MINUTES – AUGUST 19, 2019

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the Caswell County Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2019. Members present: Rick McVey, Chairman, Jeremiah Jefferies, Vice Chairman, Sterling Carter, William E. Carter, Nathaniel Hall, Steve Oestreicher and David Owen. Also present: Bryan Miller, County Manager, and Brian Ferrell, County Attorney. Paula P. Seamster, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman McVey opened the meeting with a moment of Silent Prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Commissioners and all the guests in the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Owen asked to amend the agenda to add a Resolution of Support regarding improvements at intersection of NC 57 and NC 119. Chairman McVey responded that this item will be added after Item 10 County Traffic Issues.

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner Oestreicher to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

The following item was included on the Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of Minutes of August 5, 2019 Regular Meeting

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CASWELL COUNTY UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner W. Carter that the Board enter into a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed amendments to the Caswell County Unified Development Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller stated that before getting into the public hearing he would like to inform the Board that there is some additional clarification that has come to his attention through the county planner and through the Planning Board that needs to be made the Wireless Communications Facilities so although the public hearing will continue he would like to request a postponement on the passage of these amendments until a later date.

Article 9, Part II. Manufactured Home Siting

Mr. Matthew Hoagland, County Planner, stated that on behalf of the Planning Board tonight he is proposing several changes to the Caswell County Unified Development Ordinance and these changes would be specifically to Article 9, Part II. Manufactured Home Siting, Sections 9.20.3 and 9.21. He added that these changes would do 3 specific things: 1) It would clarify the standards for mobile homes that the County would allow to insure the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 and that the County is in compliance with a 2009 Court of Appeals ruling. 2) It would allow a wider variety of masonry type materials allowed for skirting around mobile homes as long as the materials are approved for ground contact. 3) It would clarify mobile home skirting exemptions for seasonal farm workers and for direct family members.

Commissioner Owen asked if these changes would allow different types of skirting on any mobile home. Mr. Hoagland responded that this is specifically for mobile homes placed on individual lots. He added that the County currently only allows brick or cinder block masonry skirting/underpinning and this would widen the options but the options would still be masonry type but it has to be approved for ground type per the manufacturer’s instructions.

Chairman McVey stated that the current policy states that everything has to have a brick foundation. Mr. Hoagland responded yes brick or cinder block. Chairman McVey asked if this would do away with the brick foundations. Mr. Hoagland responded no but other options would be available.

Commissioner Hall asked if this option has been presented to the Board before. Mr. Hoagland responded that from what he understands the County has always mandated brick or cinder block skirting for mobile homes on individual lots even before the approve the Unified Development Ordinance. Commissioner Hall asked again if this option had been presented to the Board before. Mr. Ferrell responded that this Board has considered a similar text amendment to the UDO to make this change to the current requirement of a masonry brick foundation so the Board has considered this before and he added that yes this issue has been before the Board before and the Board did not make the change. Mr. Hoagland added that this was presented before in March of 2016 and the instructions from the Board were for the building inspector to go back and take a closer look at the masonry type material and he apologized for the time it has taken to bring this item back before the Board.

Commissioner Oestreicher asked if there were any samples of the alternative masonry type materials. Mr. Hoagland responded that he could attempt to describe the product but there are some industry professionals present at the meeting and they would be better at describing the materials.

Commissioner Owen asked how Caswell County would benefit from changing this policy. Mr. Hoagland responded that the goal of the Planning Board is two-fold, the Planning Board wants to maintain a high aesthetic quality but the Planning Board wants to make it more affordable for individuals that are setting up a new home. He added that the average double wide set up with brick skirting would be between $8,000 and $9,000 and a different material type would cost between $2,000 and $3,000.

Chairman McVey asked from a safety standard point would the brick foundation be better than siding. Mr. Hoagland responded that he was not necessarily qualified to answer that question and that it would probably be a building inspections question and he has spoken with the building inspections department about these amendments prior to the Planning Board meeting and prior to this meeting and they feel comfortable with this product and have dealt with this product in the past. Chairman McVey stated that he would like to know the kind of impact this product would have as far as a safety issue. He also wanted to know if the brick foundation would increase the value the home over the other masonry option. Commissioner W. Carter responded that the Planning Board approved this type of masonry option when the Board voted on this the last time.

Commissioner Hall stated that he is concerned like the Chairman as well as the long term benefits to the citizens, the value, the safety and all and not just a sale for a mobile home dealer.

Commissioner Jefferies stated that a person may not be able to afford to put brick around a home but this type of material would help a person who is starting out. He added that he voted for it the last time and he will vote for it this time.

Commissioner Owen stated that he has travelled around through several counties and he has noticed several mobile homes that have brick skirting and some of them had holes in those bricks so if there are no follow up on the maintenance there will be some kinds of problems with the value and what it will look like to the neighbors. He understands what it is to start out so he is interested in this but he is not 100% but it is something that needs to be considered. Commissioner Owen suggested having the building inspector to come in and talk about this product. He added that he did not think the brick and block had anything much to do with the safety because the mobile tie downs are inside of the skirting. Commissioner W. Carter responded that the building inspector has talked to the Planning Board and the Planning Board recommended that the County go with this type of masonry skirting.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he was thinking along the same lines as the Chairman that the brick and block are continuous and maintained will be more substantial and less fragile than these other thinner, cheaper structures so the brick would be a safer foundation but he asked for an expert opinion on the material as well.

Mr. Hoagland stated that Mark Langel, Chief Code Inspector for Rockingham County, typed up a letter on his experience with masonry material and he read the letter to the Board. He added that Rockingham County has a larger variety of materials that are allowed than Caswell County does. Mr. Hoagland stated that the building inspections office would be the final authority on safety but as the regulations are amended they still mandate that the inspectors insure the home is set up per North Carolina Manufactured Housing Standards specifically Chapter 3 which deals with skirting, foundations, tie downs and it is not the intent of the regulations to have a less safe product than brick or block.

Chairman McVey asked what the difference is as far as the tax value on the brick skirting versus the masonry skirting. Mr. Hoagland responded that this is a question for the tax department but if he had to guess he would say the masonry would be a less of a tax value than brick or block.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman I would like to respect the fact that this is a public hearing and I would like to hear from the public on this please.”

Mr. Keith Blaylock, member of the Planning Board, gave the Board a sample of the masonry skirting and pictures of it installed. He stated that the Planning Board has been working for a long time to find something that would be more reasonable than brick shirting. Mr. Blaylock stated that vinyl skirting is too brittle. He stated the product they are recommending is fiber cement that can be painted and it is fire retardant. Mr. Blaylock asked the Board to allow the County to start using this masonry board.

