

**SAMPSON COUNTY,
NORTH CAROLINA**

May 2, 2016

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for dinner at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2016 at the Sampson County Extension Center, 555 Agriculture Place, Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Billy C. Lockamy and Commissioners Albert D. Kirby Jr., Harry Parker, and Clark H. Wooten. Absent: Vice Chairperson Sue Lee.

Following dinner, County Extension Director Eileen Coite and members of her staff presented the Report to the People. Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution honoring Donnie and Alease Williams as the 2016 NC AT&T Small Farmers of the Year. The resolution was read aloud by Assistant County Manager Susan Holder and presented by the Chairman to the Williams. (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page ____.)

Upon a motion made by Chairman Lockamy and seconded by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to recess to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. for their regular monthly meeting.

Reconvene for Regular Meeting

The Sampson County Board of Commissioners convened for their regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2016 in the County Auditorium, 435 Rowan Road in Clinton, North Carolina. Members present: Chairman Billy C. Lockamy, Vice Chairperson Sue Lee, and Commissioners Albert Kirby Jr., Harry Parker and Clark H. Wooten.

The Chairman convened the meeting and called upon Commissioner Harry Parker for the invocation. Commissioner Wooten then led the Pledge Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Roads

Keith Eason, NCDOT Highway Maintenance Engineer, reported that the Spring Litter Sweep had been successful. There were no comments or questions from the Board or citizens in attendance.

Item 1: Reports and Presentations

Recognition of DSS Director Sarah Bradshaw as NCACDSS Director of the Year
The Board recognized DSS Director Sarah Bradshaw for having been named the NCACDSS Director of the Year, lauding her accomplishments and re-presenting her with her award plaque.

Report on Successful Implementation of Budget Reduction Proposal ELC001 (Utilization of County EEs as Elections Clerks) Elections Director Ashley Tew expressed appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for allowing the use of county employees as elections clerks in the recent election. She reported on cost savings and the benefits of utilizing employees with computer and customer service skills. She complimented the Board on their idea of utilizing employees as a budget reduction proposal and recognizing the skills that the employees would bring to the process. She noted the value of the broadened knowledge for the employees. She individually thanked each of the employees who served: Ray Jordan (Expo Center); Richard Carr and LeAnn Honeycutt (Administration); Robert Libby and Jessica Johnson (Inspections); Lethia Lee (CES); Robyn Avery (Health); Gretta Steffens and daughter (Soil and Water); Janice Wood (EDC); Betty Holland (Planning & Zoning). She noted that Brandy Jones of DSS had attended training, but had a sick child on Election Day. She reported that the Parks and Recreation and Aging directors had already contacted her about serving and sending employees for the June election. Board members extended their compliments and asked for a list of those who serve in June.

Item 2: Planning and Zoning

RZ-4-16-1 Chairman Lockamy called the hearing to order and recognized Planning Director Mary Rose who reviewed a request to rezone approximately 1.75 acres located along US Highway 421/Spivey's Corner Highway from RA-Residential agriculture to C-Commercial. She reported that the Planning Board had heard certain findings of fact and had determined that the request was consistent with the goals and objectives of the Sampson County Land Use Plan for commercial growth due to the fact this property is located along US Highway 421, at the intersection of Straw Pond School Road. She stated that the Land Use Plan Section 1 Goals and Objectives under Economic Development, Objective 2, Implementation Strategy 1 encourages development of small service-oriented commercial activities at existing intersections or median crossovers on major thoroughfares. Based upon these findings, the Planning Board had unanimously recommended approval of the rezoning request and the adoption of a zoning consistency statement. The Chairman opened the floor for comments, and the following were received:

