

MINUTES – MAY 11, 2009

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in special session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 11, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to meet with department heads to discuss the County's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Members present: Jeremiah Jefferies, Chairman, George W. Ward, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Eric D. Battle, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Gordon G. Satterfield, and Kenneth D. Travis. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, Gwen Y. Vaughn, Finance Officer, and Angela Evans representing The Caswell Messenger. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Jefferies opened the meeting with a Moment of Silent Prayer.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board held a budget work session on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, informed the Board that there is very little capital expense in the Proposed 2009-2010 Budget. Mr. Howard noted that there is a \$10,000 expenditure for a truck for Soil and Water Conservation and some capital for a system for the EMS building to pull fumes out of the base coming from the ambulance units. Mr. Howard informed the Board that most of the County's debt will be paid off within the next two years.

Commissioner Hall stated that in reviewing revenues, specifically sales taxes, based on his calculations, after ten months the County is at 55% for the year and there are only two months to collect the balance. Commissioner Hall added that he would like to know how the County will end this year, because if the County is significantly short in sales taxes and ad valorem taxes, the Board will end up going to Fund Balance anyway.

Mr. Howard informed the Board that Article 44 monies were projected low for the current year and cuts have been made to try to balance before the end of the fiscal year.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Hall as to how many more months of revenues are needed to make out the twelve months, Mr. Howard answered that the County is four months behind in revenues. Commissioner Hall stressed the importance of knowing the correct amount of revenues that will be coming in so that the Board can be sure that there are sufficient funds for the current year's budget before adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Commissioner Hall stated that after receiving the proposed budget, he spent a considerable amount of time reviewing it, but he did not feel he had a sufficient amount of time.

Tax Office

Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Director, came before the Board to discuss the budget request for the Tax Office for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Mr. Bernard stated that he has estimated the total taxable base for the upcoming 2009 tax year at \$1,458,000,000. Mr. Bernard informed the Board that according to information from the Department of Revenue, utility values will be down from approximately \$55-\$60 million to \$47 million. Mr. Bernard informed the Board that he is estimating personal and business personal property at \$39 million and real property values at \$1,245,000,000. Mr. Bernard informed the Board that there has been a significant increase in tax exemption and exclusion applications, which has reduced the County's taxable value by approximately \$40 million.

Upon questioning from Commissioner Satterfield as to the amount of new real property growth in the County in the current year, Mr. Bernard answered that the amount is approximately \$16 million in value.

(At 9:05 a.m. Commissioner Carter entered the meeting).

Mr. Bernard requested that the Board consider increasing a temporary part-time Land Records position in the Tax Office to permanent part-time in order for benefits to be received, which would cost the County \$15,000. Mr. Bernard stated that this person could then assist in annual new construction appraisal and revaluation.

Solid Waste Department

Mr. Tim Smith, Solid Waste Director, came before the Board to discuss the budget request for the Solid Waste Department for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Mr. Smith informed the Board that his budget is essentially the same as last year, except he budgeted \$8,000 in case the Board decided to relocate the Prospect Hill Solid Waste Convenience Center site. Mr. Smith added that he also budgeted \$32,800 for new equipment.

Maintenance Department

Mr. Kevin Howard, County Manager, discussed the budget request for the Maintenance Department for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

The Board held a brief recess.

(Commissioner Hall left the meeting at this time).

Cooperative Extension Service

Mr. Joey Knight, Cooperative Extension Service Director, came before the Board to discuss the budget request for the Cooperative Extension Service for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Mr. David Carter, Chairman, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, came before the Board to discuss the budget request for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

(Commissioner Carter left the meeting at this time).

RECESS

The Board recessed until 1:00 p.m.

RECONVENE

Chairman Jefferies reconvened the meeting.

PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Satterfield to adopt the following Proclamation declaring May 10 – 16, 2009, as National Police Week in Caswell County. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Carter, Hall, and Travis absent.

