

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 4, 2017 – 9:00 AM
117 DICK STREET, 1ST FLOOR, ROOM 118
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Commissioner Glenn Adams, Chairman
Commissioner Michael Boose
Commissioner Jeannette Council
Commissioner Charles Evans
Commissioner Marshall Faircloth
Commissioner Jimmy Keefe
Commissioner Larry Lancaster
Amy Cannon, County Manager
Melissa Cardinali, Assistant County Manager
Tracy Jackson, Assistant County Manager
Sally Shutt, Assistant County Manager
Duane Holder, Assistant County Manager
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney
Vicki Evans, Finance Director
Cumberland County Leadership Team Members
Candice H. White, Clerk to the Board
Kellie Beam, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Press

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order and recognized elected officials and others in attendance.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Elder Jessie McNeil, Smith Chapel FWB Church, provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Recognition of Cumberland County 911 Center Receiving Medical Dispatch Accreditation

Chairman Adams recognized Emergency Services Director Randy Beeman and Emergency Services staff Adam Johnson and Christine Buchanan. Chairman Adams stated Cumberland County's 911 Communications Center has been designated as an Accredited Center of Excellence for emergency medical dispatch by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. Chairman Adams stated Emergency Services Director Randy Beeman was notified Monday evening that the center had achieved the accreditation. Chairman Adams stated the IAED website states that "Accredited Centers share a common goal of improving public care and maximizing the efficiency of 911 systems." Chairman Adams stated the County will receive a plaque later and is accredited through 2020. Chairman Adams stated the County's center has 40 employees and handles more than 19,000 medical dispatch calls annually. Mr. Beeman stated he was proud of the communications center staff and they deserve all the credit for their hard work and dedication. Mr. Beeman stated this accreditation acknowledges the 911 Center is meeting national standards and providing the highest level of service to the citizens.

1. REMARKS FROM CHAIRMAN ADAMS

Chairman Adams stated his philosophy this year has been to take the time to celebrate people, jobs and staff. Chairman Adams provided the following remarks.

We started 2017 but appointing Ennis Wright as our Sheriff and he will finish out the term of retiring Sheriff Earl Butler.

With this year's revaluation, we were facing a \$4.8 million reduction in taxable value. Hard decisions had to be made regarding expenditure reductions and I want to thank County Manager Amy Cannon, the budget staff and our department heads for doing an excellent job with our budget and being proactive for years to come.

Ultimately the County developed a budget that was fiscally responsible, and that still provided core services to residents and funding to community organizations.

By the end of the year, the Fayetteville Cumberland Economic Development Corporation expects to have announced more than 700 full- and part-time jobs and \$50 million in investment in our community for 2017. Examples include: eClerx opened its operational delivery center in July that is expected to employ more than 100 people. The Board approved an economic incentive grant not to exceed \$37,500; the Board approved incentives in September for Advanced Computer Learning Co., a computer education and software company, which is adding 75 jobs and expanding its downtown headquarters; and there are two new solar farms in the County. The Innovative Solar 46 farm is one of the largest solar farms east of the Mississippi. Commissioners also approved incentives for a distribution center project to move into the Cedar Creek Business Center. The improvements to the site will not be less than \$40 million and the company will create 140 new full-time jobs. We are expecting to learn more in the very near future about Project Nano2.

Recognizing that many groups are charged with marketing our community, I assembled together leaders of the Tourism Development Authority, Fayetteville Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Crown Complex, Arts Council, Chamber of Commerce and the FCEDC to discuss ways to increase cooperation, collaboration and effectiveness. The vision for a unified overarching brand has taken root, and this structured conversation has grown to include representation of the City of Fayetteville, the Cool Springs District and the private sector. In the months ahead, these local partners will be combining their energies and resources in new ways to showcase the best of Cumberland County's arts, economic, historic and cultural assets.

Earlier this year, we were at risk of losing our hockey team franchise at the Crown Complex. But, the County, in partnership with the FACVB and TDA, didn't let that happen. In August, the new owners of our hockey team rebranded the franchise as the Fayetteville Marksmen and they kicked off their season this fall.