Commissioner Oestreicher asked how the masonry board attaches to the house. Mr. Blaylock responded that treated 1 x 4s would be installed about 10 feet apart and the fiberboard is screwed to the 1 x 4s. Commissioner Oestreicher asked what the composition of the fiber is. Mr. Blaylock responded that he did not know but he does know it has concrete and the fiberboard around the concrete and then stucco on the front of it. He stated that he has done a lot of research.

Chairman McVey stated that Mr. Blaylock was the only person that sign up for public comment and asked if anyone else would like to speak.

Mr. Lee Whitley stated that he works with Blevins Incorporation which has headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee but he works out of the Rocky Mount, NC branch. He added that they are the supplier for Clayton Homes for the fiber cement board. Mr. Whitley stated that Mr. Blaylock’s explanation of installation is one way but the recommended way is the board is screwed into the bottom of the frame of the house and then it could be framed out every 8 feet behind the board. He added that there are t-sections that go between the sheets and the sheet go into a piece of trim that is spiked into the ground. Mr. Whitley stated that the quality depends on the installer and the cost is about $3500 on an average double wide. He added that this product is used in most of the surrounding counties around Caswell County. Mr. Whitley stated that this product is used in place of lap siding. He added that there is an adhesive that is rolled on if the board is cut to seal the board. Mr. Whitley stated that the tax values were brought up but Caswell is losing houses to other counties because it does not allow this product.

Commissioner Oestreicher asked what the actual fiber material is. Mr. Whitley responded that it is a fiber composite. He added that he would have to go online to pull up all the specs. Commissioner Oestreicher asked if there is any asbestos in the board. Mr. Whitley responded that he was not aware of asbestos being in the product.

Mr. Roger McCarter stated that he runs the Clayton Homes in Roxboro. He stated that this is only skirting, it does not attach to the house but neither does the brick. Mr. McCarter stated that someone can pull the house out and the wall will still be there. He stated that because of the housing market drop a couple of year ago there is a 43% debt ratio before you can buy a house and if the debt ratio is above 43% you cannot get a house and this brick skirting can push you over that limit.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I’ve got two points I’d like to make in reviewing the amendment, one is just a clarification of language and I was going to let the Planning Board be aware of this. I don’t know if you all have access to a copy of it to look, Matthew do you have a copy? Or y’all can look on the same one. It’s 9.20.3 Types of Units that section right there, I’d like to propose y’all struck the words ‘were constructed’ in the first sentence there and ‘or have been improved such that they’ and that’s to improve the language so that sentence just flows, it looks like there was a point that was missed there. And then whoever had spoken before or Mr. Hoagland if you could answer this, during non-seasonal months, this is in reference to the seasonal workers being exempted from having the skirting but during those non-seasonal months does the cold, bad weather, any of that kind of stuff have a negative impact on that mobile home before you have someone live in it again during the seasonal months?” Mr. Hoagland responded that this was a great question but not a question that he would have the answer to. He added that the reason for the change for the seasonal farm workers is the existing language somewhat referenced it but you would have to refer to the appendix of the UDO to get clarification so the Planning Board desired to have the clarification included in the text. Commissioner S. Carter continued “I am just concerned for anyone whether they are a seasonal worker or whoever on a permanent site for the health and well-being in that mobile home because I know Mr. Blaylock you mentioned during a incidence where somebody did not have any skirting at all and you said I don’t know how in the world the pipes didn’t freeze and I am just worried during the non-seasonal months that this home will be negatively impacted where skirting if we don’t have that exception could prevent it, damage for the property owner and to the detriment evidently to that person that is going to live there.” Mr. Hoagland responded that there currently exists and exemption for the seasonal farm workers and the language just seeks to clarify it in the ordinance itself. Commissioner S. Carter stated “I’m expressing that I don’t really agree with it and that is why I am asking a question. And in the other exemption is that also preexisting, about the direct family members, that wording?” Mr. Hoagland responded yes. Commissioner S. Carter continued “It was. So me just thinking even if its grandma, daughter or whoever I mean not having skirting those kinds of impacts during those months, I am just sitting here thinking why we would have that exemption. I know the motivation for like an elderly family member having an exemption because they may only live for so long and you are going to move it along but I am just saying for the sake of the property owner who has this mobile home are these negative impacts something that we will possibly look over. I wanted to make that point. As far as the masonry style foundation I think as long as it’s something that’s going to practically prevent those things I just mentioned and maintain an aesthetic appeal like was mentioned in the letter I think it’s okay to include this new material and I appreciate the demonstration and information received on that and it definitely educated me but I think those are fine but the exemptions that was one thing I was going to mention that I had a concern with.”

Commissioner Owen stated that he wanted to responded to Commissioner Carter’s concern about the seasonal workers, his family had migrant help that was there for a short time and they used a house and a trailer and when no one was there the water was cut off to the house, drained the lines and put anti-freeze in the tanks to prevent freezing.

Chairman McVey asked if anyone else would like to speak during public comments.

Chairman McVey stated that before the Board votes on this he would like to speak to the tax department so he could find out what the value difference would be. Commissioner S. Carter asked “Building inspector also? We had some concerns for the building inspector.” Chairman McVey responded that he was about to mention to the county manager to get the tax department and the building inspector at the next meeting and have this on the agenda again.

Commissioner W. Carter asked why the building inspector needed to meet with the Board when he met with the Planning Board. Chairman McVey responded the he thought there were some questions that needed to be answered. Commissioner W. Carter stated that Planning Board made a recommendation for the Board to approve this.

Chairman McVey asked the county manager to get the tax department and building inspector to come to the next meeting.

Commissioner Oestreicher asked if part of the proposal was to include the instructions on how to use the material. Mr. Hoagland responded that it mandates that the materials be installed per the manufacturer’s instructions so the building inspector would be looking at three different criteria: state installation regulations, local code and the manufacturer’s instructions to ensure that all criteria have been met.

Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Jefferies to go out of the public hearing.

Mr. Ferrell stated that the Board has heard about the Mobile Home Siting item but there is also the Wireless Communications Facilities revisions that are on for public hearing tonight and one suggestion is to see if there is anyone here for that piece of the public hearing and then the Board can decide on what it wants to do with the public hearing. One option is to close the public hearing and another option is to continue the public hearing to a set date, time and place so the Board will not have to re-notice the public hearing.

Article 9, Part III. Wireless Communications Facilities

Mr. Hoagland stated that as the county manager mentioned earlier these are regulations that the Planning Board has considered for some months now but in speaking with quite a few cell builders more recently there is more clarification that needs to happen before a final product cam be brought before the Board.

