

MONDAY JUNE 21, 2010 MINUTES

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 5:00 pm on Monday June 21, 2010. Commissioners present: Chairman George W. Ward, Jr., Vice-Chairman Kenneth D. Travis, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Jeremiah Jefferies, and Gordon G. Satterfield. Also present: Kevin B. Howard, County Manager, Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director, and Angela Evans, Caswell Messenger. Absent: Erik D. Battle. Matthew Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Ward opened the meeting with a moment of silent prayer.

FURLOUGH DISCUSSION

Chairman Ward asked Kevin Howard, County Manager and Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director, how the furloughs would affect the 12 hour shifts. Mr. Howard responded that the furlough day calculations were based on eight hour shifts plus benefits. Employees could do three, eight hour furlough days and the 12 hour shift employees could do two furlough days. Ms. Vaughn said for the 12 hour employees, Sheriff and EMS, they would have to take an eight hour holiday pay rather than scheduling them off a day. Ms. Vaughn said that they would have to allow the Sheriff's Department and Emergency Services Director to take care of the days their employees are off because they cannot follow the same furlough schedule as regular employees. Chairman Ward stressed that he did not want someone working without getting paid. Commissioner Travis stated that whoever's in charge of scheduling for each department should be in charge of whom takes furlough days and when. Chairman Ward stated that if the furloughs do not treat everyone the same he would not support them.

AMBULANCE DISCUSSION

Jim Gusler, EMS Director, came before the board to give an update on the ambulance situation. Two trucks broke down over the weekend leaving the County with only two working ambulances. One truck was fixed by morning on Monday June 21st, 2010 and the other is in West Jefferson. Both are suffering from suspension problems. The truck that was fixed cost around \$1,000. Both trucks are the older trucks they are looking at replacing. Mr. Gusler stated that they are leasing a truck until they get the other one back from West Jefferson. Mr. Gusler also added that he is concerned the two 2008 models are in the shop more and more over the last six months pushing repair costs up as they come off warranty.

DR. BARKER ON BOE CUTS

Dr. Barker, Superintendent of Caswell County Schools, came before the Board to comment on the proposed cuts for the school system. Dr. Barker asks that the cuts be equally done across all departments instead of the proposed equal cuts for all departments and then an additional cut from the school system. He stated they have not received any increases for the increases in costs

of utilities. Dr. Barker asked the Board not to balance the budget on the backs of the school districts.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Kevin Howard, County Manager, highlighted budget items in the enterprise funds. Mr. Howard stated that Solid Waste has around \$250,000 fund balance allocated for replacing a 1983 loader, a compactor in Prospect Hill, and to replace a 1993 Rolloff truck. The Solid Waste fund contains no taxpayer dollars as it is funded by fees collected. CDOT enterprise funds replace two vans with ninety percent of that cost from the state and to also pave the gravel parking lot with an addition to the building to park the vans to make repairs. Chairman Ward wanted the Board to know that the Sheriff's Department has taken three cars out in the last seven to fourteen days as the number of cars in the proposed budget may change. The cost of one car is \$10,089.76 per year for three years.

NCACC STATE BUDGET UPDATE

Commissioner Hall updated the Board on the state budget situation. The state is not likely to have a budget until June 29th, 2010. Commissioner Hall stated that Legislators are believed to be considering taking more lottery money from the counties because they believe the feds might hold out on the Medicaid monies to the tune of a half a billion dollars. He stated the biggest concern he has out of all of that is Legislators this year gave the conferees the authority to do whatever they want to do to get the budget done.

PROPOSED BUDGET DISCUSSION

Chairman Ward began the discussion by stating that three furlough days would only save the County \$39,100. He also stated that he has no problems with what he voted on last week but he wanted everyone to know that the Board does need to talk about the chassis for EMS and possibly adding a car for the Sheriff's Department. The Board may be looking at adding a car or two at the first of the next fiscal year. Commissioner Carter has talked with Soil and Water Conservation and they had asked about the trucks in the budget. Soil and Water Conservation explained to Commissioner Carter that they need four wheel drive to get around the fields. It costs \$2200 extra a year to go with four wheel drive.

Kevin Howard, County Manager, and Gwen Vaughn, Finance Director, presented proposed budget changes with options for a three cent and three and a half cent tax increase. It also included the Board approved budget from June 14th as well as a workable revised budget. Table 1 below provides the data.

Table 1: Proposed Budget Changes

	BOC Approved 6/14/10 2.5 cents	WORKABLE REVISED 2.5 cents	Option 1: 3 cents	Option 2: 3.5 cents
Revenues				
3.5 cent tax increase				\$9,186,467.00
3 cent tax increase			\$9,117,292.00	
2.5 cent tax increase	\$9,048,117.00	\$9,048,117.00		
	\$11,261,427.0	\$11,261,427.0	\$11,261,427.0	\$11,261,427.0
Current Proposed Revenue	0	0	0	0
Appropriated Health Fund	\$238,294.00	\$238,294.00	\$238,294.00	\$238,294.00
Approp GF Balance	\$0.00	\$56,004.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Loss Furlough Revenue	-\$22,800.00	\$0.00	-\$22,800.00	-\$22,800.00
Beer & Wine Tax	\$60,108.00	\$60,108.00	\$60,108.00	\$60,108.00
Enhanced EMS Federal Medicaid	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Total Revenues	\$20,685,146.0 0	\$20,763,950.0 0	\$20,754,321.0 0	\$20,823,496.0 0
Expenditures				
Current Proposed Expenditures	\$20,775,278.0	\$20,775,278.0	\$20,775,278.0	\$20,775,278.0
	0	0	0	0
0.6134% Department Cuts	-\$66,847.00	-\$66,847.00	-\$66,847.00	-\$66,847.00
BOE Additional Cut	-\$61,900.00	-\$61,900.00	-\$61,900.00	-\$61,900.00
PCC Additional Cut	\$0.00	-\$1,096.00	-\$1,096.00	-\$1,096.00
Furlough Days / 3	-\$61,900.00		-\$61,900.00	-\$61,900.00
Proposed Capital/installment purchase	\$100,515.00	\$100,515.00	\$100,515.00	\$100,515.00
Contingency	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,271.00	\$139,446.00
Additional/EMS filtration		\$18,000.00		
Total Expenditures	\$20,685,146.0 0	\$20,763,950.0 0	\$20,754,321.0 0	\$20,823,496.0 0

Commissioner Carter stated that he cannot support the adopted budget given the new information presented at this meeting in regards to the furloughs, ambulance, and Sheriff's issues.

Commissioner Carter said he would like to see a 3.5 cent tax increase, seven patrol cars, four wheel drive truck for Soil and Water Conservation, take \$25,000 off the \$50,000 school cut, and take \$11,900 off the \$61,900 additional school cut, and buy a chassis for EMS plus install the filtration system.

RECESS

At 6:02 pm Chairman Ward motioned to recess for a few minutes.

Chairman Ward stated that he would like to see a 2.5 cent tax increase, seven patrol cars, four wheel drive truck for Soil and Water Conservation, \$61,900 from schools, three furlough days, and install filtration system for EMS. He continued by adding that in order to find \$60,000 there would have to be layoffs.

RECESS

At 6:15 pm Chairman Ward motioned to recess until Wednesday June 23, 2010 at 4 pm.

Matthew W. Smith
Clerk to the Board

George W. Ward, Jr.
Chairman