In addition, the TDA approved \$75,000 over three years to support institutional marketing of our three tenant teams at the Crown – the Marksmen, the Cape Fear Heroes Indoor Arena Football Team and the Rogue Roller Derby. The County also received financing approval for \$2.75 million that will be used to replace the ice floor, add LED ribbon lighting around the coliseum and install a modern center-hung scoreboard. These improvements are expected by the end of the fiscal year.

The Board of Commissioners approved the transfer of the County's E. Newton Smith and Executive Place facilities to Cape Fear Valley Health System to accommodate the new residency program. Commissioners serve as hospital trustees and we are so excited about Cape Fear Valley Health's residency program that will train doctors right here in our region with the hope that they will stay and practice here. The inaugural class kicked off in August with 32 residents. This program is projected to bring \$300 million to our area over the next 10 years by creating jobs and bringing residents and instructors here to live and work. Research shows that 50 percent will stay and live where they receive their training.

We are very proud of Fayetteville Technical Community College and its track record for job placement. The more current figures show that of graduates from 2015-2016, almost 93 percent were employed within 3 to 6 months and almost 75 percent were employed in Cumberland County. FTCC opened its new Law Enforcement and Emergency Management Center on November 20. The Center houses the Basic Law Enforcement Training Academy and Law Enforcement Training. FTCC has provided office space for the FCEDC and I want to thank Dr. Larry Keen for his service to FCEDC.

We thank Crystal Glover and all the Fayetteville Cumberland Youth Council members for their work in our County and congratulations to them for winning two state awards this year: the 2017 Most Diverse State Youth Council Award from the North Carolina State Youth Council, and Josh Jensen, who is Commissioner Keefe's nephew, received the N.C. State Youth Council Most Outstanding Member Award.

Our County continues to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. Just last week on November 30, an application center opened at the Department of Social Services for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery applications. Cumberland County has been awarded \$13.5 million to help those individuals who qualify recover and rebuild.

In August, the County received a \$500,000 Golden Leaf grant for storm debris removal from Rockfish and Little Rockfish Creeks. In October, the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services awarded the County \$1.2 million for debris removal from the South River, Sandy Creek and Locks Creek stream beds. The Cumberland Disaster Recovery Coalition continues to work to meet unmet needs in our County. Our Social Services, Emergency Management and Community Development departments are working closely with this group of volunteers and I want to thank the church organizations and other groups for their hard work. The flood damage at the Headquarters Library was repaired and the Friends of the Library book sales have resumed.

The County's 911 Communications Center has been designated an Accredited Center of Excellence for emergency medical dispatch by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. The County's new emergency notification system, Cumberland Alerts, went live in August. The Public Safety Task Force was reinstated in February and will bring forth recommendations on improving service as we approach the budget process for fiscal year 2019.

The Department of Social Services kicked off an initiative to improve services to youth aging out of foster care, as well as child welfare and family support programs in October. DSS has worked for the last two years to develop the initiative, which is called "A Model Approach to Child Welfare." DSS received grants from the Duke Endowment and the Casey Family Programs.

Our Department of Public Health is collaborating with Stedman Wade Health Services Incorporated to provide adult primary care services and dentistry for both adults and children. The Commissioners approved contracting with a Southern Health Partners to provide jail health services.

Collaboration and communication are essential in building a strong community and achieving more for everyone. I believe we need to fully embrace the County's motto - "Out of Many, One." With that in mind, I made it a priority this year to bring together and sit down with various groups to work on various issues. While I understood that we could not accomplish everything in one year, the goal was to lay a foundation that we could build on in the long-term. Over the course of several months, we have met jointly with court system officials, Alliance Behavioral Health Care, Sheriff's Office Detention Center staff, Cape Fear Valley Health and Jail Health staff to discuss improving communication and processes in how we deal with individuals who have mental health issues. In addition, we've met with court system and Social Services representatives to look at our youth group homes and last month, we approved consolidating services to one home.

We moved our PreTrial Services offices to the community corrections building on West Russell Street to give them more space and allow them to focus on their core functions. Our Misdemeanor Diversion Program continues to grow with the help of partners from the Sheriff's Office and municipal law enforcement, the District Attorney's office and our district court. Even before the news broke regarding GenX and the state's ongoing investigation, we have been meeting with PWC officials to look at options for bringing water to areas of our county. GenX has put these discussions on the front burner.

