

Draft

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**     August 22, 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, August 22, 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 Keever gave the invocation and also led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Chairman Hammer stated that he attended the Alexander County School System Opening Session this morning at 8:30 AM at Alexander Central High School. He noted that special recognitions included Schools of Distinction and Schools of Excellence.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chairman Hammer requested that an appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission be added as Agenda Item 4 B (Board Appointments & Reappointments).

Commissioner Keever made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**PUBLIC HEARING: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT  
(PARAGON FILMS, INC.)**

David Icenhour, Economic Development Director, discussed the application of Paragon Films, Inc. for an Industrial Development Incentive Grant relating to the construction of a 40,000 square foot manufacturing facility located at 255 W.E. Baab Industrial Drive, Taylorsville, NC 28681. He noted that the public benefit derived from making the improvement consisted of new employment opportunities and expanded tax base.

Mr. Icenhour informed the Board that Paragon Films, Inc. would create at least 25 jobs which would pay at or above the average county wage and would invest approximately \$10 million in property and equipment. He pointed out that the proposed Industrial Development Incentive Grant would consist of a payment to the company equal to 100 percent of the property taxes paid by the company for the first 6 years after completion of the new capital investment.

Chairman Hammer called the public hearing to order and requested any public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Keever made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Bolick seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Keever made a motion to approve the Industrial Development Incentive Grant for Paragon Films, Inc. as presented. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**PUBLIC HEARING: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT  
(SCHNEIDER MILLS)**

David Icenhour, Economic Development Director, discussed the application of Schneider Mills for an Industrial Development Incentive grant relating to the addition of manufacturing equipment resulting in a tax valuation increase of \$529,310.

Mr. Icenhour informed the Board that the addition would create 12 additional jobs which would pay at or above the average county wage. He pointed out that the Industrial Development Incentive Grant would consist of payment to the company equal to a percentage of the property tax paid by the company for the first 5 years after completion of the capital investment with 80 percent being the highest percentage in the first full year following completion.

Chairman Hammer called the public hearing to order and requested any public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Bolick made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Keever made a motion to approve the Industrial Development Incentive Grant for Schneider Mills as presented. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **PRE-TRIAL RELEASE REPORT**

Anita Price, Resource Center Director, gave a Power Point Slide Show Presentation on the Pre-Trial Release Program, which included the following information:

**Mission Statement** – It is the mission of the Alexander County Pre-Trial Release Program to provide a structured, supervised environment and offer treatment services and referrals for defendants in the productive community who are awaiting trial with all efforts focused on successful disposition of the court case.

### **Program Goals**

- Reduce local jail overcrowding by maintaining a minimum caseload of 7 defendants.
- Provide alternative to traditional bonding by maintaining supervision of defendants awaiting trials.
- Improve the efficiency of the court system by providing advocacy to court officials through reports and testimony which helps determine the sentencing process.

### **Selection Process**

- Type of crime charged with – no violent crimes (murder, rape, etc.), sex crimes, or non-acceptable DWI charges (repeat offenders, high alcohol level, children in vehicle, at-fault accidents, etc.)
- Criminal history
- Preferably county residents
- No previous failure to appear
- Communication with all parties involved including victim, arresting officer and/or court officials, defendants household members, and attorney.

### **Requirements of Defendants**

- Appear at all court hearings
- Daily contact with Pre-Trial Director
- Weekly office visit
- Random drug and alcohol screenings
- Must be a student, employed, disabled, or actively seeking employment if not employed
- No contact with victims and/or co-defendants
- Notify Pre-Trial Director of any address, phone number, or employment changes
- No violation of any local, state, or federal laws



- Special conditions of release order as needed such as curfew, substance abuse treatment, mental health referrals, cognitive behavior intervention, life skills, and job development skills