Benjamin Jones: I live on the adjacent corner of the property up for rezoning. I did not make it to the Planning Board meeting, but I have a couple of questions and a concern or two. My family owns three corners of that property; the family cemetery is catty-

cornered to that. My house is not next to it, but the old home place is there and standing in between me and it. I'm not going to say I am totally against it being there, and I'm not going to say I'm totally for it. It's Mr. Naylor's land. If he wants to sell it and put a store there, it's fine. I believe in somebody using their land for what they want coming through proper channels. If it's going to come, it's going to come; I can't stop it. I would appreciate it if the County would at least look into some sort of vegetative buffer in between the corner and the building that's going to be there and the family cemetery. My house sit in front of it; I can plant bushes on my side. But, the way the cemetery is laid with the right-of-way for 421, it would be tough for us to plant that. The cemetery has been there a lot longer than anything else has. Another concern I've got is the traffic. The school system is what brought traffic there. With the store there and the lights early in the morning and late in the nighttime, it's going to be more hazardous to pull out. I had to block off the way I used to go out of my yard on account of being broke into so many times - twice - so I put a gate up on the back driveway. That really was the best way I got in and out of my yard, the way the driveway lays adjacent to the crossroads. Another concern I have - property values, immediate and long-term.

The Chairman closed the hearing. Commissioner Wooten moved that rezoning request RZ-4-16-1 be approved, accepting the presented findings of fact and making the following zoning consistency statement: *Whereas, in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 153A-341, the Sampson County Board of Commissioners does hereby find and determine that the recommendation of the ordinance amendment RZ-4-16-1 is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Sampson County Land Use Plan for commercial growth due to the fact this area is located along US Highway 421 at the intersection of Straw Pond School Road. In Section 1 Goals and Objectives under Economic Development, Objective 2, Implementation Strategy 1 encourages development of small service-oriented commercial activities at existing intersections or median crossovers on major thoroughfares.* Chairman Lockamy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Presentation on Process for Land Use Plan Update Ms. Rose made a brief presentation on the process for updating the County's Land Use Plan, proposing that the work be done in-house with staff rather than with an outside consultant. She pointed out that a number of County departments would be contacted for input and recommended that the Board appoint one person from each district to serve on a steering committee that would work with the Planning Board on this process. Commissioner Wooten questioned what an outside consultant may offer than staff would not be able to do, and Ms. Rose noted that it would cost approximately \$50,000 - \$75,000, but could be undertaken in a shorter time frame. She noted that consultants have more experience, but indicated that she was confident, however, that in-house staff could do the largely data-gathering work in conjunction with their other duties, albeit in a longer period. County Manager Ed Causey noted that he and Ms. Rose had been discussing this over a number of years, including having a consultant doing a portion of the work. He noted that with the County's emphasis on cost-cutting, there was a motivation on the part of Planning to do this in a cost-saving manner.

Item 3: Action Items

Public Hearing – Consideration of Performance Based Incentives for Economic Development Project (Farm Fresh Produce Packing, Inc.) Due to advertising publication issues, this hearing was rescheduled for May 23.

Consideration of Interlocal Agreements for Law Enforcement Services between Sampson County and the Towns of Roseboro and Garland County Manager Ed Causey noted that staff was making a diligent effort to treat all departments, school systems, municipalities, etc. equitably in the budget reduction process, including review of all contracts including the contracts for law enforcement services. He noted that staff had had discussions with the towns and had incorporated some contract changes in response to their concerns. He stated that the towns had been invited to come voice their comments and concerns, and called the Board's attention to the contracts and cost calculations included in their agendas.

Garland Mayor Winifred Murphy, who was joined at the meeting by Town commissioners Judy Smith, S. J. Smith, and Ralph Smith, spoke regarding the needs of the Town of Garland and requested that the Board of Commissioners reduce the amount of the proposed contract increase. (Her comments are attached.)

Garland Town Commissioner Judy Smith spoke regarding the efforts of the Town to establish a softball league and the poverty rate of the families who were involved. She asked the Board to consider that the Garland residents are paying city and county taxes.

Roseboro Mayor Alice Butler noted that she empathized with the Town of Garland, but after meeting with the Sheriff and Mr. Causey agreed with the contract as proposed. She noted that the Sheriff had served Roseboro well since 2008 and the proposed increase was their first.