The County is partnering with the City of Fayetteville on the Pathways for Prosperity initiative to battle poverty. I want to acknowledge City Councilman Kirk Deviere and the successful summit held November 18 that brought more than 200 people together to outline key focus areas for going forward. They are finding ways to align workforce training with the industry needs, improving K-12 and early childhood education, creating programs for parent education and mentoring and creating more affordable housing.

2017 also marked a historic occasion with the Cumberland County Courthouse being renamed the Judge E. Maurice Braswell Cumberland County Courthouse. Braswell was instrumental in the construction of the Courthouse, which opened in 1978. His name was installed above the Cumberland County Courthouse lettering on the front of the building and a bronze plaque was installed inside the front entrance of the courthouse.

\$11.2 million over three years in Capital Improvement Plan financing was approved in September. Work has started on parking lot repaving and roof repairs. In July 2017, Solid

Waste Management started the cell expansion of cells 9 and 10. The department has also implemented several changes to improve operations and service at our landfill and container sites.

The Public Information Office and Information Services launched the County's newly designed website, installed digital signage in the Courthouse and upgraded our broadcasting equipment.

Information Services also led the conversion to NovusAgenda software, which has improved the agenda creation process and made our agenda easier to search online. We reached out to the municipalities and the appointed boards and commissions and held three sessions of Effective Board Member training in March for elected officials and appointed members of the County's many advisory boards.

As for Parks and Recreation projects, Godwin broke ground on expanding its Town Hall with a multipurpose room, Wade is also expanding its building and other projects are planned for Stedman, Linden, Falcon and Eastover.

In July, the County refunded a series of Certificate of Participation and other bonds, which achieved better-than expected results for a total net present value savings of just over \$2 million. That savings equates to an average annual interest savings over the next 12 years of approximately \$166,000. Although Cumberland County experienced many wonderful achievements this year, 2017 was not without challenges. I've already mentioned the budget.

Challenges going forward include: water, GenX, inter-basin transfer, 911 call center project, volunteer fire departments, sales tax, poverty, more than 900 children in foster care, opioids, mental health, space in our Courthouse and federal impacts to include tax reform and block grants.

Chairman Adams concluded his remarks by stating this is a great team and we are up to the challenges ahead. I am proud to have served as your chairman and I am proud to represent the citizens of Cumberland County.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Chairman

MOTION: Commissioner Faircloth moved to nominate and appoint Commissioner Lancaster as chairman for 2018.

SECOND: Commissioner Boose

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

2. Vice Chairman

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to nominate and appoint Commissioner Council as vice chair for 2018.

SECOND: Commissioner Evans

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

3. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of Plaque to Outgoing Vice Chairman

Former Chairman Adams presented a plaque to outgoing Vice Chairman Evans in grateful appreciation of his service as Vice Chairman of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners from December 5, 2016 – December 4, 2017.

Presentation of Plaque to Outgoing Chairman

Chairman Lancaster presented a plaque to outgoing Chairman Adams in grateful appreciation

of his leadership as Chairman of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners from December 5, 2016 – December 4, 2017.

Remarks from Incoming Chairman

Chairman Lancaster stated it is a remarkable honor to be chosen as the chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and he accepted this responsibility out of great respect for this Board and the citizens of Cumberland County. Chairman Lancaster thanked Commissioners Glenn Adams and Charles Evans for their service as the chairman and vice chairman over the last year. Chairman Lancaster stated he is looking forward to working with the Commissioners, County staff, the municipalities and our other community stakeholders in the coming months. Chairman Lancaster stated as chairman, he would like to outline priorities for the coming year:

Water – The County is already working to address the need for expanding public water to other areas of the county, particularly those with contaminated ground water. We must ensure that our residents have access to safe drinking water. The state is the lead agency in the GenX investigation and County officials will continue to be in close communication with them during this process. We want to make sure everything possible is considered in this investigation with respect to health risks that could affect our citizens and their families. County Management, Engineering and Public Health leadership have already made initial steps in researching and developing an action plan.

Economic Development – We have made inroads this year in bringing new jobs to our County and we will continue to support the Fayetteville Cumberland Economic Development Corporation and other workforce and educational efforts to attract business and industry.

