



**Rutherford County Office Building
289 N. Main Street
Rutherfordton, NC 28139**

Rutherford County

Board of Commissioners

Minutes of Special Meeting of September 18, 2018

**Monday, September 18, 2018
4:30 PM**

I. Call to Order

Chairman King called the September 18, 2018 special meeting of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners to order.

Present: Chairman Bryan King, Vice Chairman Alan Toney, Commissioner Michael Benfield, and Commissioner Eddie Holland.

Absent: Commissioner Greg Lovelace.

A. Agenda Approval

Vice Chairman Toney moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Ayes: Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, and Commissioner Holland.

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Lovelace.

II. Public Hearings

A. ID 18-1757 2018 Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Application

At 4:32 PM Chairman King opened the public hearing to listen to comments regarding the County's draft application for a 2018 Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization Grant through the NC Department of Commerce. This grant will assist income-qualified Rutherford County homeowners. A resolution authorizing the submission of the application was included for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Steve Lovett and Mr. Ben Farmer provided information regarding the Community Development Block Grant. The deadline for submission was extended to October 31 due to the storm

that occurred during the last weekend. The program proposes to rehabilitate 19 homes with a total budget of \$631,667 during a 30-month timeframe. A review committee that included representatives from municipalities, Pisgah Legal Services, and Rutherford Housing Partnership made a decision to limit the scope of the project to 19 homes due to the time frame.

County Manager Steve Garrison advised that this addressed one of the goals of the County Commissioners which was to improve housing in the County.

No one else wished to speak.

At 4:41 P.M. Chairman King declared the public hearing to be closed.

Commissioner Benfield moved to approve the resolution. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Ayes: Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, and Commissioner Holland.

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Lovelace.

**RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNTY OF RUTHERFORD APPLICATION FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR THE NORTH
CAROLINA NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the County's Board of Commissioners has previously indicated its desire to assist in economic development efforts to improve housing of low and moderate-income residents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners will hold two public hearings concerning the proposed application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit housing needs of low and moderate-income residents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners wishes the County to pursue a formal application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit the housing needs of low and moderate-income houses; and will invest monies in the amount of Zero Dollars into the project as committed to in the application; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners certifies it will meet all federal regulatory and statutory requirements of the State of North Carolina Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the County's Board of Commissioners that the County of Rutherford is authorized to submit a formal application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for approval of a Community Development Block Grant for the North Carolina Neighborhood Revitalization Program.

Adopted this the 18th day of September 2018 in Rutherfordton, North Carolina.

RES 18-025

B. ID 18- 1756 Economic Development Incentive

At 4:42 P.M. Chairman King opened the public hearing to listen to comments regarding an economic development incentive agreement with a new company.

Economic Development President Tom Johnson asked that the Board consider approving in concept the terms of an economic incentive agreement with SSD Designs. He introduced Ms. Sarah Samuelson, president of SSD Designs.

Ms. Samuelson told the Board that her company will employ 40 persons within the next 24 months at an average wage of \$40,000 per year. There will be a 24 hour per day/7 days per week position. The company will repurpose an existing building on Vance Street in Forest City where they will recycle polypropylene and polyethylene.

President Johnson said the County will be partnering with the Town of Forest City which approved an incentive in the same amount as is requested of the County. The agreement would provide 50% of the personal property taxes for a period of 5 years if certain thresholds are met which would include 20 jobs paying an average wage of \$40,000 per year and a capital investment of \$1,000,000.

No one else wished to speak.

At 4:48 P.M. Chairman King closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Toney and seconded by Commissioner Benfield to approve the terms for the economic incentive agreement and authorize the County Manager and the County Attorney to execute all documents in support of this action. The motion carried by the following vote.

Ayes: Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, and Commissioner Holland.

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Lovelace.

III. Adjournment

At 4:49 P.M. Commissioner Holland made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Ayes: Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, and Commissioner Holland.

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Lovelace.

Vice Chairman, Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Clerk, Board of Commissioners