Mr. Ferrell asked Mr. Hoagland to go over generally what the Planning Board is looking at as far as changes.

Mr. Hoagland stated the changes in regulations is to make it simpler and more affordable for cell towers to be constructed in the county with the primary motivation behind that is to better connect all of our residents no matter where they are in the county. He added that cell coverage is an issue in a lot of areas. Mr. Hoagland stated that the Planning Board plans to seek the elimination of the current fee schedule and give the Board the opportunity to erect a new fee schedule that will be more enticing for new cell towers to be built. He added that the county will allow the regulations of co-locations. Mr. Hoagland stated that the county planner will conduct an annual inspection to ensure that landscaping, fencing, equipment requirements maintain the standard that is set forth in the UDO.

Mr. Ferrell stated that there are some state law changes as well that the Planning Board will be looking at.

Chairman McVey asked if anyone would like to speak during public comments on the Wireless Communications Facilities. No one wanted to speak during this public hearing.

Mr. Ferrell stated that the Board’s options are essentially to close the public hearing. He added that there will be additional information coming back on both of these items so he asked if there was a way to find out when this information was going to be ready the Board could continue this public hearing until that date, time and location.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that he thought only one commissioner wanted to have the building inspector to come but it is up to the whole Board. Commissioner S. Carter asked “What did you say Mr. Carter?” Commissioner W. Carter stated that it would be up to the whole Board if it wants the building inspector to come to the next meeting. Commissioner S. Carter responded “I am in favor of the building inspector and tax collector.” Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he was as well.

Commissioner Owen moved to continue the public hearing until September 3rd. Mr. Miller responded that the 3rd would work but historically the Board has held public hearing at its second meeting because most of the residents are out of the county during the day time hours so the 16th may be better for the public hearing and this will give the Planning Board a little bit more time to prepare for the meeting.

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner Oestreicher to continue the public hearing on September 16, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hall requested that the Board get the information ahead of time so it has time to thoroughly review it preferable more than 2 to 3 days.

Chairman McVey asked the county manager to have the tax collector and building inspector to come to the next meeting on September 3rd so the Board can get some answers to the questions that were asked. Mr. Miller responded that he would. Mr. Ferrell responded that if the Board is going to do that he recommended that the Board continue the public hearing to review new information until your next meeting and then you can continue it again if needed. He added that if the Board is gathering information outside of the public hearing there may be some questions.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “If we want to be adequately informed I would say those two individuals can come the 3rd and we can continue it until the next meeting.”

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to amend the motion to continue the public hearing until September 3, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse. The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

The Board took a brief recess.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman McVey opened the floor to Public Comments.

Ms. Karen Williamson came before the Board and stated that she is here today to publically thank the Board for granting her and the cast of Caswell History Speaks the use of the beautiful Historic Courthouse for the production that took place on Saturday, August 10th. She added that there were two performances, one at 3:00 with more than 175 people in attendance and one at 7:00 with more than 75 people in attendance. Ms. Williamson thanked the Board again. She stated that the people that were in here to see and witness the program left very happy. Ms. Williamson stated that she had a copy of the playbill for each of the commissioners that had been signed by Fred Motley and herself for memorabilia.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman I was going to tagline with Ms. Williamson’s comments, it was a very enjoyable event. Everyone in the building was peppy, that’s the word I would describe it as. I did not think we all could sign that well until Fred got us going but I would like to commend Karen and her team for what they did to benefit the citizens of the county and I hope we can partner with other groups in the future to utilize this beautiful building. Those are the types of events I would like to see take place here.” Ms. Williamson responded that she would like to do it again.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he would like to add the word ‘well informed’ to happy because he thought it was a very informative session. Ms. Williamson responded that hopefully the next time this is done more iconic figures will be added so there will be a rotating amount of people to be highlighted in the performance. She added that they have some good things in the pipeline coming up. Commissioner Oestreicher stated good job.

Chairman McVey asked if anyone else wanted to speak during Public Comments. With no further comments Chairman McVey closed Public Comments.

RECOGNITIONS

Commissioner S. Carter stated “That was going to be my recognition, thank you again.”

Commissioner Owen recognized the Farmer Lake Board and all the organizations that were involved in the Kids Fishing and Fun Day. He stated that he was not able to stay very long but there was a crowd by the time he left and it looks like they were having quite a time out there. Commissioner Owen recognized Outreach Ministries plus the other organizations that partnered with them to do the Back to School Blast. He added that he was not able to stay long but it was quite a good crowd when he left. Commissioner Owen stated he thought other commissioners attended this event as well. He thanked the ones involved for doing this for the children in Caswell County.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he seconds Commissioner Owen’s comments. He added that he was at both events and despite the extreme heat at Farmer Lake it was well attended and well enjoyed by everyone and the Back to School Blast was bigger than last year so it was quite a nice event.

INTRODUCTION OF COOPERATIVE EXTENSION DIRECTOR

Ms. Susan Kelly thanked the Board for allowing here to be at the meeting tonight and she thanked the County for its support and partnership with the Cooperative Extension. She added that she appreciates everything the County has done for the Cooperative Extension office this year including some additional positions and funding. Ms. Kelly introduced the new Cooperative Extension Director Travis Hoesli from Colorado. She added that he had spent a couple week here earlier in August and then went back to Colorado to move his family her and he is here permanently as of today. Ms. Kelly stated that Mr. Hoesli is an experienced extension director with Colorado State University and he also has a number of years in Ag education so she thought the county would really enjoy having him here and she added that she knows he will enjoy it as well. Ms. Kelly stated that Mr. Hoesli will introduce another new staff member tonight as well.

Mr. Travis Hoesli stated it is a great honor to be here tonight and he looks forward to working in the Cooperative Extension office in Caswell County. He added that one of the big things that drew him here was the strong commitment to agriculture in this county. Mr. Hoesli stated that he is excited to be here and added that there are a lot of great things in place as far as partnerships. He stated that the county made a commitment to hire more extension agents and they are deep in the process of doing just that. Mr. Hoesli stated that the Cooperative Extension has hired Clinton Carty as the new Livestock Agent and he asked Mr. Carty to come forward. He added that next they hope to hire the Horticulture Agent; the interviews are scheduled for the 29th and on Wednesday he will be meeting with A&T to get the process started on hiring the 3rd agent this fall.

