

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 21, 2012 – 6 P.M.
CONTINUED SESSION
MINUTES

Chairman Corbin convened the continued session at 6:06 p.m. in the Commissioners' Boardroom on the third floor of the courthouse as recessed from the May 15th meeting. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, interested citizens and members of the news media were present.

Commissioner Beale provided a resolution in support of Senate Bill 433 for the board's consideration, explaining that it would allow county flexibility to organize local human services, but noted the bill would be of no use in Macon County at this time. Commissioner Beale read the resolution into the record, and then made a motion to approve it, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, and the board voted unanimously to approve it as read. The "Resolution in Support of Senate Bill 433" directs that it be transmitted to the county's legislative delegates, and Commissioner Beale requested that it also be sent to the members of the General Assembly's Health and Human Services Committee. A copy of the resolution (**Attachment 1**) is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Koppers requested a closed session to be held at the end of the meeting for the purpose of discussing property acquisition, and the board agreed by consensus to hold that session.

Commissioner Tate updated the board on the latest county planning board meeting, noting that it went well and that Karl Gillespie is the new board chairman and Derek Roland is the new vice chair.

The board then started to review the proposed Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget, with the County Manager pointing out that the two priorities were education and public safety. Technology in the school system is another critical need, and the Finance Director explained that the budget calls for seeking a low interest, short term loan for \$1.5 million to address that need, with the debt to be paid back in yearly fund balance appropriations.

Five volunteer fire departments – Otto, West Macon, Cowee, Highlands and Mountain Valley – are requesting increases in their individual tax rates, and the board agreed to have the chiefs from those departments attend the next budget work session to discuss those.

Chairman Corbin declared a recess at 7:23 p.m.

Chairman Corbin called the meeting back to order at 7:42 p.m.

Having gone through the revenue portion of the budget, the board began reviewing the individual departmental expenditure budgets. Pointing to a relatively large increase in the Information Technology budget, the board asked to have IT Department Director Andy Muncey brief them on the proposed changes at the next work session.

The County Manager noted that the sheriff had requested a new position that was not reflected in the budget (which the board agreed to take under consideration) and that funding for six new patrol cars was included, as well as funds for two new ambulances for emergency services.

Before going into closed session, the board agreed to recess the meeting until 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23rd, at which time they planned to hear from the chiefs of the fire departments requesting tax increases, to meet with Mr. Muncey regarding the IT budget and to finish going over the departmental expenditures.

At 8:42 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session to discuss land acquisition under G.S. 143-318.11(5).

At 9:24 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Kuppers, seconded by Commissioner Tate, the board voted unanimously to come out of closed session, with no action taken, and to recess the meeting until Wednesday, May 23rd, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. in the commissioners' boardroom on the third floor of the Macon County Courthouse at 5 West Main Street in Franklin, NC.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Kevin Corbin
Board Chairman