<b>Fiscal Year 2003-2004</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2004-2005</b>
<b>Statistics</b>	
Admissions – 34	Admissions – 35
Exits – 22	Exits – 34
Successful – 17	Successful – 27
Expedited – 0	Expedited – 1
Violated release order – 4	Violated release order – 5
Rearrested – 1	Rearrested – 1
Outpatient substance abuse treatment – 8	Outpatient substance abuse treatment – 15
Outpatient hours – 62	Outpatient hours – 379
Inpatient substance abuse treatment – 0	Inpatient substance abuse treatment – 7
Inpatient days – 0	Inpatient days – 490
Educational services – 3	Educational Services – 6
Caseload goal – 20	Caseload goal – 30
Defendants served – 34	Defendants served – 35
<b>Savings</b>	
Medical cases – 3	Medical cases – 4
Jail bed days saved – 477	Jail bed days saved – 383
Cost savings - \$19,080	Cost savings - \$15,320
Total jail bed days saved – 3,297	Total jail bed days saved – 3,525
Expedited – 0	Expedited - \$40
Cost savings - \$131,880	Cost savings - \$141,040
<b>Total Savings to the County for 03-04 &amp; 04-05</b>	
6,823 beds at \$40 per day = \$272,920 not including meals and manpower	

Commissioner Bolick asked if the victims helped make the decision whether or not a certain defendant was accepted for the Pre-Trial Release Program. Ms. Price replied that the victim was contacted beforehand and she noted that their recommendation was always taken into consideration.

Commissioner Bolick asked if the County was responsible for the medical care of defendants enrolled in the program. Ms. Price replied that the County was not responsible for medical care.

Ms. Price informed the Board that the Pre-Trial Release Program operated on an approximate \$25,000 budget which only allowed for her position. Ms. Price discussed the need for a full-time case manager and mentioned that more defendants could take part in the program if another position was placed in the budget.

Chairman Hammer thanked Ms. Price for the work she did for the program.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Hammer presented the following appointments and reappointments to County boards and committees:

### **A. TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Reappoint Hal Bond                      2-year terms  
Reappoint Angela Johnson  
Reappoint Susie Barkley  
Reappoint Chris Fortner  
Reappoint Patti Foster  
Reappoint Russell Greene  
Reappoint Rick French  
Reappoint Mark Odom  
Reappoint Bradley Earp  
Reappoint William Hammer  
Reappoint Dana Robertson  
Reappoint Coy Walker  
Reappoint Leeanne Whisnant  
Reappoint Karen Hoyle  
Reappoint Scott Ross  
Appoint Susan Taffe  
Appoint Mary Hussain

### **B. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

Appoint Ray Combs (replacing Jon Molesa whose term expires 4/2007)

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

## **BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS #10 - #13**

Rick French, County Manager, discussed the purpose of Budget Amendments #10 - #13, which included the following information:

Budget Amendment #10 – To appropriate \$225,000 for the County buildings renovation project.

Budget Amendment #11 – To increase the budget for additional travel costs. To increase the budget for Future Forward Economic Alliance 2005-2006 dues and the purchase of a vehicle for Economic Development. To increase the budget to repair lightning damage to

the Health Department phone system. To increase the budget for the purchase of a vehicle for Public Buildings. To increase the budget for the first year annual maintenance fee on the Motorola radio console.

Budget Amendment #12 – To remove the grant from the 2004 Homeland Security Grant project budget. This grant is budgeted and accounted for in the E911 Equipment Project in the County Capital Project Fund.

Budget Amendment #13 – To increase the budget for the 2005-2006 user service fee on DCI equipment.

Commissioner Keever made a motion to approve Budget Amendments #10 - #13. Commissioner Robertson 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 General Assembly has adopted a \$17.2 billion budget. The shift in coverage for children under 5 from Health Choice to Medicaid and an increase in dental rates will increase the cost to counties by \$10.6 million.
- B. The DSS open house is tentatively planned for September 29, 2005 at 2:00 PM. The tentative date for the opening of the auditorium is October 23, 2005. Contacts are being made with Senators Burr and Dole, along with state representatives.
- C. Senator Virginia Fox, or a representative from her office, will be in Taylorsville the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes from August 8, 2005 Regular Commissioners' Meeting.
- B. Resolution Supporting Representative Kiser's Amendment Regarding S223 "Public Confidence in Elections."
- C. Vehicle Lifts Bid Opening from Monday, August 8, 2005.
- D. Medical Service Agreement for Jail.

Commissioner Robertson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Yoder 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 Yoder made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 6:35 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 Bolick seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Keever made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 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