Capital Improvement - The Capital Improvement Plan shows \$18 million in capital improvement needs for the fiscal year 2019 alone. The County has deferred maintenance on infrastructure and those needs and others must be addressed. We have major building systems that need replacing and space needs here in the Courthouse.

Public Safety Task Force – The task force was reinstated last year and the group is scheduled to bring forth their recommendations in the coming months regarding funding for fire service in the County.

Chairman Lancaster concluded his remarks by stating as we look at these and other issues, he wants to schedule a goal setting session for the Board to carefully consider and establish a slate of priorities for the coming year. Chairman Lancaster stated he wants to do this early on so that priorities are outlined prior to the budget process.

Amy Cannon, County Manager, requested removal from the agenda of Item 6.A. Discussion and Consideration of Consolidated 911 Operations.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Faircloth moved to approve the agenda to include the removal of Item 6.A. Discussion and Consideration of Consolidated 911 Operations as requested.
SECOND: Commissioner Adams
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

5. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of the November 20, 2017 Regular Board of Commissioners' Meeting
2. Approval of Public Official Bonds

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes, the Board of Commissioners must approve bonds for selected officials at its first meeting in December.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED ACTION:

Approve the bonds listed below.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Broker</u>	<u>Carrier</u>
Finance Officer (Vicki Evans – County of Cumberland)	\$100,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Finance Officer (Vicki Evans – Eastover Sanitary District)	\$ 50,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Finance Officer (Vicki Evans – Norcross Water and Sewer District)	\$ 50,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Finance Director (Vicki Evans – Tourism Development Authority)	\$ 50,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Accounting Supervisor (Robert Tucker – County of Cumberland)	\$ 50,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Deputy Finance Officer (Robert Tucker – Eastover Sanitary District)	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Accounting Supervisor (Ivonne Mendez)	\$50,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Register of Deeds (J. Lee Warren, Jr.)	\$ 25,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Tax Administrator (Joe Utley)	\$200,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Sheriff (Ennis Wright)	\$ 25,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Sheriff's Office (Chief Deputy Richard Jenkins)	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Social Services (Brenda Reid Jackson)	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.
Community Development (Interim Director)	\$ 20,000	Indefinite	Marsh	Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.

3. Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendments for the December 4, 2017 Board of Commissioners' Agenda

BACKGROUND:

Emergency Telephone Fund 260

1. Emergency Telephone System - Budget Ordinance Amendment B180764 in the amount of \$24,426 to upgrade recording equipment

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment B180764 in the amount of \$24,426. These funds will be used to upgrade equipment to allow recordings for both voice and text messages. These funds are fully reimbursable by 911 and have been approved by the 911 Board.

Please note this amendment requires the use of Emergency Telephone Fund Balance.

REGARDING ITEM 2 PLEASE NOTE:

Each fiscal year County departments may have projects that are not complete by the fiscal

year end (6/30/17) or items ordered that have not been received by fiscal year end. These projects or items were approved in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget; however, the money was not spent by June 30, 2017.

The following amendments seek to bring those funds forward from FY 2017 into the current fiscal year, allowing departments to complete and pay for these items. These revisions are not using 'new' funds, but are recognizing the use of FY17 funds in FY18.

General Fund 101

2. Sheriff's Office - Budget Ordinance Amendment B180864 to bring FY17 funds forward in the amount of \$2,794 towards repairs to a vehicle.

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment B180864 to bring FY17 funds forward in the amount of \$2,794. A Humvee was damaged during Hurricane Matthew; however, the insurance settlement was received late in FY17. This request is to move those funds forward so that the necessary repairs can be made to the vehicle.

Contingency Funds Report – FY18

Contingency funds were not used.

RECOMMENDATION / PROPOSED ACTION:

Approve Budget Ordinance Amendments.

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to approve consent agenda items 5.1. – 5.3.

SECOND: Commissioner Council

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

6. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. REMOVED FROM AGENDA

7. NOMINATIONS

A. Fayetteville Cumberland County Economic Development Corporation (1 Vacancy)

Commissioner Adams nominated Kelvin Farmer.

8. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments scheduled for this meeting.

Chairman Lancaster invited all attendees to the reception immediately following adjournment of the meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Boose moved to adjourn.

SECOND: Commissioner Adams

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Approved with/without revision:

Respectfully submitted,

Candice H. White
Clerk to the Board