Sheriff Thornton explained that the contracts with Garland and Roseboro began in July and December 2008, respectively, and his department had enjoyed a good working relationship that was beneficial to the Sheriff's Office and the towns. He stated it was unfortunate that the increased costs associated with the implemented pay study led to the contracts being revisited, but the County was absorbing the cost of the vehicles associated with the contracts. He requested a decision as soon as possible as he had position vacancies in other divisions; if the contracts were not renewed, he would need to place the personnel associated with them accordingly. The Board discussed how other municipalities were meeting their obligations for law enforcement services and the Sheriff's Office coverage of the County as a whole (via zone cars).

After discussion, Commissioner Parker moved that the matter be tabled and revisited at the earliest convenience prior to the presentation of the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kirby and passed unanimously.

Budget Reduction Proposal County Manager Ed Causey provided a recap of a budget reduction proposal from the Library to replace a vacant full-time Library Assistant I position (due to resignation) with two-part time positions, thus saving more than \$15,600 in benefits. The Board commended Library Director Heather Bonney for her efforts on the County's budget reduction process as her department has accounted for \$97,260 overall (almost 10% of the reductions). Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the budget reduction proposal as recommended.

Appointments - Mid Carolina Aging Advisory Board Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Wooten, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Tracy Dunn (elected) and David Kidd (volunteer) to the Mid Carolina Aging Advisory Board.

Appointments - Social Services Board Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Franklin Brown to the DSS Board.

Appointments - Convention and Visitors Bureau (City seat) Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Parker, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint Deborah Hall to fill the City-recommended appointee seat on the CVB.

Appointments - Board of Health Upon a motion by Vice Chairperson Lee and a second by Commissioner Kirby, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Charlotte Harrell to fill the remainder of Cherish Naylor's term on the Board of Health (pharmacist seat).

Item 4: Consent Agenda

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Kirby and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- a. Approved the minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting
- b. Adopted a resolution proclaiming May 2016 as Older Americans Month (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- c. Adopted a resolution supporting the designation of portions of NC 24 as a Gold Start Highway (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- d. Approved a revised Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy for Sampson Area Transportation (updates per Federal Transit Authority regulation changes). (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- e. Adopted a resolution declaring certain vehicles, furniture and equipment as surplus and directing staff to dispose of them at public auction (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- f. Approved coding and fee schedule updates for codes 99199/99080 as recommended by the Sampson County Board of Health in a memorandum dated April 22, 2016 (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- g. Approved the execution of the Field Internship Agreement between Wayne Community College and Sampson County EMS (Copy filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- h. Approved a late property tax exemption application from Innovative Owners 64, LLC (solar energy electric system)
- i. Approved tax refunds as submitted

#7368	Ronnie Carter Farms, Inc.	288.97
#7382	Newkirk, Kalton and Katheryn	1,516.88
#7393	Crown Farms, Inc.	486.49
#7399	Bell, Renita	123.70
#7403	Williams, Ellison	1,063.02
#7414	Peacock, Gary	119.73
#7410	Darden, George	1,588.86

- j. Approved lottery fund applications for Clinton City and Sampson County Schools (Copies filed in Inc. Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- k. Approved budget amendments as submitted:

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>City Schools Capital Outlay</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11659110	555031	Category II capital outlay	103,039.00	
11659110	550000	Unallocated capital outlay		103,039.00

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>School Debt Service Department</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
32891115	572100	Interest on debt	1,871,900.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
32839110	409900	Fund balance appropriated	1,871,900.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Health Promotions</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12551550	526200	Department Supplies	100.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12535155	408900	Misc Revenue	100.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Immunizations</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12551600	526200	Department Supplies	765.00	
12551600	526201	Department Supplies Equipment	2,769.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
12535160	404000	State Assistance	3,534.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Aging</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02558810	526200	FCG – Department Supplies	100.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
02035881	408401	FCG – Donations	100.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Tax</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11141400	519100	Professional Services	32,000.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
11034140	404125	Legal Fees Collected	32,000.00	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>Social Services</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Description (Object of Expenditure)</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13553100	531300	Transportation of Patients	10,000.00	
13553100	531100	Special Children State Adoption Fund	57,600.00	

