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**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**     December 3, 2018

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

**PRESENT:**    Ronnie L. Reese, Chairman  
                  Ryan Mayberry  
                  Dr. Jeff Peal  
                  Marty Pennell  
                  Larry Yoder

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

The Alexander County Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018 in Room 103 of the CVCC / Alexander Center in Taylorsville, North Carolina.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Reese gave the invocation and Commissioner Peal led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR ALEXANDER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Honorable Dale Graham, Chief District Court Judge, administered oaths of office to Board of Education members Matt Cooksey, David Odom, and Harry Schrum.

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR ALEXANDER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Honorable Dale Graham, Chief District Court Judge, administered oaths of office to County Commissioners Marty Pennell, Ronnie Reese, and Larry Yoder.

**\*\*\*SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS\*\*\***

### Ben Hines

Commissioner Peal presented a Key to the County to Ben Hines in recognition of his service as Alexander County Register of Deeds for 32 years. The Board thanked Mr. Hines for his dedication and commitment since 1986.

### Milton Campbell & Josh Lail

Chairman Reese presented Keys to the County to Milton Campbell and Josh Lail for their service as Alexander County Commissioners from 2014-2018.

### Representative Jeffrey Elmore

Jeffrey Elmore, NC House Representative, introduced himself to the Board and discussed the recent change in district maps that will place Alexander County in the 94<sup>th</sup> district for the 2019-2020 biennium. He stated that his door was always open, noting that he would be meeting with governmental entities and staff in the near future to identify local issues.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Chairman Reese several family members participated in the Alexander County Christmas Parade this past Saturday. Although the rain affected the crowd, he felt the event was a success and thanked everyone involved.

Commissioner Peal conveyed his appreciation to the Sheriff's Office and NC Department of Corrections for their assistance with the recent threat made against Alexander County schools by an inmate at the local prison.

Commissioner Mayberry urged the public to remember the family of former president George H.W. Bush who passed away on Friday.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chairman Reese requested the following changes to the agenda:

- Remove all items related to the 911 Call Handling Equipment Purchasing including Agenda Item #4 (public hearing), Agenda Item #6 (purchase contract), and Budget Amendment #23. This is due to staff locating an alternative source for the equipment after the agenda was published resulting in no cost to the county.
- Add an update on the Bethlehem Sewer Extension Project by Dan Shabeldeen as Agenda Item #4.
- Add a Fair Housing Complaint Procedure as Item E under the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Mayberry made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Commissioner Peal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Betty Long, member of the Bethlehem Community Plan Committee, announced that a public meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 6:00 PM at Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church to allow citizens the opportunity to learn about the committee, to ask questions about future plans for the Bethlehem area, and to provide input into future land development.

## **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Commissioner Mayberry made a motion to approve the election of Jeff Peal as Chairman for 2019. Although no second was given, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion with an abstention by Chairman Reese.

## **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Commissioner Peal made a motion approve the election of Ronnie Reese as Vice-Chairman for 2019. Although no second was given, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion with an abstention by Commissioner Peal.

## **BETHLEHEM SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT UPDATE**

Engineer Dan Shabeldeen provided a map and discussed specifics of the Bethlehem Sewer Extension Project that will result in the installation of 2,000 feet of 15-inch gravity, 6,000 feet of 12-inch gravity, 11,000 feet of 8-inch gravity, and 12,000 feet of force main along with upgrades to the Heritage Village and Wittenburg Springs pump stations and a new pump station on Bowman Court. He reported that these specifications had been submitted to the State who has until March 2019 to approve and authorize staff to move forward. Staff anticipates a contract to be awarded in July or August 2019.

In response to a question asked by Commissioner Pennell, Mr. Shabeldeen stated that the pump stations had been designed to allow for future development and capacity.

## **BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS #21 & #22**

Rick French, County Manager, reviewed the purpose of Budget Amendments #21 & #22 as follows:

Budget Amendment #21 – To increase the Library budget for donations received for a book drop at the Bethlehem Branch, purchase of books in memoriam, and for audiovisual equipment.

Budget Amendment #22 – To budget for a \$1,000 sponsorship of the Celtic Christmas Concert presented by Studio 3 Music School.

Commissioner Yoder made a motion to approve Budget Amendments #21 & #22. Commissioner Mayberry seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE FOR NCACC LEGISLATIVE GOALS CONFERENCE**

Chairman Reese made a motion to designate Commissioner Yoder to serve as Voting Delegate at the NCACC Legislative Goals Conference scheduled for January 10-11, 2019 in Wake County. Commissioner Mayberry seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS**

Rick French, County Manager, requested the following reappointments:

Board of Health – Reappoint Jennifer Hull and Macy Jones for 3 years.

Local Emergency Planning Committee – Reappoint Steve Icenhour, Micah Henry, John McCurdy, Keith Hertzler, and Commissioner Jeff Peal for 3 years.

Senior Center Advisory Committee – Reappoint Douglas Howes for 3 years.

Commissioner Peal made a motion to approve the reappointments. Commissioner Mayberry seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- A. The Inspections Department completed 299 inspections in November.
- B. A total of \$1,171,965 has been collected in sales tax revenue for the 2018-2019 budget year. The average monthly collection for Alexander County equals approximately \$700,000 compared to \$1.8 million in Burke and Caldwell Counties, \$4.6 million in Catawba, \$800,000 in Davie, \$4.3 in Iredell, and \$43 million in Mecklenburg.

- C. The 2019-2020 budget process will begin soon. A budget calendar will be emailed to department heads this week.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes from the November 5, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- B. Tax Release Requests (\$2,293.91) and Tax Refunds (\$13,690.02) for October 26 – November 16, 2018.
- C. Modification agreement for the NC DHHS MOU for FY 2018-2019.
- D. LEPC 2018 Annual Report.
- E. Fair Housing Complaint Procedure.

Commissioner Mayberry made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Peal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **CLOSED SESSION – N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5 & 6) CONTRACTUAL & PERSONNEL**

Chairman Reese made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 7:04 PM to discuss contractual matters and personnel issues pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5 & 6). Commissioner Peal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Mayberry made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Commissioner Peal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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Ronnie L. Reese, Chairman

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Jamie M. Starnes, Clerk to the Board