

POLK COUNTY  
October 19, 2009, @ 7:00 PM  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING  
R. J. Foster Hall of Justice, Womack Building  
Columbus, N.C.

PRESENT: Chairperson Walker, Vice-Chairperson Watson, Commissioners Gasperson, McDermott, and Melton.

Others in attendance were County Manager Whitson, County Attorney Hix, Clerk to the Board Britton, staff, media and citizens.

1. Call to Order/Welcome – Chairperson Walker.
2. Invocation – Pastor Tim Gouge, Faith Baptist Church, Mill Spring.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner McDermott.
4. Approval of Regular Board of Commissioners minutes for September 21, 2009 - Commissioner McDermott made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda – Move agenda item #9 Affordable Housing Committee to item #6a and add agenda item #14 (4) Lake Adger update. Vice-Chairperson Watson made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Polk County 20/20 Vision – Dale Holland, Holland Consulting, Inc., gave his monthly update report. He stated that it is the plan for the 20/20 Vision Report to be sent to the Planning Board in December. The report is on file in the Planning Department.
- 6a. Affordable Housing Committee – Commissioner Gasperson requested this item be placed on the agenda to discuss creating a Polk County Affordable Housing Task Force Study Group. Commissioner Gasperson made a motion to direct Kipp McIntyre, Economic Development Director, and Cathy Ruth, Planner, to organize a task force and report back at the November 2, 2009, Board of [Commissioners](#) meeting.
7. St. Luke's Hospital – Interim CEO, Alex Bell, presented an update on the hospital's progress. Mr. Bell thanked the Board of Commissioners, the County Manager, and Commissioners McDermott and Melton for their interest and hard work. He also listed some of the wonderful progress made utilizing the funds from the County, including the hiring of Dr. Rosenberg and a Physician's

Assistant, and the joining of two buildings together for their practice. In addition, equipment was installed for doctors to view x-rays in their offices, and surgery scheduling software was installed. Commissioner Melton thanked Mr. Bell for leading the hospital the last 5 months and doing a wonderful job.

8. (1) Update on Resolution of Support for the Watershed WS-III Classification for Lake Adger & (2) Update on Fundraising Committee for Adult Day Care project. Commissioner Melton requested these items be placed on the agenda. In support of the Watershed WS-III Classification, the Board of Commissioners sent a resolution to the General Assembly requesting their support. To date Senator Snow, Rep. England, and Rep. Ray Rapp have responded positively. Commissioner Melton made a motion to authorize the County Manager to contract Rep. Guice and Senator Apodaca and request their support of the classification, and move forward with the hearing with DENR. Vice-Chairperson Watson seconded and the motion carried unanimously. (2) Commissioner Melton proudly announced the fundraising committee he created to raise money in support of the adult day care. The volunteer members are Roger Traxler, Don Hoffman, Ted Owens, Burt Bauer, and Bill Jones. Marion McMillan, who had to decline the committee due to other responsibilities, agreed to donate \$500. Commissioner Melton will organize the first meeting. Chairperson Walker and Commissioner McDermott thanked Commissioner Melton for creating this committee.
9. Declare Surplus – Transportation Authority 2002 Dodge Van with 167,600 miles. Commissioner Melton made a motion to declare the van surplus, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.
10. Board Vacancies - Two applications, Craig Hilton and James “Allen” McCullough, were reviewed.  
  
Planning Board - Commissioner McDermott made a motion to appoint Lee Bradley as the alternate, and Lisa Krolak and Harry Petersen to the two regular positions, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
11. Resolution to NCDOT - To fund paving for fire departments. Commissioner Gasperson made the motion to adopt the resolution and forward to the Department of Transportation, seconded by Commissioner Melton and the motion carried unanimously.
12. Project Budget Ordinance – Claude Gilbert Road and Strawberry Road. Commissioner Gasperson made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Watson and the motion carried unanimously.

13. County Manager's Report – 1) Update on Senior Recreation Center – Mr. Whitson and Ms. Doty have agreed, due to all the rain, to move The Grand Opening to November 18, 2009. 2) Update on Adult Day Care - Mr. Whitson announced that the Town of Columbus will include in the \$7,894 water tap the vault, meter and backflow preventer. They are only charging us for the materials and are donating the labor. "Thank you Columbus." This frees up the \$15,000 that was budgeted. Commissioner Gasperson made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$15,000 to TNN to complete the handicap shower and add the hand wash sink at this time, but not to appropriate the rest of the funds until the sprinkler system is complete. Some of these components cannot be completed at this time. Vice-Chairperson Watson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- 3) Upcoming meeting reminders: October 21 @ 7:00pm reconvened public hearing and possible special meeting; November 9 @ 7:00pm work session and tax appeal hearing; November 16 @ 7:00pm public hearing for hunting written permission proposal followed by regular BOC meeting.
- 4) Mr. Whitson reported that the stability studies on the Lake Adger Dam have been completed. The engineering company Black & Veatch will make their presentation to the Board on repairs needed at the November 2, 2009, meeting. Attorney Billy Clarke will also begin moving forward on the closing for November.
14. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items - There were none.
15. Commissioner Comments - Vice-Chairperson Watson thanked Commissioner Melton for organizing the fundraising committee for the adult day care program and knows it will be successful. Commissioner McDermott felt a lot of progress had been made at this meeting: discussions on affordable housing, St. Luke's Hospital, fire department paving, Lake Adger, and adult day care. Commissioner Gasperson thought it was a good meeting and is pleased with the progress of the adult day care.
16. Adjourn - Commissioner Melton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gasperson and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

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Anne Britton  
Clerk to the Board

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Cindy Walker  
Chairperson