



Rutherford County

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

Meeting Minutes - Outline Board of Commissioners

Monday, June 5, 2017

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

I. Call to Order

Chairman King called the June 5, 2017 meeting of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners to order.

Present: 5 - Chairperson Bryan King, Vice Chairperson Alan Toney, Commissioner Michael Benfield, Commissioner Greg Lovelace and Commissioner Eddie Holland

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Education Chairman Carolyn Keever led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Agenda Approval

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

II. Public Hearings

A. [ID 17-1364](#) Public Hearing - Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

Attachments: [Public Hearing Notice 2017 2018 Budget.pdf](#)

At 6:03 P.M., Chairman King opened the public hearing to listen to comments regarding the recommended Rutherford County Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

County Manager Steve Garrison told those present that the total general fund recommended budget is \$63,412,423, and the total recommended budget for all funds is \$82,431,547. The tax rate will remain at 60.7 cents per \$100 valuation. A rate increase of two cents was originally proposed; however, Commissioners expressed concern because Rutherford County is still an economically distressed county. Operational funding will remain the same with the schools, the college, and the County receiving a 1.87% increase. Additional fund balance will be budgeted..

The Solid Waste Enterprise Fund will require an increase in revenues in order to fund operations and a study that will insure the sustainability of the solid waste fund.

Mr. Michael Jennings of Ellenboro expressed his concern regarding the increase in the tax for the Ellenboro Fire District. He also suggested that salaries of County employees be reduced 20% instead of raising taxes.

Ms. Tracy Williams, Executive Director of Youth Empowerment, told the Board that this

organization had provided services to the County for 18 years. Their services include advocating for kids, summer programs for youth, and an afterschool program. Youth Empowerment stands in the gap for high risk children. Ms. Williams asked that the Board fund a \$10,000 match required for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee grant.

Mr. Melvin James described the impact Youth Empowerment had on his life. The program had helped push him to attain a 4.4 GPA at East Rutherford High School. He will graduate with an associate degree next year.

Mr. Trinity Simpson said his mother had entered him in a summer program at Youth Empowerment due to a lot of drama that occurred in his life. This opened the door for him and changed his life. He has a 12-year perfect attendance record at his school.

Ms. Page Waters began attending Youth Empowerment programs a few months ago. Her life had included some bad experiences due to her actions. She now has matured and is making A's and B's in her sophomore year at RS Central.

No one else wished to speak.

At 6:25 P.M. Chairman King declared the public hearing to be closed.

III. Public Comments

No one wished to speak.

IV. Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

- A. [ID 17-1350](#) Minutes of May 1, 2017
Attachments: [20170501Minutes.docx](#)
- B. [ID 17-1351](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 3, 2017
Attachments: [20170503 Special Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. [ID 17-1356](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 8, 2017
Attachments: [20170508 Special Meeting Minutes](#)
- D. [ID 17-1357](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 16, 2017
Attachments: [20170516 Special Meeting Minutes](#)
- E. [ID 17-1366](#) Minutes of Special Meeting of May 22, 2017

Attachments: [20170522 Special Meeting Minutes](#)

- F. [ID 17-1367](#) Tax Refunds and Releases - June, 2017

Attachments: [Tax Releases and Refunds 5.22.17](#)

V. Commissioners/Appointments

- A. [ID 17-1373](#) World Elder Abuse Awareness Month Proclamation

Attachments: [World Elder Abuse Proclamation.docx](#)

Social Services Director John Carroll told the Board that June 15, 2017 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day around the world. On this day and throughout the month this provides an opportunity to draw attention to the growing problem of physical, emotional, and financial abuse of seniors. Elder abuse is a growing problem in Rutherford County and across the country. He read a proclamation that signifies Rutherford County's dedication to combating elder abuse and to recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of Rutherford County's Seniors.

Commissioner Lovelace moved to approve the proclamation. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

- B. [ID 17-1360](#) Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting

Attachments: [Cert of Achievement - Financial Reporting](#)

County Commissioners recognized Finance Director Paula Roach and her staff for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting which is the highest form of recognition in government and financial reporting for the 28th year.

- C. [ID 17-1369](#) Appointments to Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee

Applications were received for the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee from Mr. Jim Edwards and Ms. Kelly Hudson. Chairman King said the vacancies will be advertised and applications will be accepted prior to making appointments at a future meeting.

- D. [ID 17-1362](#) Appointment to Workforce Development Board

Ms. Pam Bradley who represented Adult Education and Literacy on the Workforce Development Board is no longer serving in a capacity that would allow her to continue to represent this category. Ms. Donna Hood who is the Dean of Continuing Education at Isothermal Community College has expressed a willingness to serve. This vacancy has been advertised and applications were received.

