional, business and educational leaders of this County. This is a diverse, dedicated and experienced lot. There will be no learning curve with this Board of Commissioners.

Every member of this Board invests an incredible amount of time and energy in service to this County. This commitment runs 24 hours a day and 7 days per week. Our family life, professional life and personal life are frequently cast aside as we tend to the many needs of our County.

We are most fortunate to have in place an excellent management staff. Our County Manager, James Martin, has assembled highly qualified Assistant Managers and Department Heads to conduct the day to day business of the County. Our task as Commissioners will never be to micro manage this County's business, but to provide the leadership and policy decisions to allow our Manager, Assistants and Department Heads to run our county in an effective and efficient manner. This Board has great confidence in their abilities.

The goals which I will suggest to my fellow Commissioners during our planning retreat will be as follows:

1. Stabilize the Financial Status of Cumberland County

This County has been significantly affected by low growth and loss of revenue due to the State's financial problems. These Commissioners along with others across the State have worked very diligently to allow us to replace this revenue loss with a small sales tax instead of a property tax increase. We must make Cumberland County attractive to homeowners, developers and industry to improve our tax base. This Commission and the Board of Education have worked very hard to develop a funding formula which will minimize funding disputes between our Boards. The City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County are meeting regularly to discuss the impact of annexation on the County's share of the sales tax and I am convinced that together we will reach a mutually satisfactory solution.

2. Continue to Develop Water and Sewer Infrastructure in the County

This County has made significant progress in development of water and sewer infrastructure in the past four years. We have essentially gone from having no plan to the implementation of 5 major utility projects funded by substantial grants and low interest loans. Never before has this happened in the history of Cumberland County. This is not just a quality of life issue. Our future economic and industrial growth depends upon our success in development of our infrastructure.

3. Properly Compensate County Employees

The difficult financial times have hindered our ability to properly compensate our county employees. It is my desire that we find some way to demonstrate that we have not forgotten those who perform the day to day work of this County.

4. Open and Staff the New Detention Facility

This County has constructed the most modern detention facility in the State. We must adequately staff and open this facility to relieve the overcrowding in our current jail. We are most fortunate that we have avoided a catastrophe with our current facility.

5. Select a Site and Begin Construction of a New Animal Control Facility

Although we have made considerable progress in Animal Control, a modern facility must be constructed for this County to properly manage our animal population and to maximize our adoption and spay and neuter programs.

6. Merge County and Municipal Services in Those Areas Where More Efficient Delivery of Services will Result

County and municipal services can, and must, be merged in areas where more efficient delivery of services can be realized. Neither the county, nor the City should manipulate this process to gain more control or to fight a turf battle. The taxpayers of this County deserve better. I believe that every member of this Board is convinced that we can merge Parks and Recreation activities well beyond the City's proposal to share office space.

7. Develop Better Relationships with Municipalities

Cumberland County has 8 municipalities, each with its own government. It is imperative that we continue to meet regularly with each mayor and governing body to communicate and coordinate our activities to benefit all the citizens of Cumberland County. Together we can be much more than just the sum of our parts.

These goals are reasonable and attainable in our quest for better government. With God's help, we shall do much more!

4. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Blackwell moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Commissioner King

DISCUSSION: Commissioner King noted Item C, the Appointment of the County Planning Director. He noted he had worked with Nancy Fiorillo on a committee in the past and found her to be professional and one who does excellent work. He commended the excellent job done by those who selected her for this position.

Mr. Martin noted Ms. Fiorillo is very capable and he believes she will do a good job.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

A. Approval of minutes for the November 18, 2002 regular meeting.

**ACTION:** Approve minutes.

B. Approval of Bonds for Public Officials.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Agent</u>	<u>Holder</u>
Finance Officer Cannon	\$100,000	7/01/03	Marsh	Fidelity & Amy Deposit Co. Of Maryland
Register of Deeds George Tatum	\$ 10,000	Auto renew for 4 years (expires 12/5/04)	Highland	Peerless
Tax Administrator Aaron Donaldson	\$100,000	7/1/03	Marsh	Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland
Sheriff Earl Butler	\$ 25,000	12/07/05	Tomlinson	W. Surety
Sheriff's Office Cuyler Windham, Sr.	\$ 20,000	10/09/03	Tomlinson	W. Surety
Mental Health Hank Debnam	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	BB&T	W. Surety
Civic Center Rick Reno	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	Tomlinson	W. Surety
DSS – William Scarlett	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	BB&T	W. Surety

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Agent</u>	<u>Holder</u>
Civic Center – Finance Officer – Julius Grant	\$ 20,000	11/06/03	BB&T	W. Surety
Civic Center – Finance Officer – Rhonda Graham	\$ 20,000	6/21/03	BB&T	W. Surety

ACTION: Approve the bonds.