**PROCLAMATION
TO RECOGNIZE NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2009 AND TO HONOR THE
SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THOSE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES
AND SAFEGUARDING OUR DEMOCRACY**

WHEREAS, there are approximately 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including 50 sworn officers of the Caswell County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, some 60,000 assaults against law enforcement officers are reported each year, resulting in approximately 16,000 injuries; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded death in 1792, more than 18,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty, including one member of the Caswell County Sheriff's Office (Deputy Thomas Buck); and

WHEREAS, the names of these dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, which was dedicated in 1991 in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, 387 names are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this spring, including 133 officers killed in 2008 and 254 officers killed in previous years; and

WHEREAS, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be honored, and the names of the officers newly engraved on the Memorial will be formally dedicated during the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's 21st Annual Candlelight Vigil, on the evening of Wednesday, May 13, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Candlelight Vigil is part of National Police Week, which takes place this year on May 10-16; and

WHEREAS, May 15 is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, with federal law (P.L. 103-322) directing that all flags be flown at half-staff on that date in honor of fallen officers and their families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Caswell County formally declares May 10-16, 2009, as Police Week in Caswell County, and publicly salutes the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.

ADOPTED THIS THE 11TH DAY OF MAY, 2009.

S/Jeremiah Jefferies
Jeremiah Jefferies, Chairman
Caswell County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith
Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Chairman Jefferies reconvened the budget work session on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Governing Body

The Board reviewed and discussed the budget request for Governing Body for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

After discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward that Travel be reduced by fifty percent from \$3,500 to \$1,750, to be equally divided among the seven Commissioners. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Carter, Hall, and Travis absent.

Commissioner Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Satterfield that Dues and Subscriptions only include membership to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Carter, Hall, and Travis absent.

(At 2:00 p.m. Commissioner Carter entered the meeting).

Emergency Services

Mr. Jim Gusler, Emergency Services Director, came before the Board to discuss the budget request for Emergency Management for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Mr. Gusler discussed the budget request for Emergency Medical Services for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Mr. Gusler presented and discussed the following:

- Revenue
- General Information and Comparison
- Personnel
- Equipment Replacement Schedule
- Line Item Overview

Service Objectives

- Competent and Compassionate Care
- Responsive to Patient and Family Concerns
- Expeditious Response
- Advanced Care
- Safe Job Environment
- Community Involvement

Line Item Justification

- EMS Salaries: Increase for the movement of 3 EMT Basic positions to Full Time.
- Part-Time: Reduction due to moving 24 hour EMT-Basic positions to Full Time.
- Uniforms: All weather jackets, protective equipment, station wear.

- Medical Supplies: Increasing cost and quantity of supplies. New mandates from the NC Office of EMS concerning required equipment and protocols on units.
- Small Tools: Replacement of obsolete radio equipment. Purchase equipment required by OEMS.
- Vehicle Service: Multiple units are now out of warranty period. Service interval increases and time for non-routine service. Will also be replacing tires just after end of this budget year adding an extra replacement to next year's budget.
- Capital Needs

After discussion, Commissioner Satterfield moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward that \$150,000 be added back into the EMS budget to replace a chassis and box.

After further discussion, Commissioners Satterfield and Ward withdrew their motion for further information.

(At 2:30 p.m. Commissioner Ward left the meeting).

RECESS

The Board held a brief recess.

(At 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Travis entered the meeting).

911 Communications

Mr. Harvey Rudd, 911 Director, came before the Board to discuss the budget request for the 911 Communications Department for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

(At 3:45 p.m. Commissioner Ward entered the meeting).

Sheriff's Office and Detention Center

Sheriff Michael Welch came before the Board to discuss the budget requests for the Sheriff's Office and Detention Center for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Sheriff Welch noted that the only area in Capital Outlay that is of urgent need for consideration from the Board is patrol vehicles.

RECESS

Chairman Jefferies recessed the meeting until Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at 10:00 a.m.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

Jeremiah Jefferies
Chairman
