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**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**     March 28, 2005

**ALEXANDER COUNTY**  
**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**PRESENT:** William L. Hammer, Chairman  
              W. Darrell Robertson, Vice-Chairman  
              Wesley E. Bolick  
              W. Norris Keever  
              Larry Yoder

**STAFF:**     Rick French, County Manager  
                  Jamie Starnes, Clerk to the Board

**MEDIA:**     Gary Herman, The Taylorsville Times

The Alexander County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Monday, March 28, 2005 in the Catawba Valley Community College / Alexander Center Multipurpose Room, Taylorsville, North Carolina.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hammer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Bolick gave the invocation and also led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Chairman Hammer stated that, during the last Commissioners' Meeting, the Board had discussed holding a public hearing in April to allow citizen comment regarding the support of or opposition to a lottery. Chairman Hammer noted that since that time, several different bills had been introduced in the General Assembly regarding the lottery, many of which were nothing like H3 – the first bill introduced which would earmark 25% of net proceeds to school construction in those counties that approved the lottery in a public referendum. He stated due to these circumstances, the Board would not hold a public hearing at this time.

Chairman Hammer also stated that he attended the WPCOG Chairman/Managers Meeting in Hickory on March 22, 2005. He explained that community colleges were discussed as well as overlapping of courses, participation, and tradeoffs.

Commissioner Kever stated that he and Dr. Glenn Deal recently attended a ceremony in Raleigh honoring the 2 finalists for the NCACC Executive Director position. Commissioner Kever also reported that the Senate had saved the CDBG Program and that a bipartisan committee was being formed for Medicaid reform.

Commissioner Bolick stated that he recently traveled to Colorado Springs, Colorado with Forgiven Ministry to begin organizing a one-day camp in June to allow children to spend quality time with their fathers who have been incarcerated. Commissioner Bolick stated that last year, 300 children were able to visit with their fathers who were inmates at Angola Prison in Louisiana through the Forgiven Ministry program. This year, Forgiven Ministry expects that number to increase to 1,000 children. Commissioner Bolick stated that Scottie Barnes, Forgiven Ministry Founder, had received calls from many other states interested in this program including Virginia and Wisconsin.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Kever made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Bolick seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPOINTMENT OF REVIEW OFFICER**

Luther Stocks, Tax Administrator, presented a Resolution Requesting the Alexander County Board of Commissioners to Appoint a Review Officer for Alexander County. Mr. Stocks explained that a Review Officer was responsible for reviewing plats to determine whether they meet recording requirements before they were presented to the Register of Deeds for recording. He stated that Sylvia Turnmire and Seth Harris of the Planning & Development Office were both Review Officers and he pointed out that most plats were reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Commission. However, he stated that additional Review Officers were needed if other officers were not available or in case of emergencies.

Mr. Stocks recommended Doug Fox as the Review Officer. He stated that Mr. Fox was the new Tax Mapper and was doing a great job.

Commissioner Kever made a motion to approve the Resolution Requesting the Alexander County Board of Commissioners to Appoint Doug Fox as a Review Officer for Alexander County. Commissioner Robertson seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **ALEXANDER COUNTY RESOURCE CENTER & PRE-TRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM**

Rick French, County Manager, stated that the Alexander County Resource Center and Pre-Trial Release Program was requesting the Board's approval to submit an application of continuation of implementation funding to the Criminal Justice Partnership Program. Mr. French stated that the request was for \$60,323, which was the same amount as the current year.

Commissioner Bolick made a motion to approve the application for funding as requested. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Hammer presented the following reappointments:

### **A. VOLUNTARY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Reappoint Tim Glass	4 years
Reappoint Donald Payne	4 years

### **B. e-NC CHAMPION**

Reappoint Dwaine Coley

Chairman Hammer made a motion to approve the reappointments as presented. Commissioner Keever seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #30**

Rick French, County Manager, discussed the purpose of Budget Amendment #30, which included the following information:

Budget Amendment #30 – To budget for the first year annual maintenance on new financial and personnel software. To budget for the use of Federal and State asset seizure funds. To budget for a gas chamber (originally budgeted for 2003-2004, but purchase was delayed until September 2004). To budget for a Wal-Mart community grant for audiovisual materials.

Commissioner Robertson made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #30. Commissioner Bolick seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Rick French, County Manager, discussed the following issues during Other Business:

- A. The NCACC is holding 4 multi-district seminars concerning County Governance in Our Public Education System. Mr. French stated that our district seminar was scheduled for April 6, 2005 in Catawba County at the Agricultural Resource Center from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Mr. French urged any Board member interested in attending the seminars to contact Administration staff.
- B. Mr. French presented a copy of the March 2, 2005 Alexander County Jail Inspections report which included a few noted improvements such as additional jail staff and improved appearance from repainting.
- C. County Commissioners and staff have been invited to attend the Southwest Regional Council's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Social and Dinner sponsored by Food Lion at Lowe's Motor Speedway on April 7, 2005 from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Mr. French stated that J.D. Gibbs, Joe Gibbs Racing's President, would be the guest speaker.
- D. There have been 2 bills introduced regarding Medicaid. House Health Committee Bill 132 (Medicaid Relief Study / County Share Phase Out) intends to reduce county share of Medicaid by 2.5% until the 15% is phased out. House Bill 149 (Medicaid County Share Phase-out) would "cap" county Medicaid costs at the current level which would cost the state about \$40 million. Several House members have signed onto House Bill 149 including Representative Mark Hollo.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes from the March 3, 2005 Joint Meeting between the Alexander County Board of Commissioners and the Alexander County Planning & Zoning Commission and minutes from the March 14, 2005 Regular Commissioners' Meeting.

Commissioner Robertson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Keever seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **CLOSED SESSION – N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1, 5, & 6) TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, CONTRACTUAL, & PERSONNEL**

Commissioner Robertson made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 6:17 PM to prevent the disclosure of confidential information and to discuss contractual matters and personnel issues pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1, 5, & 6). Commissioner Keever seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Yoder made a motion to adjourn at 8:34 PM. Commissioner Robertson seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

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William L. Hammer, Chairman

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Jamie M. Starnes, Clerk to the Board