

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 27, 2009
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 2 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced Item 8A, Vietnam Veterans Chapter, would be handled following the invocation and pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION: Rev. David Powell from Cowee Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge to the flag was recited.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS: Charles Dowdle, immediate past president of Vietnam Veterans Chapter #994 and chapter president Matt Henry, presented and read into the record a resolution introduced at the second session of the 110th Congress by Heath Shuler, North Carolina Representative to Congress, in support of HR 1231 /Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Vietnam Veterans Day and Calling on the American People to Recognize such a Day (March 29th) and a Proclamation by the Governor of the State of North Carolina proclaiming March 29, 2008 as "Vietnam Veterans Day" in North Carolina. Appreciation was expressed to the veterans present and upon motion by Commissioner Kuppers, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to accept the plaques on behalf of the Macon County Board of Commissioners and citizens and direct they be displayed on the second floor of the Courthouse near the Vietnam War Memorial until such time Vietnam Veterans Chapter #994 request they be removed. (Resolution - attachment #1. Proclamation - attachment #2)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Shirley Ches gave an update on Earth Day activities stating Macon Pride is still counting and accurate statistics were not available at the time. She added that NCDOT is going to pick up several bags but the scale tally was up at the landfill on Saturday. She explained the main effort was to educate the county on recycling and the group also learned a lot. She stated a more definitive report will be made at a later date.

PUBLIC HEARING - ROAD NAMES: Chairman Beale recessed the regular meeting at 2:15 p.m. and convened the public hearing of public and private road names, deletion and changes as noticed. Angie Kinsland, 911 Addressing Coordinator, stated the names have been posted in accordance with NC General Statutes 153A-239.1 and necessary deposits for name changes were made. No one wished to speak and the hearing was closed. The meeting reconvened in regular session. Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to approve the names as submitted per attachment #3.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: It was noted item 8A had been moved forward and Chairman Beale requested item 10A be handled before item 9A. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda with the noted adjustments.

SUGARFORK POLLING SITE: Chairman Beale stated a community effort to renovate the Pine Community Grove Building had been very successful and was again being used as a polling site for the Sugarfork precinct but they now have no water because the spring has gone dry. He introduced community residents Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bullis who were very involved in the renovations. They stated the community did not have any funds to drill a well but would be willing to work to try to pay half the cost. County Manager Horton reported there were some

funds in Elections Expense that could be used for renovations. Commissioner Simpson made a motion to appropriate up to \$5,000 for well installation to be paid from Elections Expense. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuppers and passed unanimously. (Note: Commissioner Davis was out of the room when the vote was taken.)

PUBLIC HEARING - FLOOD ORDINANCE AND MAPS: Chairman Beale recessed the meeting at 2:30 p.m. and convened the public hearing on the FIS (Flood Insurance Study), associated FIRMs (Flood Insurance Rate Maps) for Macon County and amendments to the Macon County Flood Ordinance as noticed. Bob Wright representing the Macon County Watershed Council stated there were no substantial changes to the ordinance and the Watershed Council unanimously voted to recommend adoption of the maps and amended ordinance. Matt Mason, County Erosion Control Officer, answered questions from the Board and the hearing was recessed. Back in regular session Commissioner Kuppers made a motion to adopt the FIS (Flood Insurance Study), associated FIRMs (Flood Insurance Rate Maps) for Macon County and amendments to the Macon County Flood Ordinance per the attached. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed four to one with Commissioner Simpson opposing. (See attachment #4)

ABANDONED MOBILE HOME PROJECT: Chris Stahl, Solid Waste Director, presented an update to the proposed Abandoned Mobile Home Project document. After discussion Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the project for one year effective July 1, 2009, with a change of all time limits set forth in Item #6 from one year to six months from the date of execution of the Verification of Site Abandonment form, to include language in "Purpose" for review of the program in six months and a comprehensive review in twelve months. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClellan and all favored. It was noted funding would be from General Fund not the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. (Attachment #5)

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

Minutes - Approved the minutes of the April 13th and 20th meetings.

Fireworks displays - Authorized July 4th fireworks for the Franklin Chamber of Commerce in the County Recreation Park and for the Highlands Chamber of Commerce at the Highlands Recreation Park.

Fire Department Contract - Approved the attached revised fire department contract. (Attachment #6)

Home Community Care Block Grant - Designated Macon County DSS/Senior Services as the lead agency for the Home and Community Care Block Grant Program for Aging Services for FY 2010 and approved the attached list of committee members to expire May 31, 2010. (Attachment #7)

CLOSED SESSION/PERSONNEL: Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers, the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session for personnel. During closed session the Deputy Clerk, Finance Officer and County Attorney were excused. The Board met with Tax Administrator Richard Lightner. No action was taken and the Board returned to regular session.

TAX ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT: Pursuant to NCGS 105-294 Commissioner Kuppers made a motion to reappoint Richard Lightner as Tax Administrator for a four-year term to run from July 1, 2009 to July 1, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman

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