Chairman McVey welcomed Mr. Hoesli and Mr. Carty to Caswell County.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHANGES

Chairman McVey stated that he was sent an email that requested an explanation as to why the Commissioners changed some board appointments recently and he has that explanation. He continued by saying the Board regularly appoints representatives from the Board of Commissioners to serve on local, regional and state board committees and from time to time it is requested and at times necessary for Board members to switch responsibilities or representation. Chairman McVey stated that the reasons for switching representation may include a personal matter which would cause a Board member to not be in attendance for a regular scheduled meeting, an interest in a board or committee by a board member, a financial conflict of interest that arises from one Board member’s association while serving on the board or committee, times the board or committee meet, dates the board or committee meet, location the board or committee meet, or many other situations that are too numerous to mention. Chairman McVey stated that recently he switched boards with Commissioner S. Carter. He added that he represented the Board on the Farmer Lake Board and Commissioner S. Carter had represented the PTRC Northwest Workforce Development Board. Chairman McVey stated that the switch that occurred on June 17th with Commissioner S. Carter and himself was a result of Commissioner S. Carter requesting to switch due to his interest in the Farmer Lake Board. He added that the switch had no legal, ethical jurisdiction or punitive basis, it was merely one commissioner expressing an interest in a specific board and another commissioner that served on that board being willing to switch responsibilities. Chairman McVey stated that it is just two commissioners working together as they represent the best interest of the county. He added the switch occurred on June 17th at an open meeting and was announced to the Board of Commissioners with no questions or objections by the other Board members and having no questions or objections the meeting proceeded as scheduled. He asked Commissioner S. Carter if he would like to add anything.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I completely agree with the explanation there and I would encourage anyone in the future to please come to the source of any misunderstanding that you may have. We are here available to the public at any time and this would have saved a lot of time so we will continue to work forward and on what is best for the county.”

COUNTY TRAFFIC ISSUES

Commissioner S. Carter stated “This was supposed to be just a generic conversation about the issues we have had both in the past and recently. It became very real for me when I was four car lengths behind my cousin who died of a head on collision on 86 North and since that moment just from my own, you know, experience I’ve strived to drive exactly the speed limit just to see how individual commuting through this county and individuals in this county drive and some of the dangers that their behaviors pose and this is just me trying to express, you know, general concerns for the negative driving behaviors in the county, wrecks have obviously been caused by those and fatalities as results. I would like to see the several entities involved in traffic safety in this county to just generally crack down a little bit harder on those incidents. I feel like, you know, the more we can do the better we could do to prevent these incidents and just exhort the citizens that if they see, you know, any of these dangerous behaviors that, you know, they have a responsibility too and if they choose to report those, tags can be traced back very easily and I have had a couple of those incidences myself since that moment became very real to me and I just wanted to throw that out and if there is any kind of discussion that this Board chose to pursue I just feel like it’s just something that we should be publically stating that we would like to see improvements in this area. There’s a lot of people that travel through Caswell County. Some of them are in a hurry. A lot of them travel from Virginia to Research Triangle and to Greensboro and other places and I just feel like there are additional measures that probably, you know, can take place to prevent some of these fatalities and some of these dangerous driving behaviors.”

Commissioner W. Carter stated that this would be up to law enforcement to protect the safety of the roads. Commissioner S. Carter responded “It is…I just felt like we should publically express concern over the issue.”

Commissioner Owen stated that the highway patrol presence on Highway 86 from Yanceyville to Danville has been much heavier for the last 6 months. He added that he has had conversations with the Sheriff and the highway patrolman that he knows and his concern is what he sees every day when he drives every day on 86. Commissioner Owen sees people who run off the road because they are looking at their telephone or they are speeding or passing in bad areas but that falls back on the responsibility of individuals not only those that are driving but those that observe those driving habits. He added that individuals can take some of this information and call it in and report these incidences and let law enforcement know where the drivers are headed. Commissioner Owen stated that he agreed that there are measures that could be enforced a little better and maybe looked at.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he spoke with Officer Shell at the Back to School Blast and he informed him that on the Wednesday operation where they had the special emphasis that law enforcement wrote 159 citations for meritorious driving and I commended him on that. He added that this was a really good way to do this and show concern for public safety. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he would like to see this continue.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that he thinks the Sheriff’s Department is doing a great job because they have been holding traffic checks and the highway patrol is doing a good job with highway enforcement in Caswell County and they do the best with what they have.

Commissioner Owen stated that he did not want the Board’s comments to be that it does not think the highway patrol or sheriff’s department is not doing their job but the citizens can help with the traffic issues.

Commissioner Hall stated that some of the issues are not necessarily driver related issues. He added that he drives 158 a lot and there have been several accidents and fatalities in West Yanceyville and it is because of the curve. Commissioner Hall stated that he does not know what can be done about this curve but it needs to be talked about because it is a very dangerous curve.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS

AT INTERSECTION OF NC 57 AND NC 119

Mr. Miller stated that following Hurricane Michael and Hurricane Florence the county received a detour from Highway 58 coming through Danville, VA and it caused a lot of increased traffic on Highway 57 and Highway 119. He added that he heard from several of the Board members about the increased traffic on Highway 57 and 119 as well as the fire departments, EMS, first responders and a lot of citizens so as a result of that the County submitted a proposal to Division VII’s High Impact, Low Cost Program for the intersection of Highway 57 and 119 to widen that intersection. Mr. Miller stated that many of the incidents were caused at that intersection because many of the tractor trailers did not have the turning radius they need to make it through the intersection. He added that DOT took a look at the intersection, the traffic, and everything involved and they have a recommendation for the county. Mr. Miller stated that he High Impact, Low Cost program is for up to $250,000 but the cost of widening this intersection is around $400,000 so this project cannot be done through this program but DOT saw a need for this project. Mr. Miller stated that anything over $250,000 DOT needs a resolution from the Board. He stated that he prepared a resolution and placed it in front of the Board to approval because the DOT will need this resolution to move the project forward. Mr. Miller stated that funding for this project is not secured but DOT anticipates funding being secured in the upcoming months for this project if the Board approves of the project.

Commissioner Hall asked in terms of priorities what will this project cost the County. He added that he understands there is a need on Highway 57 and 119 but there is a need on 158 with the curve at Hodges Dairy Road, there is a need in Milton at the stoplight where you can see, there is a need here in Yanceyville when turning left to go to Hillsborough with tractor trailers not being able to make that turn and he added that he would suspect that there is a lot more traffic on these two roads than on Highway 57 and 119. Commissioner Jefferies responded that he disagreed. Commissioner S. Carter responded “I will tend to agree with Mr. Jefferies.” Commissioner Hall stated that he was wrong because he is not over there but he does know what happens on Highway 158 and there is a lot of traffic on 158 in that curve near Hodges Dairy Road and there is a lot of traffic on Highway 86 coming out of Danville to make that turn to Hillsborough and he wanted to know what the cost would be to the county if the Board approves this resolution and DOT moves forward and they push back the others because the Board made that a priority. Mr. Miller responded that he is not aware of any other submissions for the Low Cost, High Impact projects but he is happy to ask those questions to DOT and he would be happy to submit any problems the Board wants but to the best of his knowledge the Highway 57 and 119 project was the only one submitted to DOT.

