

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2004, 5:30PM

PRESENT: Chairman John T. Henley, Jr.
Vice Chairman Billy R. King
Commissioner Talmage S. Baggett, Jr.
Commissioner J. Breeden Blackwell
Commissioner Jeannette M. Council
Commissioner Kenneth S. Edge
Commissioner Diane Wheatley
Members, Fayetteville City Council & Staff
Members, Cumberland County Business Council
James Martin, County Manager
Juanita Pilgrim, Deputy County Manager
Amy Cannon, Asst. County Manager
Sara VanderClute, Public Information Officer
Grainger Barrett, County Attorney
Marsha Fogle, Clerk
Ann Hymes, Deputy Clerk

Purpose of Special Meeting: Joint meeting with the Fayetteville City Council and CCBC to review a Federal Legislative Agenda to be presented by Leslie Mozingo of the Ferguson Group.

The respective bodies called their meetings to order.

Ms. Mozingo noted the importance of the partnership that has been formed between the City, County and the CCCBC. She also noted the importance of remaining focused on the agenda items. The coordination of efforts and communication among the partners is essential. The Ferguson Group will provide "talking points" on the agenda items so the three partners will be speaking as one. In addition to the lobbying efforts The Ferguson Group will also assist in writing competitive grants.

Ms. Mozingo stated that not every project will be funded, or if it is funded will probably not be funded at the requested amount. A match will be required by the entity receiving funds.

Ms. Mozingo pointed out that this is a work in progress and an on-going process.

Leslie Mozingo of The Ferguson Group presented the draft agenda indicating the top three earmarks:

1. Transportation: \$3 million to relocate train switching yard
\$ 2 million for rail spur extension
Note: Secure the above in the Transportation Appropriations Bill
\$7 million to relocate train switching yard
(Reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act.)
2. Regional Public Safety Communications: \$3 million in Commerce, Justice, State. Appropriations to provide equipment allowing the Police and Sheriff's Offices to communicate with each other and with other public safety agencies and Fort Bragg
3. Water/Sewer: Secure \$1.5 million in Environmental Protection Agency Appropriations, State and Tribal Assistance Grants, for a county-wide water system and sewer urban retrofitting.

Possible Projects:

Creek Restoration: \$500,000 in the Energy & Water Appropriations Bill (Corps of Engineers) for stream bank stabilization studies and implementation on Rockfish Creek, Buckhead, Beaver Creek, Cross Creek. (Select from these Creeks).

Community Revitalization: Secure \$500,000 in VA-HUD Appropriations, Economic Development Initiative or Neighborhood revitalization for demolition/rehab of housing (mobile homes), one stop senior centers, rural facility, downtown park, MLK Museum, Freedom Park))Select from the above)

Ms. Mozingo also listed "other items of interest" :

- Military Business Park
- Defense Technology Center
- Airport Improvements
- Medicaid
- Hispanic Assistance
- Lock Dam Structures on Cape Fear River
- Clean Air
- Juvenile Offenders
- Workforce Investment
- Housing
- Domestic and Child Abuse Prevention
- Child Care
- Brownfields
- Growth Management
- Education
- Fire Department
- Homeland Security
- Conference Center and Hotel

The point of Contact for each organization is:

Juanita Pilgrim, Cumberland County
Jason Brady, City of Fayetteville
Tim Holverson, CCBC

She encouraged that all information flow through the Contacts to the Ferguson Group and back to the respective groups.

She noted the importance of the leadership positions of our Congressional Delegation.

Some questions/comments offered by:

City Councilman D.J. Haire: Interested in storm drainage and Hope VI.

City Councilman Jimmy Keefe: noted the importance of the different entities to earmark some "matching" funds for the earmarks noted above.

Commissioner Baggett: Noted that under "Other Items of Interest", Lock Dam Structures on Cape Fear River it notes "maintain status quo". Commissioner Baggett said that maintaining the status quo is not what we need to be doing, but rather keeping the Locks open should be a priority.

Commissioner Chairman John Henley: securing funds to purchase lands to buffer Fort Bragg and Pope should be high on the list of priorities; also noted that the City of Fayetteville will decide this evening whether to support a moratorium on water/sewer extension; if the moratorium is approved, Ear Mark #3 can be moved.

Commissioner Blackwell: asked Ms. Mozingo to charge the group with what needs to be done in a short period of time.

Commissioner Jeannette Council: Concerned that Education and Impact Aid did not receive a more important ranking.

Commissioner Chairman John Henley: Add to the list: Impact Aid, funds for buffer at Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, and funds to repair the Locks.

Ms. Mozingo said she would like to be able to solidify the agenda by the first of January.

The respective bodies adjourned their meetings at 7:35PM.