**C. Approval of Appointment of Planning Director.**

BACKGROUND: Mrs. Nancy Roy Fiorillo was offered a conditional employment offer on November 26, 2002 subject to the final approval of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners. Mrs. Fiorillo has accepted our offer of employment contingent upon the approval of the Board.

ACTION: Approve the appointment of Mrs. Nancy Roy Fiorillo as the Planning and Inspections Director.

**D. Budget Revisions:**

(1) Revaluation/General Government Other

Revision in the amount of \$19,129 to adjust the budget for finishing the photographs for the property Revaluation and other related appraisal work. (B03-202) **Funding Source – Reallocation of Budgeted Expenditures**

(2) Westarea Fire District

Revision in the amount of \$150 to increase revenue and expenditures to cover unanticipated refunds to taxpayers. (B03-201) **Funding Source – Taxes Current Year**

(3) General Government Other

Revisions in the amount of \$3,986 to recognize additional state funding and to adjust the County's budget to actual for the East Cumberland Enrichment Grant. (B03-191) **Funding Source – State**

(4) Probation/Pretrial Release/Day Reporting Center

Revisions in the net amount of \$18,608 to (1) transfer a Janitor II from Community Corrections-Probation to the Day Reporting Center, (2) to transfer Day Reporting salaries for two employees to Pretrial Release and (3) to adjust the Day Reporting budget to the adopted State budget for FY2003. (B03-204 through B03-205) **Funding Source – State and County**

(5) Mental Health

a. Community Based Alternatives In-Home – Revision in the amount of \$3,795 to reallocate budgeted expenditures to fund an upgrade from trainee status to qualified. (B03-197) **Funding Source – Reallocation of Budgeted Expenditures**

b. MIS – Increase in revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$34,313 to budget for the implementation of the Integrated Payment & Reporting System. (B03-198) **Funding Source – State**

c. Spainhour – Revision in the amount of \$3,379 to budget for overtime needed for the implementation of the

Integrated Payment & Reporting System. (B03-199)  
**Funding Source – State**

- (6) Health
- a. School Health/Administration – Revisions in the net amount of \$9,762 to reallocate budgeted expenditures and revenues from School Health to Administration due to reduction in state revenue for Administration. (B03-192 and B03-193) **Funding Source – Reallocation of Budgeted Expenditures and Revenue**
  - b. TB Chest – Revision in the amount of \$4,790 to budget a decrease in state funding and increase in revenue. (B03-194) **Funding Source – State and Fees**
  - c. Communicable Disease – Revision in the amount of \$1,370 to adjust the County’s budget to the State’s adopted budget for FY2003. (B03-195) **Funding Source – State**
  - d. WIC – Revision in the amount of \$1 to adjust the County’s budget to the State’s adopted budget for FY2003. (B03-196) **Funding Source – State**
  - e. Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism – Revision in the amount of \$3,000 to budget the initial funding for the new program “Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism”. (B03-200) **Funding Source – State**
7. School Bond Projects

To approve the attached revised Capital Project Ordinance for Seabrook Elementary Media Center per the Cumberland County Board of Education. **Funding Source – G.O. Bonds**

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**5. Appointments to Boards and Committees**

MOTION: Commissioner Blackwell moved to appoint all the nominees in Items A-H.  
SECOND: Commissioner King  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

- A. Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (2 Vacancies)

Nominees: Vikki Andrews (Reappointment)  
Teresa Johnson (Reappointment)

- B. Board of Health (3 Vacancies)

Nominees:  
Physician: Dr. Larry Harris (Reappointment)  
Pharmacist: Brenda Fonville (Reappointment)  
General Public Representative:  
James C. Cashwell (Reappointment)

C. FACVB Board of Directors (2 Vacancies)

Nominees:

Hotel/Motel Under 100 Rooms Representative:

Gene S. Ammons, Jr.

