

## MINUTES – JUNE 26, 2013

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners reconvened in special session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2013. Members present: Cathy W. Lucas, Chair, Kenneth D. Travis, Vice-Chairman, William E. Carter, Larry G. Hamlett, Nathaniel Hall, Jeremiah Jefferies and N. Kent Williamson. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director and Angela Evans representing the Caswell Messenger. Paula P. Seamster, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

### BUDGET WORKSHOP

Chair Lucas stated “We will reconvene the budget work shop from June 24, 2013.

Chair Lucas stated “The place we will start tonight since we got word that our numbers and totals have changed from the last meeting. I think the county manager has been working on a new proposal for the budget year coming up so Kevin without delay we will start with what you have in your proposal and if you could explain each item individually please.”

Mr. Howard stated “Well what I have put together is most of this is my proposal but some of this stuff in here is requested from a couple different commissioners. In vehicles these are the vehicles I think we need. The F250 for Maintenance for \$24,000, 4 patrol cars for the Sheriff’s office and as requested by the Commissioners the Dodge Sprinter at \$80,000. We are proposing to finance that over 3 years from Solid Waste at \$78,500 a year. I went back in the Building Capital Outlay fund and listed based on what I discussed as priorities that needed to be done.” Chair Lucas asked “Kevin may I stop you right there? When you talk about the Building Capital Fund is that the money that was left over from last year?” Mr. Howard responded “Yes ma’am.” Chair Lucas continued “The total that was left over was?” Mr. Howard responded “\$183,000.”

(At 5:36 p.m. Commissioner Hamlett entered the meeting.)

Mr. Howard continued “My proposal is to at least go forward with the engineering for the HVAC at the courthouse. That way we would have that done and have an idea of what we really need. Replace the two roofs that need to be replaced. The HVAC at PCC. It is my understanding that it take them at least a week or two weeks to get parts and if they can find them they have to be special made and then courthouse security, the upgrades for that. I have listed that as part of this. That is a total of \$220,000. There was a total of \$183,000 left in that fund so that leaves a balance of \$37,000. These two numbers are not included in what I am fixing to talk about now. The budget deficit as it stands is \$165,932. What I have gone through several departments and we have cuts listed for those departments.” Commissioner Hall asked “These proposed cuts are they relative to what was presented this year or based on next year’s budget?” Mr. Howard responded “They are based on the budget I gave you originally.”

Proposed Cuts

Administration	(\$ 3,000)
Elections	(\$ 4,000)
Sheriff's Office	(\$14,000)
Detention Center	(\$ 2,000)
Emergency Management	(\$ 2,000)
Health	(\$20,000)
DSS	(\$20,000)
Senior Services	(\$ 2,000)
PCC	(\$30,000)
Recreation	(\$ 4,000)
Library	(\$ 5,000)
Historical Association	(\$ 2,500)

Mr. Howard stated "The other two would be possible cuts and this is based on discussions with Commissioners. The deputy salary and benefits. It is my recommendation that we move forward with the courthouse but if you don't that position has not been filled at this time and then the Schools what they said was the ROTC allocation this was going to be county dollars used for this program and they were going to use it in other places so I am just letting the Board know how much we paid toward that program."

Mr. Howard continued "The additional expenses at the bottom:

Vehicle Installment Purchase	\$ 78,500
Building Capital Outlay	\$ 37,000
Schools	\$100,000
School Math Teachers	\$ 50,000
Contingency	\$ 50,000

Based on no tax increases if you did all these things you would need \$372,932 to balance from the fund balance this year. Out to the side you were to have a tax increase.

Tax Chart

.5 cents	\$ 72,817.00
1 cent	\$145,635.00
1.5 cents	\$218,452.50
2 cents	\$291,270.00
2.5 cents	\$364,087.50

Chair Lucas stated "Moving back to the manager's proposals starting with the vehicles. I guess the best way to go through this is if a commissioner has any concerns about any of these they want to take out we will vote on that."

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to move the F250 4WD truck from the budget and to pay for it with funds from Solid Waste in the amount of \$24,000. The motion carried by a vote of six to one with Chair Lucas voting no.

Chair Lucas stated "Next on the list is the 4 patrol cars for the Sheriff's office in the amount of \$122,384."

