

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JUNE 9, 2003, 7:00PM  
SPECIAL MEETING  
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FY 2004 BUDGET

PRESENT: Chairman Talmage S. Baggett, Jr.  
Vice Chairman Jeannette Council  
Commissioner Breeden Blackwell  
Commissioner Kenneth Edge  
Commissioner John T. Henley, Jr.  
Commissioner Edward G. Melvin, Jr.  
James Martin, County Manager  
Juanita Pilgrim, Deputy County Manager  
Cliff Spiller, Asst. County Manager  
Amy Cannon, Asst. County Manager  
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney  
Mitzi Champion, Public Information Officer  
Marsha Fogle, Clerk to the Board

Chairman Baggett called the meeting to order noting the purpose is to hold a public hearing on the Proposed FY2004 Budget.

SPEAKERS

1. Susie Gnann – Ms. Gnann thanked the Board for its continued support for the Fayetteville Area Sentencing Center.
2. Bill Martin – Cumberland County Business Council – Mr. Martin asked the Board to approve the increase of \$57,500 that was requested.
3. Robin Deffendall – Ms. Deffendall urged the Board to provide more funding for increased hours at the library. In addition she urged the Board to continue to improve the Animal Control program. She suggested new programs, i.e., education programs for the public, find ways to reduce the cost of neutering pets and that a veterinarian should be on staff.
4. Deborah Mintz, Executive Director, Arts Council - Thanked the Board for funding and noted the Arts Council's goal is to continue to decrease its request for funding each year.

Commissioner King inquired about other funding received by the Arts Council. Ms. Mintz noted the Arts Council receives funding from the City of Fayetteville (\$175,000), State of North Carolina Arts Council and money from the occupancy tax (based on per capita).

5. Gail Riddle – V. Chairman, Library Board of Trustees – Ms. Riddle asked the Board to consider additional funding for the library.
6. Brian Irving – Chairman of the local Libertarian Party – Mr. Irving noted the commissioners' priorities were not correct. Opposed to giving county employees raises and suggested that the County should not be funding private nonprofit agencies.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:25PM

---

Marsha Fogle, Clerk to the Board