Commissioner S. Carter asked “But is this something that we in the positive can be more heavily involved and submit additional requests, not resolutions per say but research this intersection ourselves or something, is that something this Board can do?” Mr. Miller responded that he thought the Board could make as many requests to DOT as needed. He added that if there are unsafe areas in the county he thinks if the responsible of the county and as staff of the county it is imperative to make DOT aware of these areas if they are not already aware of these areas and then it would be DOT’s responsibility to research, gather the data, look at the actual traffic numbers, and make the determination on what should happen in these areas and if the county is not satisfied it can ask for higher level reviews. Mr. Miller stated that DOT send him a letter stating that if the Board wanted to move forward with the Highway 57 and 119 project they needed a resolution.

Commissioner Owen started that this speaks to the importance of the local TAC, the transportation committee in the county, in which Commissioner Oestreicher is a member of and TAC has public meetings and this speaks to why the Board members and citizens need to be involved where issues can be brought before this committee about issues with traffic. He stated that there are other ways to present these issues but this committee is a great resource. Commissioner Owen stated that he understands about the curve on 158 and he cannot understand why that curve has not been put on a project to have it looked at. He added that it is good to gather information before making a submission because there were a lot of wreck on Highway 86 at the 86 Convenience Mart and he gathered information from the local sheriff’s office and the highway patrol and he presented it at a TAC meeting and now it is on the books to be done in 2020. Commissioner Owen stated that the DOT looks close at safety issues so these issues need to be reported.

Commissioner Hall asked when the TAC committee meets and he asked for the location as well. Commissioner Oestreicher responded that the TAC meeting on Wednesday at 1:30 in Kernersville. Commissioner Hall asked how the local citizens would get to Kernersville. Commissioner Owen responded that there is a local TAC committee where that committee comes to Caswell County and they have their meetings in Milton and Yanceyville for citizens to see the transportation plan.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I will say on a couple of their presentations is they have been during the day and there was a lack of attendance.” Commissioner Owen responded that the county can request that these take place during the evening instead of the day time.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I was going to throw out there if 2 or 3 of us want to get together and kind of coordinate on some priority sites that we all or several are aware of and get those to Mr. Oestreicher and then he can be there for us and represent our needs so we all would not have to pile down to Kernersville so if anybody else is interested in, you know, forming a small temporary committee I think that might be productive so that he can be readily prepared for the next TAC meeting.” Commissioner Owen stated that DOT is planning these projects ahead and they are not into 2022 at least.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that DOT has looked at widening 158 in West Yanceyville but the reason they have not done anything is because the waterline is right under the edge of the pavement and if the state was to widen this road they would also have to move the water line.

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner S. Carter to approve the resolution of support regarding improvements at Intersection of NC 57 and NC 119. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner S. Carter asked “Mr. Chairman I did not know if that committee was of interest to maybe Mr. Hall or anybody else? No. You don’t want to do anything on that one.” Commissioner Hall responded that he is committeed out. Commissioner S. Carter continued “You are committeed out, okay. Commissioner Owen responded that he was on a lot of committees but he did not mind being on this committee. Commissioner S. Carter stated “It does not have to be anything formal or we can meet separately, we can say maybe two meetings from now and have some areas of interest there.” Commissioner Owen responded that this would be fine and that he did not mind being on the committee.

Commissioner W. Carter stated that he agrees with Commissioner Hall about the curve on 158 because a lot of tractor trailers have turned over there. He added that since the last tractor trailer wreck DOT has put a yellow sign telling everyone there is a curve but it is still a bad curve.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Mr. Chairman there was something I forgot to mention about the resolution, I don’t know how many months, it may even be a year plus ago we decided that on all resolutions that all of our signatures would be included and I wanted to make sure that we do that on this. It shows unified support by the whole Board.” Chairman McVey responded that this would be fine with him. He added that he had already signed it but if the Commissioners would see Ms. Seamster she would get this changed.

# RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

**REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS AT INTERSECTION OF NC 57 AND NC 119**

WHEREAS, G.S. 136-1 I.I requires that the North Carolina Department of Transportation ("NCDOT") request a resolution from all municipalities and counties affected by certain planned transportation projects to express their views on the project prior to any action taken by the North Board of Transportation ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, the Department has proposed committing in excess of $250,000 for the improvements that include the widening of the intersection NC 57 and NC 119 to accommodate a safer turning radius; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 136-1I.I the County is provided the opportunity to state its views on the Project through this resolution before action of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Board shall consider, but shall not be bound by, the views of the County regarding the Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLVES:**

Section I. The County supports the Project because it will enhance the safety of the traveling public in the area and requests the Department and the Board approves the Project.

Section 2. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the County of Caswell, NC on August 19th, 2019.

S/Rick McVey \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ S/Jeremiah Jefferies\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rick McVey, Chairman Jeremiah Jefferies, Vice Chairman

S/David Owen\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ S/William E. Carter\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

David Owen, Commissioner William E. Carter, Commissioner

S/Nathaniel Hall\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ S/Steve Oestreicher\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nathaniel Hall, Commissioner Steve Oestreicher, Commissioner

 S/Sterling Carter \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Sterling Carter, Commissioner

Attest:

S/Paula P. Seamster\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Paula P. Seamster, Clerk to the Board

DISPOSITION OF COUNTY PROPERTY – AUCTION

Mr. Miller stated that currently the County has three ways to dispose of public property, one of those being a public auction which is authorized under GS 168-270. He added that the Board has a list of surplus items for Lot 1 County vehicles, generator, tractor mowing unit and various office furniture and chairs; Lot 2 Vehicles, and Lot 3 Vehicles. Mr. Miller stated that the Auction is scheduled for September 7th and he asked the Board to surplus this list of vehicles and equipment to include in the County auction.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that the items are listed by lots but he wanted to know if these items would be sold individually. Mr. Miller responded that the items would be sold individually. He added that Lot 1 is county vehicles that were used in county departments, Lot 2 is drug and seizure vehicles and this money will go to the Caswell County Board of Education, and Lot 3 is the Sheriff’s department vehicles.