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to approve the purchase the 4 patrol cars for the Sheriff's office. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated "Next is the EMS Dodge Sprinter for \$80,000."

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to purchase the Dodge Sprinter for \$80,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated "Those are to be financed from the Solid Waste fund at 2%."

Chair Lucas stated "Let's move on to Building Capital Outlay. Courthouse Heating and Air Engineering.

Commissioner Hamlett stated "I don't have a problem with that but if we are not going to do anything this year I think we ought to leave that one out until next year since we are so tight with the budget."

Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to remove the Courthouse HVAC Engineering from the budget for this year.

Commissioner Hall stated "I will have to disagree with Commissioner Hamlett. That building is 40 years old whether we spend money this year or next year but we need to start planning. The reason I am discussing this now is we are always refusing to plan because it might cost us something. We need to go ahead and get the architectural study in and plan to replace it. If we don't plan anything next year we will have to deal with the same thing. We are not saving any money." Commissioner Hamlett responded "I can see paying one man \$45,000 to go down and look at that building and say this is what we need. I know you have to have him before you do it." Commissioner Hall continued "He has to look at the configuration of the building now to see what needs to be changed."

Upon a vote on the motion, the motion carried by a vote of four to three with Commissioners Carter, Hall and Williamson voting no.

Chair Lucas stated "The Ag Building roof \$37,000."

Commissioner Williamson moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to repair the roof on the Ag Building at \$37,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated "The Guilford Mills Roof at \$49,000."

Commissioner Williamson moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to repair the roof on the Guilford Mills building at \$49,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated “PCC Heating and Air for \$65,000.”

Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to approve the replacement of the HVAC unit at PCC for \$65,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated “Courthouse Security \$24,000.”

Commissioner Williamson moved, seconded by Commissioner Carter to approve the Courthouse security at \$24,000 to start the process. The motion carried by a vote of five to two with Commissioners Lucas and Hamlett voting no.

Chair Lucas stated “On the Proposed Cuts. Do you want to do these individually or vote collectively and if there is anybody who has a disagreement or want to pull one out and vote on it individually we can do it that way.”

Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to accept all the proposed cuts. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated “We are down to the Deputy Salary and Benefits.”

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to leave that in place as is. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1 with Chair Lucas voting no.

Chair Lucas stated “The Schools NJROTC Allocation \$20,671.74.”

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to remove the Schools NJROTC Allocation from the budget. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Lucas stated “Moving along to Additional Expenses. We need to move down to the recommendation to give \$100,000 to the Schools.”

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to remove the \$100,000.

Commissioner Carter stated “I would like to say that they have been cut by the state and then there are some questions about the custodial positions. They said they really needed that money to function this year.”

Upon a vote on the motion, the motion carried by a vote of 4 to 3 with Commissioners Carter, Jefferies and Williamson voting no.

Chair Lucas stated “\$50,000 for School Math Teachers.”

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Chair Lucas to remove the \$50,000.

Commissioner Hall stated “This goes back to my original comment to the School Board. I strongly, strongly support being able to recruit science and math teachers but I do believe that we

need to have some kind of plan in place to know how to do this. I would like to know before I could support it how many teachers we have and where we have shortfalls and on what campuses and how we propose to go about doing it. If we are short 9 math teachers it may not be enough. If we are short 3 it is probably too much. My thinking was is that I was hoping the School would give us a plan but they did not. I would not offer them \$50,000 without a plan.”

Upon a vote on the motion, the motion carried by a vote of 4 to 3 with Commissioner Carter, Jefferies and Williamson voting no.

Chair Lucas stated “Next is the contingency line item for \$50,000.”

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Chair Lucas to remove the \$50,000. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 2 with Commissioners Carter and Jefferies voting no.

Chair Lucas asked “Where does that leave us Gwen?” Ms. Vaughn responded “That will be \$103,760 from fund balance.”

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Williamson to take the shortfall of \$103,760 out of fund balance to balance the budget. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 2 with Commissioners Lucas and Travis voting no.

The next budget work session will be Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

RECESS

At 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to recess the budget work session until Saturday, June 29, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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Paula P. Seamster  
Clerk to the Board

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Cathy W. Lucas  
Chair

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