

POLK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING
December 19, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building
Columbus, NC
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Melton, Vice-Chairman Johnson, Commissioner Bradley, Commissioner Gasperson and Commissioner Yoder. Also in attendance were County Manager Pittman, County Attorney Berg, and Temporary Acting Clerk to the Board Yvette Szuster, staff, media and citizens.

1. Call to Order – Chairman Melton called the meeting to order.
2. Invocation – Rev. Chris Osborne gave the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Melton led the pledge.
4. Appointment – Commissioner Bradley moved to appoint Yvette Szuster as the Temporary Acting Clerk to the Board for this meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Bradley moved to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Vice-Chairman Johnson and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items – Margo Savage spoke about being an Animal Cruelty Investigator in Polk County for several years and the increase in cases and the need for new members. She also requested the opportunity to share a power point presentation with the Board about what the Animal Cruelty Investigators do.
7. Manager's Report – County Manager Pittman said the construction site for the new Law Enforcement Facility has been prepared and construction will begin after the first of the year. There is a foreman on site and progress is being made.
8. Sheriff's Department Vehicles Purchase Order – County Manager Pittman explained this request was brought before the Board because the amount to approve exceeds the \$30,000.00 threshold that he can sign. He further explained the vehicles will be purchased under State Contract which ensures due diligence for the best price. Commissioner Gasperson clarified purchasing the vehicles under State Contract means the price being paid is the same price any law enforcement office throughout the State would pay for the same vehicles. Commissioner Yoder moved to approve the purchase order for two new Sheriff Department vehicles as budgeted for FY 2016/17, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Resolution to Declare Surplus Property – Sheriff Hill explained K-9 Officer “Ike” has a medical condition which causes him to be unable to continue as a service dog. He requests that Ike’s handler, Officer Ronnie Russell be given full custody and responsibility of Ike. Attorney Berg drafted a Memorandum of Agreement for the Transfer of Ownership of Police Canine to make clear the conditions of the transfer. Commissioner Gasperson moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Bradley and the motion carried unanimously.
10. Resolution of Appreciation – Commissioner Bradley moved to approve the Resolution of Appreciation to acknowledge local efforts in response to the Party Rock fire in Chimney Rock, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
11. Volunteer Boards For Vote – Commissioner Gasperson moved to appoint Nancy Hasselbring and Patti Lovelace as Animal Cruelty Investigators, and Carolyn Ashburn to the Appearance Commission, seconded by Commissioner Bradley and the motion carried unanimously.
12. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items – Mary Mowery from Saluda voiced her concerns with the State government and the current legislative hearings in Raleigh.
13. Commissioner Comments – The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming out, especially those who came to support the Animal Cruelty Investigator applicants. They wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
14. Closed Session – Commissioner Bradley moved to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel, G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6), seconded by Vice-Chairman Johnson and the motion carried unanimously.
15. Return to Open Session – Chairman Melton moved to return to open session, seconded by Vice-Chairman Johnson and the motion carried unanimously.
16. Adjournment – Commissioner Bradley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice-Chairman Johnson and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS

Ange’ High
Clerk to the Board

Tommy W. Melton
Chairman