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner S. Carter to surplus the vehicles and equipment that have been presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BARTLETT YANCEY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT – ARCHITECT AND ENGINEERS, BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Miller stated that one of the architects from Dewberry is at the meeting tonight so if there are any technical questions he will yield to the architect. He added that the architect and engineering firm has proposed to the Caswell County Board of Education that instead of using the temporary classrooms which would be used during the construction of the project and then be moved away but to construct a building on campus to house those temporary classrooms and then at the end of the project it can be converted to whatever the needs are currently at the time. Mr. Miller stated that the architect and engineer have indicated to him that the cost of this project would not exceed the budgeted amount for the temporary classrooms which was around $880,000 initially.

Commissioner Owen asked how many temporary classrooms or trailers were there going to be originally. Mr. Miller responded 2 – 12 classroom modular units and 1 – 8 classroom modular unit.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Two buildings.” Commissioner Oestreicher responded that it would be 3 buildings, 3 units with 32 rooms.

Chairman McVey asked the architect to come forward.

Chairman McVey asked how many individual rooms the $880,000 would supply. Dr. Sandra Carter responded that she was going to speak first and that the architect could correct here but from her understanding the facility would house up to 7 classrooms and spaces in the civic center will be utilized as well. Chairman McVey asked for clarification, he added that Dr. Carter stated that this unit will house 7 classrooms and he is supposing that she is referring to the new proposed building. Dr. Carter responded that this is correct. Chairman McVey stated that his question was how many temporary classrooms were proposed to be brought in under normal circumstances for $880,000.” Commissioner S. Carter added “The ones that were previously planned for.” The architect responded originally it was 24 plus 8. Commissioner McVey stated that that originally there was a need for 24 units. The architect responded yes based on the original study that is correct.

Commissioner Owen stated that originally there was a need for 24 classrooms to hold the students and now this building is going to be built and there will only be 7 classrooms. Dr. Carter responded that she can answer that, originally when the study was done it was proposed to tear down all three buildings and now only hallway 1 will be torn down and the students will not be allowed in hallway 2 so students will still be on hallway 3 and this will require less of the mobile units. The architect added that the original plan was to demolish all three halls at the same time and that has changed and the building has been pulled forward so the demolition can be phased so there will not be a need for as many temporary units. Commissioner S. Carter responded “Trying to save money.” Dr. Carter responded yes trying to save money.

Commissioner Owen stated that all three halls will be demolished at the end of the project and all the students will be housed in the new building. Dr. Carter responded yes. She added that as part of the original cost but a lot of the technology and wiring is housed in hallway 2 and the media center and if this hall were to be demolished it would be quite expensive and it would not be worthwhile to temporarily move that wiring and then move it back and so this saved money as well.

Commissioner Owen stated that he understands what is being attempted but the only other concern he would have is there anything in the original project other than the building itself that has changed. The architect responded no. Commissioner Owen stated that what has been told to the people of Caswell County is what they are going to get. The architect responded that this is correct. Dr. Carter responded absolutely.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he got more confused after the conversation. He asked how many trailers or temporary classrooms would the $880,000 purchase. Chairman McVey responded 24. Commissioner Oestreicher asked if these were classrooms or double wides. The architect responded that these come as units. Dr. Carter stated that she see what Commissioner Oestreicher is concern about and stated that there is only a need for half that amount of classrooms and they will place students in other areas and part of this is because administration will be put in the civic center and the counselors will be placed in hallway 2. Commissioner Oestreicher asked for this to be converted to apples to apples basis. He added that there is going to be $880,000 according to plan 1 and now because of phasing there is not a need for all of the temporary units and he asked if this is correct. Dr. Carter responded that this is correct. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that with this the $880,000 should be less. Dr. Carter responded that this is correct. Commissioner Oestreicher asked how much the permanent building would cost compared to the revised need for temporary units. The architect responded that the money that was originally going to be spent on the temporary classrooms will be used to build the permanent building and not spend any more than the original budget. Commissioner Oestreicher asked if the new building will cost $880,000 but if the permanent building was not built the $880,000 would not be spent. Dr. Carter responded that there is some difference here because the wiring from the central office would have to be relocated plus rent will have to be paid every month on the temporary units until the project is complete and if there is inclement weather this would cost additional monies. She added that the bottom line is the permanent building would be a structure that the county would own and the school system would own and the other option will be carried away. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he did not have a problem with the concept but the money is confusing him a little bit. The architect responded that it is a little bit difficult to predict the cost of temporary units because there is a set up charge, a removal charge, and there is a monthly rent charge and in addition to this you have water, sewer, fire alarm intercom because all of these utilities have to come to these temporary units as if they were a permanent classroom. Dr. Carter added that there is another component of safety. Commissioner Oestreicher asked how many temporary units would be needed if the permanent building is built. The architect responded that one 8 classroom unit for approximately 12 to 18 months. Dr. Carter added that it would be 8. The architect stated that the units come in as 8 or 12 classroom in a unit. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that there is still a need for temporary units. Dr. Carter responded yes and it would be rolled away at the end of the project.

Chairman McVey asked what the cost savings would be. He stated that he understands if a permanent building is built there is not be a need for as many temporary units. Dr. Carter responded if the counselors are put in hallway 2 and administration in the civic center there will be a cost savings. Chairman McVey asked what the cost would drop down to. The architect stated that he did not have that number. Dr. Carter added that the original cost of the temporary classrooms would be sufficient to build the permanent structure. Chairman McVey asked how much more money over the $880,000 will be needed to set the permanent building up for classrooms. The architect responded that this is already included in the budget. He added that the $880,000 would include building this new building as classrooms as well as converting it to another use after the construction is complete. Chairman McVey stated that there would not be a need for any more money. The architect responded that this is correct. Dr. Carter stated that it is another way for the county to have another structure and not have it roll away.

Commissioner Owen asked where the new building will be located on campus. The architect responded that it will be located to the right of the press box and bleachers. Dr. Carter added that it would be located between the softball field and baseball field.

Chairman McVey stated that he knew that this project has already been delayed and he wanted to know how much more of a delay it would be to build this building versus bringing in mobile units. The architect stated that they will fast track the design through DPI so they can do an early review so this will can be build and ready when they award the contract for the main project so there will be no delay with the project. He added that in the next 2 months the drawings will be completed and get them approved by the school planning and get it bid out as a separate project with 4 to 5 months to build the building. Dr. Carter added that without any inclement weather her understanding is that the students should be able to move into the new two story high school by August of 2021.

