

LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

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REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
106 HILLCREST DRIVE
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

MAY 4, 2009

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Lee, State of North Carolina, convened at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room, Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, North Carolina, on said date. Commissioners present were Amy M. Dalrymple, Richard B. Hayes, James C. Kelly, Larry "Doc" Oldham, Nathan E. Paschal, and Linda A. Shook. Commissioner Robert T. Reives was absent at the start of the meeting but joined the meeting later.

Chairman Hayes presided and called the meeting to order. The following business was transacted:

Chairman Hayes delivered the invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Marc Clark from the Employee Selection Committee introduced Ms. Pam Ridenhour, RN Maternal Health Coordinator with the Lee County Health Department as the *May 2009 Employee of the Month*. Chairman Hayes presented Ms. Ridenhour with her awards which include a framed certificate, a *Star Award*, a pizza, compliments of Papa John's Pizza, Coca Cola products from Sanford Coca Cola Bottling Company, a movie rental from the Movie Gallery, and a day off with pay. Commissioner Reives joined the meeting after presentations were made.

The Board considered additions/changes to the agenda. County Manager John Crumpton asked the Board to allow Health Director Howard Surface to update the Board on the swine flu epidemic. Mr. Crumpton also asked that the Board consider a closed session, per N.C. Gen Stat 143-318.11 (3) at the end of the regular meeting. With no other changes or additions made, Commissioner Oldham moved to approve the agenda as amended. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Oldham moved to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following items:

- Minutes of the April 20, 2009 budget work session;
- Minutes of the April 20, 2009 regular meeting;
- Request to fill vacant Receptionist position in Social Services;
- FY 2009-10 Home and Community Care Block Grant for Senior Services; and
- Budget Amendment # 05/04/09/24 (copy attached)

Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
 Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 153A-52.1, Chairman Hayes opened the floor for public comments. The following signed up to speak:

1. Mr. Russell Noel, 1413 Cherokee Trail, Sanford

The Board heard a report from Health Director Howard Surface in reference to the Swine Flu (H1N1) epidemic and steps that are being taken to keep the public informed.

- Epidemic has been declared a public health emergency in the United States;
- North Carolina is one of 36 states with a reported case;
- Over 300 + e-mails received in the Health Department concerning this epidemic;
- Drugs and supplies were received in Lee County Sunday afternoon and are currently in storage if needed;
- No State funds have been received at this time; all costs are coming from the current budget;
- A hot-line number will be established shortly for citizens to call and get information;
- One Lee County resident was isolated but is out of isolation at this time because their test was not positive;
- Staff is working closely with the schools and other groups in Lee County.

Mr. Surface also asked the Board to allow him to begin the hiring process for a part-time (60%) Public Health Nurse II position that is currently recommended in the upcoming budget. He stated the department needs this position immediately so as to ramp up their efforts to deal with the swine flu emergency. There is money in the current budget in the Bioterrorism line item to cover this new position until the end of the fiscal year. After some discussion, Commissioner Paschal moved to proceed with the hiring of a part-time Public Health Nurse II as recommended in the upcoming budget. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
 Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The Board heard a report from Lt. David Prevatte of the Lee County Sheriff's Department in reference to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Lt. Prevatte stated that the City of Sanford Police Department and the Lee County Sheriff's Office have been selected to receive funding from the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance

Grant (JAG) Program in the amount of \$87,988. The JAG funds will be split two thirds for the city and one third for the county (\$29,329). The Lee County Sheriff's Office will use its funding to purchase equipment and supplies to assist the patrol division. No action was taken.

County Manager John Crumpton presented his recommended FY 2009-10 budget. Superintendent Dr. Jeff Moss from the Lee County Schools and Dr. Bud Marchant, President of Central Carolina Community College discussed their requested budgets. Chairman Hayes moved to accept the County Manager's recommended budget as presented, hold a budget work session from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m., Monday, May 18, 2009, and hold a public hearing on the budget at the 6:00 p.m. May 18, 2009 regular meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The Board considered a Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 1004 and House Bill 1252. Commissioner Kelly asked the Board to consider the resolution known as *The Level Playing Field Act* that has been introduced in the 2009 Session of the General Assembly, and referred to the Senate Commerce Committee and House Public Utilities Committee. The bills do not provide a "level playing field" to cities, towns and counties, but hinder local governments from providing needed communications services such as advanced high-speed broadband services in underserved areas. Mr. Kelly further stated the bills impose numerous obligations on cities and towns that private broadband companies do not have to meet. After some discussion, Commissioner Kelly moved to approve a *Resolution Against Senate Bill 1004 and House Bill 1252*. After further discussion, Commissioner Kelly withdrew his motion to approve the resolution and moved the matter be deferred until the May 18, 2009 meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

County Manager John Crumpton introduced Mr. Dale Talbert, Lee County's new Deputy County Attorney who will begin work on August 1, 2009.

County Manager John Crumpton recognized Finance Director Lisa Minter who recently completed the County Administration course through the School of Government.

County Manager John Crumpton asked the Board to lift the hiring freeze currently in place so new or rifted staff could be employed and in place by July 1, 2009. After some discussion, Commissioner Dalrymple moved to accept the County Manager's recommendation to lift the current hiring freeze effective July 1, 2009. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Dalrymple moved to go into closed session per N.C. Gen Stat 143-318.11 (3) to consider and give the County Attorney instructions about the handling of a claim. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the Board was in closed session. After completing business in closed session, the regular meeting resumed.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Hayes moved to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Hayes, Kelly, Oldham, Paschal, Reives, and Shook
Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

Richard B. Hayes, Chairman
Lee County Board of Commissioners

Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk