

Draft

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CALLED MEETING**      June 24, 2009

**ALEXANDER COUNTY  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

- PRESENT:**    W. Darrell Robertson, Chairman  
                  Wes Bolick, Vice-Chairman  
                  Ryan Mayberry  
                  Larry G. Yoder
- ABSENT:**     Harold M. Odom
- STAFF:**      Rick French, County Manager  
                  Jamie Starnes, Clerk to the Board
- MEDIA:**      Rick Gilbert, Apple City Broadcasting  
                  Micah Henry, The Taylorsville Times

The Alexander County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2009 in the Catawba Valley Community College / Alexander Center Multipurpose Room, Taylorsville, North Carolina.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Robertson 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.

Chairman Robertson stated that Commissioner Odom was home and doing better but could not be here tonight.

**PERSONNEL POLICY AMENDMENTS**

Rick French, County Manager, presented amendments to the Alexander County Personnel Policy, specifically the Retiree Health Benefits, Pay Plan, and Employee Benefits sections. He explained that most of the amendments pertained to changes associated with the 2009-2010 budget such as ineligibility for retiree health benefits and longevity for new hires beginning July 1, 2009, direct deposit requirements, and changes required by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve the amendments to the Alexander County Personnel Policy as presented. Commissioner Mayberry seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **ADOPTION OF THE 2009-2010 BUDGET ORDINANCE**

Rick French, County Manager, presented the proposed 2009-2010 Alexander County Budget for consideration by the Board. He briefly reviewed portions of the budget, stating that there would be a 7-cent property tax increase. He also noted that the General Fund amount had increased by \$58,550 (\$50,000 for fuel costs due to increases in prices within the last month and \$8,550 for the DARE Program budget).

Chairman Robertson thanked the volunteers in the county, noting that their efforts kept the tax rate lower.

Commissioner Bolick made a motion to approve the 2009-2010 Alexander County Budget Ordinance as presented. Commissioner Mayberry seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **UPDATE ON LEWITTES PUMP STATION**

Rick French, County Manager, discussed the need to replace one of the two Lewittes pump stations which would cost approximately \$7,000. He stated that staff was working with the Town of Taylorsville regarding the problem and noted that the pump station connected the new sewer lines in Hiddenite.

Chairman Robertson stated that this was the most economical solution to the problem.

### **BUDGET AMENDMENT #60**

Rick French, County Manager, presented Budget Amendment #60 to increase the budget by \$95,294 for expenditures in the general fund for the Garage, Sheriff's Department, Jail, 911, Recreation, and CVCC budgets.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #60. Commissioner Bolick seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- A. Tax Administrator Luther Stocks received a letter from the NC Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division, acknowledging the County's resolution to postpone the revaluation schedule.
- B. The bid opening for the Hopewell Church Road water line was held on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 2:00 PM. The low bid of \$105,734 was submitted by Neill Grading and Construction. Mr. French recommended approval of a resolution to award the bid.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve the resolution awarding the bid for the Hopewell Church Road water line to Neill Grading and Construction for \$105,734. Commissioner Mayberry seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Mr. French informed the Board that the low bid would result in an additional \$250,000 in grant funding.

- C. The March 2009 sales tax report shows revenue to the County of \$357,005.01 which is the third lowest report this year. This puts the County at 13% below normal.
- D. Staff met with representatives from the Soil & Water Conservation District Board regarding proposed surface and groundwater monitoring rules (15A NCAC 02T.1310-1311) currently being considered by the NC Environmental Management Commission. Mr. French explained that this proposal would be a waste of state resources and would drive more farmers out of business. A letter has been drafted to Keith Larick, DWQ-Aquifer Protection Section in opposition to this proposal.

**CLOSED SESSION – N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1, 3, 5, & 6) TO PREVENT THE DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, CONTRACTUAL, & PERSONNEL**

Chairman Robertson made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 6:19 PM to prevent the disclosure of confidential information, to consult with the County Attorney, and to discuss contractual matters and personnel issues pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1, 4, 5, & 6). Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Mayberry made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Commissioner Bolick seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

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W. Darrell Robertson, Chairman

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Jamie M. Starnes, Clerk to the Board