Commissioner Hall asked what the new building would be after the construction of the high school is complete. Dr. Carter responded that it could be anything, it could be classrooms, or it could be the field house as well. Commissioner Hall asked if the enrollment would justify more classrooms. Dr. Carter responded that she certainly hopes that this is the case because the high school has several new programs but the bottom line is that money is not lost and this is an opportunity to have for the needs of the high school whether if it is classrooms or a field house. She added that this is for the taxpayers and for the students. Commissioner Hall stated that it sounds like a field house is going to be built. Dr. Carter responded that a large percentage would like to see this and this was one of the issues but this had been put to rest until the architect said a new building could be built for what was going to be lost on mobile units so to her it is a win/win.

Commissioner Oestreicher asked if there was a possibility of this building being a multipurpose field house. Dr. Carter responded sure it could be whatever. Commissioner Oestreicher stated to call it what it is going to be because it looks like a field house. Dr. Carter responded that the location would make it look like one as well but the good thing is the building could be used for whatever is needed. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that at the end of the construction and enrollment is not up and this is converted to a field house could this building be changed back to classrooms in the future if there is a need. The architect responded that the lockers would be pulled out of the JV and Varsity locker rooms and convert to classrooms. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that to him the concept is good because he likes the idea of buying something permanent rather than buying something temporary but he asked that everyone be upfront with that is going to be done with the building after the construction is completed. Dr. Carter responded that it will be temporary classrooms and the location is where it is at and that is really the only location that this building would be able to go. She added that a large population will be glad to hear that they were able to get this out of the bond as well. Dr. Carter stated that she was happy that this was looked at and realized before construction started. Commissioner Oestreicher agreed with this and he thought the architect should be commended for thinking of this.

Commissioner Hall asked if the building ends up being a field house how would it be supported. Dr. Carter asked if he was referring to the transformation. Commissioner Hall stated that he is referring to the maintenance and upkeep of the building. Dr. Carter stated that athletic staff and custodians would make sure it is kept up but she did not think this is a major concern because the school would make sure that it would be supported. She added that the maintenance crew would complete the conversion if it is converted to a field house. Commissioner Hall stated that if this building ends up being a field house is the school going to ask this Board to support it financially. Dr. Carter responded that she hoped there would not be any upkeep for quite some time but it will have needs just like any other facility in the county. She added that the school has a strong booster club as well so that could be a possibility.

Commissioner Oestreicher asked if Commissioner Hall is referring to utilities. Commissioner Hall responded yes he is talking about everything. Commissioner Owen stated that three halls would not need as much maintenance as well.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Right, I was going to comment to that with the fact with a new building we are talking about an extreme decrease in maintenance for the sake of efficiency compared to your old structure. You know, I think you should look at it from the perspective of it being an additional, you know, asset to that campus. It sounds like it’s well thought out and I will not say it is perfect, it has its kinks but if we are not going to be indebted any further than we were to begin with why throw money in the trash can versus attempting something like this and I fully support it. I think we’ll have to deal with those issues 20 years from now when it comes to maintenance of any structure.”

Commissioner Owen asked how far from the main building will this new building be. Dr. Carter responded that it will be to the right of the track field. Commissioner Owen asked what is going to happen with the student during inclement weather. The architect responded that temporary canopies would be installed from the main building to the new building.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “And on those lines too on the little aesthetic thing I saw was the fact that there were exterior entrances to restrooms on this building and I did not know if you have some kind of awning or…” The architect responded that a 3 foot overhang will be installed. Commissioner S. Carter continued “And this would be existent after the fact as well?” The architect responded that this is correct.

Chairman McVey asked for more of an explanation on the temporary canopy. He asked what a temporary canopy would consist of because if it is being paid for once it should be permanent just like the building. Chairman McVey asked how much the temporary canopy is going to cost versus a permanent canopy. The architect responded that an aluminum canopy will cost between $14 and $15 a square foot and they would be 5 feet wide. He added that $40,000 to $50,000 is included in the budget for temporary canopies going from the gym building to this new building. Dr. Carter added that this will be going past the bus parking lot which will be a huge asset. Chairman McVey asked what it would cost to put a permanent canopy up. The architect responded that this could be permanent. Dr. Carter added that she would like that as well. She added that temporary was probably not the best choice of words because the piece that goes into the athletic complex would come down but the canopy would remain up to the entrance because student load and unload buses there as well so it would be a huge asset for the students.

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he agrees 100% to build permanent instead of temporary.

Commissioner Jefferies asked how many kids attend Stoney Creek. Dr. Carter responded that she did not have that number but she thought it was between 169 and 179 but it is under 200. Commissioner Jefferies asked if it would be feasible to place these kids at the other elementary schools and use Stoney Creek for the high school students temporarily. Dr. Carter responded that there is not enough space to relocate those classrooms and there is not enough space at the other schools to disperse the students from Stoney Creek as well. She added that she was not looking at this for the high school project but was asked a year or so ago if the students at Stoney Creek could be put at the other elementary schools and it was not feasible. Commissioner Jefferies stated that with only 200 kids that is a big cost to the county. Dr. Carter responded that not only is there not enough room as the other schools for these students but the distance that these students would need to ride would far exceed what they should ride on a school bus so that was also a hindrance.

Commissioner Owen asked the county manager if a motion needed to be made on this proposal to proceed. Mr. Miller responded yes.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I make a motion to proceed.”

Commissioner S. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner W. Carter to proceed with the proposal of the construction of a permanent building versus mobile classroom units.

Commissioner Hall stated that he is concerned that about the time the project will be completed that the school system will be back requesting more money. He added that there was a great study put together before the project began and everything was going to work smoothly and now it is realized that it could have been done differently and he stated that he is suggest a little suspect of the field house and he is also a little suspect that will this project is all said and done the School Board will want more money. Dr. Carter asked if he was referring to the structure that is being proposed. Commissioner Hall stated that he is talking about anything that may come up. Dr. Carter responded that she hopes this does not occur but she can’t foresee the cost of materials but when the bids go out the bids will be the bids. Commissioner Hall stated that he understands his part but he is just questioning the whole process of how this came about. Dr. Carter responded that she is happy that it was thought of before construction started because this building will make a lot of people happy that had hoped a facility like this would happen and now that it can be used for classrooms it is a savings to the taxpayers and it is a win/win for the students and the taxpayers. She added that Commissioner Hall may view it differently in his position but to the school system it is a wonderful opportunity.

The architect stated that the temporary classroom building can be bid with reduce square footage if it is necessary to keep it in the budget. He added that there could be deduct offerings added to the bid so that it will not go over the budgeted amount. The architect stated that the same thing will be done with the bid on the new high school. Dr. Carter added that it certainly the plan to be under budget in everything.

Commissioner S. Carter asked “Sir was this recommendation largely due to your collaboration with the School Board?” The architect responded no there was an 8 month delay so he had the opportunity to review the $880,000 that was going to be thrown away so he looked into a way to build a permanent structure for some of the classrooms and then convert it to another use. Commissioner S. Carter continued “Whichever combination of individuals it was I will just say thank you for considering this in this. I think it’s very strategic so that we, you know, resources that are currently way behind, way behind.”

Chairman McVey stated that maybe somebody needs to be thanked for having an 8 month delay. Dr. Carter responded thank you Commissioners. She added that she was not saying it was the Commissioners. Chairman McVey stated that the Board took the blame on a lot of it.

Commissioner Oestreicher wanted to summarize what has been discussed. He stated that the $880,000 was originally planned and budgeted for temporary classrooms and he added that by all sorts of manipulations and clever thinking now it is proposed that a permanent structure can be built aka a field house that could be transformed at some future date to a multipurpose unit if needed for no more than the $880,000. Dr. Carter responded that she hopes it is much less than the $880,000. Commissioner Oestreicher asked Dr. Carter if this was a reasonable summary. Dr. Carter responded yes. Commissioner Oestreicher asked if this is what the Board is voting no. Commissioner S. Carter responded “Yes.”

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried by a vote of six to one with Commissioner Hall voting no.

HISTORIC COURTHOUSE SECURITY

Mr. Miller stated that this is the second time that this item has come before you, at the last meeting the Board indicated that it wanted time to think about the issues, think about the layout, think about how to precede and he would be happy to answer any questions the Board may have. He added that nothing has changed substantially with the layout but there have been discussion about possibly repositioning some cameras and repositioning the location of the front desk but these are things that will have to be looked at and added that the change with the cameras made a lot of sense but he was not sure about the desk however he would look into that option.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “Recommendation, I was absent at the last meeting, I read the minutes on how the discussion went and I had a discussion with Mr. Miller about how it would all be laid out, what possibilities we would have and so I think it is a great idea to proceed with some, you know, set of infrastructure for security of this building. I know it was discussed in the past about public meetings how that would pan out. I do think the best course for that is to no longer utilize these two spiral staircases in the front for the sake that you really can’t control those two doors with having those mag lock doors and having somebody downstairs to monitor who comes in and out, you know, they can use the back door for ADA accessibility, the elevator and staircase for anybody that comes from the front. I think it’s key to have that desk towards the front to control that front door and to also protect all of the offices behind it from anyone that would just storm in on a random occasion and having the cameras on all three floors I think is very important to monitor things and then having the buzzer at the back basement door for individuals coming during the day hours when our employees are here so they can see those individuals with audio and visually of who approached the back door to be able to let them in that way but I do think, you know, in whatever configuration we choose to go forward proceeding with something at this point is very vital to the security of the building and during times obviously when we have meetings here.”

Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he wanted to confirm that the cameras would be in the utility storage area on the bottom floor. Mr. Miller responded yes. Commissioner Oestreicher asked if the wiring was in place to be able to buzz people in from the basement and is easily accomplished. Mr. Miller responded that he would not say that it will be easily accomplished but it is included in the bid the county received. Commissioner Oestreicher asked if this was audio and visual. Mr. Miller responded that this is correct. Commissioner Oestreicher stated that he was content.

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I would like to revisit the motion that was made at the last meeting that we received. I would be happy to offer that we authorize the county manager to proceed with the bid that was presented and them, you know, in the future we can work out the ins and outs of how this will work and what works best and make adjustments to policy, you know, infrastructure as needed.”

Commissioner S. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to authorize the county manager to proceed with the bid as presented on the security at the Historic Courthouse. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER’S UPDATES

Duke Energy, Person Caswell Lake Authority, Person County Meeting

Mr. Miller informed the Board that Duke Energy and the Person Caswell Lake Authority said that August 29th at 6:30 p.m. at the Hyco Lake Authority Building is good. He asked for a head count of the commissioners that will be attending this meeting for publication notices that may be required. All of the commissioners raised their hands.

Landfill Wells

Mr. Miller stated that on the monitoring well at the Landfill, DENR has come back and said that they want to hold off on approving the county’s plan that was submitted for drilling monitoring wells until the next readings are taken. He added that the samples have been taken and the readings have been sent into DENR so the county is expecting a recommendation from DENR but until then the plan is on hold.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

 A. 112th NCACC Annual Conference – August 22 – 24, 2019 – Guilford County, NC

Commissioner S. Carter stated “I was just going to mention one small concern that a citizen mentioned to me about our recycling containers at our convenience sites and I even experienced this myself after they said you go try it. When you have a larger quantity of recyclables and you have to feed it individual like bottles and pieces of cardboard through these holes that are this big I am just wondering if that’s something we can change with just a simple larger opening on those containers so they would be more user friendly for those that recycle.” Mr. Miller responded that he would be happy to talk to the Solid Waste Director about this so he can do some research on the reason why the holes are the size they are and get back with the Board. Commissioner Owen responded that he thinks it was to deter larger items being put in the recycling bins but he agrees they need to be larger. Commissioner S. Carter continued “It’s a love/hate relationship.” Commissioner Oestreicher responded that it could be to keep items from coming back out. Commissioner S. Carter stated “I was tired of bending cardboard just trying to stuff it in this little hole.”

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Oestreicher moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to go into Closed Session to consider the compensation, terms of appointment and performance of an individual public officer (NGS 143-318.11(a)(6)). The motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner Oestreicher to resume the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller stated that Family Services recently restructured job duties and the grant funders have stated that the salaries are out of line and that there needs to be an increase of $6,000 in salaries across 2 positions but the increase would come from the grant funders and not county dollars. He asked the Board for approval on this issue.

Commissioner Jefferies moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to approve the county manager’s request.

Commissioner Hall asked if this restructuring of funds would be included in the next grant cycle. Mr. Miller responded that there is no guarantee on grant funding. Commissioner Hall asked if the restructuring of salaries would come from lap salaries. Mr. Miller responded that the restructuring of the job duties was at the grantors request and all county employees sign a form that states that their job are dependent upon grant monies being available.

Commissioner S. Carter stated that there are some discrepancies in salaries at the Register of Deeds office and asked the county manager to look into this issue. Mr. Miller responded that he would look into this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:28 p.m. Commissioner W. Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

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Paula P. Seamster Rick McVey

Clerk to the Board Chairman

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