Hotel/Motel Over 100 Rooms Representative:

Susan D. Wooster (Reappointment)

D. Home and Community Block Grant Committee (7 Vacancies)

Nominees:

Older Consumer:

Bettie Carroll (Reappointment)  
June Kohlhepp  
Janice Lucas

Aging Service Provider:

Tracey Blanchard  
Judy Dawkins  
Patricia Edwards

Elected Official:

Mayor Ethel Clark

E. Joint Senior Citizens Advisory Board (1 Vacancy)

Nominee: Annie Chavis

F. Library Board of Trustees (2 Vacancies)

Nominees:

Fred D. Littlejohn  
Gail A. Riddle (Reappointment)

G. Mid-Carolina Aging Advisory Committee (1 Vacancy)

Nominee:

Elected Official:

Mayor Huell Aekins

H. Transportation Advisory Board (7 Vacancies)

Nominees:

Mid-Carolina Council of Governments Director or Designee:

Jim Caldwell (Reappointment)

Aging Programs Representative:

Marshall Lanter (Reappointment)

County Representative: Juanita Pilgrim (Reappointment)

County Planning Department

Director or Designee: Matt Rooney (Reappointment)

Private Transportation Provider Representative:

David Walker, Jr. (Reappointment)

At-Large Representatives:

Sarah Hemingway (Reappointment)  
Bob White (Reappointment)

I. Area Mental Health Board (7 Vacancies)

Nominees:

An Individual with Financial Expertise:

A. Johnson Chestnut (Reappointment)

An Individual with Management Or Business Expertise:

Benner Jones (Reappointment)

At-Large Member: Doug Brisson (Reappointment)

An Individual Representing the Interest of Children:

Linda Hair (Reappointment)

Openly Declared Consumer with Mental Illness:

Nancy Capps

Openly Declared Consumer with a Developmental Disability:

Craig Wilkins

MOTION: Commissioner Warren moved to appoint A. Johnson Chestnut, Benner Jones, Doug Brisson, Linda Hair, Nancy Capps and Craig Wilkins to the Area Mental Health Board.

SECOND: Commissioner King

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Representative with a Family Member or from a Citizen's Organization Who Advocates for Persons with a Development Disability (1 Position): Anna Finch

Shirley Francis

VOTE ON

NOMINEES: Anna Finch: Commissioners Henley, Edge, Baggett, Blackwell and Warren

Shirley Francis: Commissioners Council and King

Anna Finch was appointed to the position.

J. Civic Center Commission (6 Vacancies)

Nominees: Laurie Bondshu  
Sherrill Jernigan  
Kenneth Lancaster  
Ed G. Melvin (Reappointment)  
Ann Mitchell  
Margaret Myers  
~~Linwood Powell (withdrew 11/26/02)~~  
~~Hector Ray (withdrew 11/26/02)~~  
Floyd Shorter  
Bob Smith  
Jonathan Warren

Commissioner King withdrew the name of Floyd Shorter from the list of nominees.

VOTE ON NOMINEES:

Laurie Bondshu: Commissioners Henley, Edge, Council and King

Sherrill Jernigan: Commissioners Baggett, Blackwell and Warren

Kenneth Lancaster: Commissioners Edge and Blackwell

Ed G. Melvin: UNANIMOUS

Ann Mitchell: Commissioners Henley, Council, Baggett, Warren and King

Margaret Myers: UNANIMOUS

Bob Smith: UNANIMOUS

Jonathan Warren: UNANIMOUS

The following persons were appointed to the Civic Center Commission: Laurie Bondshu, Ed G. Melvin, Ann Mitchell, Margaret Myers, Bob Smith and Jonathan Warren.

K. Cape Fear Valley Health System Board of Trustees (2 Vacancies)

Nominees:

General Public Position: Emmett Fogle

MOTION: Commissioner Blackwell offered a motion to appoint Emmett Fogle.  
SECOND: Commissioner Council  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Medical Doctor Position: Dr. George R. Martin (Reappointment)  
Dr. Jesse Williams

Commissioner King withdrew the name of Dr. Jesse Williams from the list of nominees.

MOTION: Commissioner Blackwell offered a motion to appoint Dr. George R. Martin  
SECOND: Commissioner Edge  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

**MOTION: Commissioner Blackwell moved to adjourn.**  
**SECOND: Commissioner King**  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:35 AM

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Clerk to the Board