<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>Code Number</u>		<u>Source of Revenue</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
13535450	403304	Title XIX Transportation	10,000.00	
13535471	402630	Special Children State Adoption Fund	57,600.00	

County Manager Reports

County Manager Ed Causey reminded the Board of the NCACC's County Assembly Day on May 18th. He reported that staff was working on the development of the previously-approved Human Resources Director position and would be bringing back recommendations to the Board before proceeding with hiring. Mr. Causey

informed the Board of a meeting regarding the interest in rail in Eastern North Carolina and the desire for Board participation in regional committees on the matter. He then discussed the process for budget adoption, recommending that the proposed budget be presented on May 23, with the required public hearing held at the Board's June meeting. He asked that the meeting on May 23rd begin with a presentation on water by Lee Cannady and Matthew West in the Board of Education Conference Room at 5:30 p.m., with the remainder of the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Public Comments

The following comments were offered:

Judy Smith: I am the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the Town of Garland. I met with Commissioner Parker, Mr. Causey and Mr. Clack some time back concerning Garland's efforts to resurrect a volunteer softball league in our town. Moreover, I submitted a request in writing for future funding for the league, and I have provided you a copy tonight. As you know, a good number of Garland citizens are poverty-stricken, resulting in Garland's tax rate in being one of the highest in the County, just for us to make ends meet. There's no school; there's no Head Start, nor any other programs which our children can be supported. However, we do try to keep our library open. The majority of our children's parents cannot drive elsewhere to play ball. Idleness is not good for our youth, and it leads to much greater problems later. Money invested in channeling a young person's energy appropriately will be well spent by this County. Recently, the Garland community came together in an effort to start a softball league. To date, there are nine teams in our league. We have 110 children, ages ranging for 4 to 15. There is much work gone into organizing and promoting by a number of community volunteers. The Town of Garland itself has repaired the softball field, field lighting. We actually had some citizens donate a roof; Terry Long Electrical fixed our lights for just cost of materials. We had a lot of people giving a lot, trying to help it get started. The Town of Garland actually gave \$5,000 seed money to this league so it could pay its light bill and buy the softball supplies. We've been out trying to secure sponsors. However, with our projected increases in our police, and I don't know if you've read paper, but the fire department is also requesting a \$38,000 increase to the Town of Garland. So, with this our steps forward for our youth might be two steps backward next year. I am requesting from you, our County commissioners, to consider allocating some money to our softball league in the upcoming budget year. As you'll see in that letter, I requested \$8,000 to fund the budget for the softball league. The money being spent in our area is much less than in some areas of the County because there are literally no services rendered down there. We indeed need this police presence in our Town desperately because the crime rate is very high in our rate. And without it, we feel that without investing in our youth, this stands to increase. My twin granddaughters live in Wilmington, when I picked them up on Monday to spend the day with them, one asked why are there so many broken houses in Garland? I am asking you to direct some of our tax monies - we are poor down there so we're not

contributing to the pot a whole lot – just give us a little bit back. We have a citizen that has donated a park, a tract of land, and in our budget we've been trying to just seed the property with some grass. We're willing to do fund-raisers, but I just don't see us able to keep everything going. I am a retired educator who tutors dyslexic students in my home, and there is always one that I tutor for free. We are our neighbor's keeper, and we need to give back. There is a difference in Garland and Roseboro, a big difference in their tax base. When you're saying let's do apples/apples and oranges/oranges, it's an apple and an orange.

Vice Chairman Sue Lee thanked Gail Gainey and Grace Frakes for accompanying her this evening given the death of her father.

Recess to Reconvene

Upon a motion made by Chairman Lockamy and seconded by Vice Chairperson Lee, the Board voted unanimously to recess to reconvene on Monday, May 23rd at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room.