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Donna Hood to the Workforce Development Board. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

E. [ID 17-1368](#) Appointments to Rutherford County Boards and Commissions

Attachments: [Terms Expiring June 30 2017.pdf](#)
[Applications for Boards and Commissions.docx](#)
[Letter from ICC.pdf](#)

Chairman King called the Board's attention to the list of appointments to Rutherford County boards and commissions that will be expiring on June 30, 2017 and applications for service on these boards.

Appointment to Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Pat Morgan to the Home and Community Care Block Grant Committee. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointments to Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Amy Jenkins to the Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Joan King to the Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointment to Jury Commission

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Hazel Haynes to the Jury Commission. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointments to Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint the following to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee.

**Pat Keeter
Judy Toney
Phillip Cole
Steve Collins
Debra Conner
Tanya Morrow
Yecenia Ponce
Eric Shelton
Sarah Horne
Dana Bradley
Angela Harrill
Suzanne Porter
Ted Bell
Randy Pool**

Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointments to Library Board of Trustees

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Robin Smith to the Library Board of Trustees. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Ms. Mary Costner to the Library Board of Trustees. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield,
Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointments to Planning Commission

Commissioner Holland made a motion to appoint Mr. Phillip Miller to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Justin Conner to the Planning Commission. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Jimmy Huffstickler to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointments to Tourism Development Authority

Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Mr. Richard Lundy to the Tourism Development Authority. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Ms. Tamar Martell to the Tourism Development Authority. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Holland made a motion to appoint Mr. Dave Long to the Tourism Development Authority. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointments to Transit Advisory Board

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. Phillip Melton the Transit Advisory Board. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Commissioner Lovelace made a motion to appoint Mr. John Jarrett to the Transit Advisory Board. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Mr. Mike Tanner to the Transit Advisory Board. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Vice Chairman Toney made a motion to appoint Ms. Kandi Bridges to the Transit Advisory Board. Commissioner Benfield seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

Appointment to Social Services' Board

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to appoint Mr. Michael Souther to the Social Services' Board. Commissioner Lovelace seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Toney

VI. New Business

A. [ID 17-1371](#) Budget Amendments - June, 2017

Attachments: [Budget Amendments 6-5-17.xls](#)

Finance Director Paula Roach presented budget amendments for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Lovelace moved to approve the budget amendments. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

B. [ID 17-1372](#) Broad River Water Authority Project Ordinance

Attachments: [BRWA Budget Revision.docx](#)
[BRWA Project Ordinance Draft.docx](#)
[BRWA Letter.pdf](#)

Finance Director Paula Roach told the Board that Rutherford County received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant. She presented a Project Ordinance which reflected the expenditures expected with the project. The local funds from BRWA will be used to cover the costs of the homes to be impacted that do not meet the low to moderate income limits required by the CDBG. Any other cost overruns for grant administration would also be the responsibility of BRWA. An interlocal agreement with BRWA is currently in draft form and plans are to present it for consideration at the July meeting.

Director Roach said the Project Ordinance and the CDBG agreement must be executed and returned to Raleigh by June 8th as required by the State.

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to approve the Project Ordinance. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Lovelace

Enactment No: ORD 17-002

Commissioner Benfield made a motion to approve the budget revision.

Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Lovelace

- C.** [ID 17-1370](#) Resolution of Support for Adequate Funding to Meet the Mental Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Disorder Service Needs for Citizens of Rutherford County

Attachments: [NCCCP Senate Budget Response 051117.pdf](#)

[Resolution of Support for Adequate Funding to Meet the Mental Health Needs.docx](#)

County Manager Steve Garrison told the Board that The North Carolina Senate budget proposed a \$152 million-dollar single stream funding reduction along with administrative reductions that Vaya uses to provide services to people without Medicaid or private insurance. He presented a resolution for the Board's consideration that requested that state funds be restored for the mental health, substance use disorder, and intellectual/developmental disability service system.

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0

VII. Information

- A.** [ID 17-1347](#) Tax Collector's Report - April, 2017

Attachments: [Net Collections Report](#)

- B.** [ID 17-1361](#) Vaya Health Fiscal Monitoring Report

Attachments: [VAYA Fiscal Monitoring Report](#)

VIII. Adjournment

At 7:11 P.M. Commissioner Holland made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Toney seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner King, Commissioner Toney, Commissioner Benfield, Commissioner Lovelace and Commissioner Holland

Nay: 0